

Confederate Partisan

Sons of Confederate
Veterans
Pacific NW Division

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Quote to remember:

"The Northern onslaught upon slavery was no more than a piece of specious humbug designed to conceal its desire for economic control of the Southern states."

Charles Dickens, 1862

Pacific NW Division Convention and Ball

The 2014 SCV Pacific NW Division Convention and Ball is now but a fond memory of all who attended. We accomplished some great things at for our newly formed Division. We adopted a Constitution and Bylaws, elected Division officers, had both the Commander in Chief Kelly Barrow and ATM Commander Charles Lauret speak, and we had a whole lot of fun while doing it!

The importance of holding a Division Convention on a regular bases, is great. We want all the members of our Division to feel included and part of something great. Every two years, one of the Camps in the Division will host the Convention. This spreads the work load out among the membership and helps Camps communicate with each other, work together and help grow the SCV here in the Pacific NW!

If your Camp would like to host the 2016 Pacific NW Division Convention, please submit a request letter to Adjutant Father John Sigmon at onegoodgibson@aol.com. Since the Portland Camp hosted this years Convention, they are out of the running for 2016.

Thank you to all who supported and those who attended our 2014 Celebration!

Sincerely,
Erik Ernst
Commander
SCV Pacific NW Division



(L-R)CIC Kelly Barrow, Div. Com. Erik Ernst, ATM Commander Charles Lauret.



Many of our guests came in Period Correct Uniforms



The Heathman Lodge served us a wonderful Buffet Dinner!

COMMANDERS REPORT

Greeting Confederates,

If you are reading this, I applaud you. You are one of the brave men and women who are working deep behind “enemy” lines to further the Confederate cause of Liberty. The Pacific NW has little connection to the War for Southern Independence, but it has not been shielded from the onslaught of Yankee lies and propaganda, which has and still is, trying to destroy our Cause, tell us that our blood relatives were terrible people, and tear down anything that we are proud of. The one thing that we have going for us is, that what we stand for is true!

We look back at the War, and both the ancestors of Yankees and Confederates, can be proud of the different Battles that they were involved in, or what rank their ancestor was in either army, or if one of them died fighting. This is the case with pretty much every war in the history of man. That being said, this is where we can make a distinction between the two sides. Yankees fought because they were told to, and were doing so to “preserve the Union” (by force). Our Ancestors fought, because they were being invaded. Our families land, livelihood, beliefs and way of life, was all being threatened by a greedy invader, who wanted to destroy liberty, all at in the name of money and power.

The South, had a noble and just Cause. Yankees did not. That is something that, we as members and friends of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, can be extremely proud of. Our blood ancestors took up arms to fight against an invading army. Our ancestors did not want war, and were not the aggressors. They simply wanted to be left alone and be able to make their own decisions.

Today, we face a very powerful foe. Our Cause is under attack, and the main subject we get attacked on is Slavery. We cannot hide from this. Slavery is a topic that we all need to be ready to speak about. Today, Yankees intentionally use the Slavery issue to justify the war, taking the “moral” high ground.

We as members of the Sons of Confederate Veterans and Friends of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, need to be educated and ready to defend our just cause and at the same time educate people on the truth about slavery in the South.

I propose that each Camp in our Division discuss and put on classes for our members on ways to speak to people about slavery and why the war was not fought to end it. We are not rewriting history, but just exposing the truth.

Over the next few months, I will be asking each Camp Commander to start a series of meetings regarding this topic. Some of the key topics will be around Lincoln and his feelings about blacks, the Emancipation Proclamation, West Virginia being admitted into the Union in 1863 as a Slave State, and the 13th amendment’s December 1865 (at the begging of winter) enactment. The truth is on our side, and it is our duty as the defenders of truth to proclaim it!

One of the biggest reasons why we started this Division in the first place was to let everyone in the Northwest know that they are not alone. I as your Division Commander will never let up on my convictions and duty to honor the truth! We have great strength is we work together. Invite your friends, family and neighbors to your local Camp meetings. They do not have to have the ancestry to be there. As a matter of fact, some of our most dedicated members are not even eligible to be SCV members. These men (and women) should be encouraged to join the Friends of the SCV. Never discourage anyone who wants to be involved, just because of their ancestry.

Finally, I would encourage all of you to read over the Division Constitution and familiarize yourselves with it. This is for the benefit of all of us. If you are a member of a Camp in our Division, you have a voice in the Division. Please let me know of any concerns or suggestions you may have. I am always here to help.

Erik Ernst,
Commander
SCV Pacific NW Division
(503)888-7773
Imbel3o8win@yahoo.com

LT. COMMANDERS COLUMN

Our Camp is growing with new members over the last few months, and we have 2 cadets, who show up at our meetings, and are a real part of our Camp. We have a new member of our camp who is in the SUV (Sons of Union Veterans). He has joined as a friend of the SCV. He said he was drawn to the spirit of the SCV. He is a welcome member of our Camp 2244, and at our last Meeting presented the Camp with a medal displaying the official seal of the Confederate States

At our November meeting, we had as our guest, the GGrandson of a Union Major from Pennsylvania, who received the Congressional Medal Of Honor for action at New Market. He was wounded three times. He is buried in Oregon, and his Great Great brought the medal of honor for us to see. We also had a presentation on Second Manassas by Commander Hinson, complete with 15 battle maps that were projected onto a large screen.

Our ladies of camp 2244, are in the process of starting the Order Of The Confederate Rose, and are vital supporters of our Camp. Our Camp is named the William Mink Camp, after a Virginia Corporal, who came to Idaho after the War. He is the ancestor of our Camp Lt. Commander, Bland Ballard.

We have a lot of spirit here at camp 2244 with well attended meetings and one member and his wife driving from Eastern Idaho to attend our meetings---a 10hr round trip! All is well on the Idaho Front.

God Bless all of our Brothers.

Deo Vindice.

Jim Hinson,
Lt. Commander
SCV Pacific NW Division
And
Commander
SCV Camp 2244

DIVISION CONTACT INFO

Commander:

Erik Ernst
imbel3o8win@yahoo.com

Lt. Commander:

James Hinson
rah4446@yahoo.com

Adjutant:

Father John Sigmon
onegoodgibson@aol.com

1st Lt. Commander of the Alaska:

Robert Scott Gartin
gartintrading@gci.net

1st Lt. Commander of the East:

Kenneth Anderson
kandemfc@gmail.com

1st Lt. Commander of the West:

Rick Leaumont
leaumont@owt.com

Treasurer:

Glen Edens
ggrayghst145@aol.com

Sargent-At-Arms:

Bland Ballard
blandballard@yahoo.com

Chaplain:

Father John Sigmon
onegoodgibson@aol.com

SCV Pacific NW Division website:

www.scvpacnw.wordpress.com

Division Constitution and Bylaws:

www.scvpacnw.wordpress.com/division-constitution-and-bylaws/



CHAPLAIN FATHER JOHN SIGMON

COME BEFORE WINTER

Greetings to my fellow descendants of Confederate soldiers and members of the Pacific Northwest Division of the Sons of Confederate Word Veterans! This is your Divisional Chaplain writing to you, and the "Good Lord willing and the creeks don't rise," I'll have a few words for you in each of our newsletters. Let me introduce myself.

I have a Bachelor of Arts in Bible from Central Bible College, in Springfield, Missouri. I am married to a wonderful Christian woman from Czechoslovakia, JarryMachula. I have served parishes in Alaska and Mississippi, and am currently the associate priest at St. Mark's Anglican church, Klamath Falls, Oregon. I actually live in Chiloquin, Oregon -- about 25 miles from Klamath Falls. I am a Master Mason, and along with my lovely spouse, a life member of the National Rifle Association and we both belong to and support the Tea Party. I am a Past Commander of the Mississippi Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans, and am enrolled in the Master's Degree program from Moody Bible Institute, to obtain my Masters of Divinity Degree -- a long and arduous process.

Enough of the blowing and crowing; here's what I have on my mind.

It was a tragic and trying time for the old man -- now confined in a Roman dungeon. Those facilities were not noted for their creature comforts. There were poor -- if any -- sanitary facilities, brutal guards, food not fit to be fed to the pigs -- and an executioner awaiting him.

But the saintly old man, whom we know as St. Paul the Apostle, was not cowed by any of these things. He was resolute, knowing that while he was facing his end, he could look at his enemies and friends alike, and say as is recorded in Second Timothy chapter 4:6 - 7 "For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith."

This letter, or epistle, as it is called, is undoubtedly the most touching and tender one that came from that great man. It is filled with exhortation and good wishes for his young understudy -- St. Timothy. There are some touching last requests; that when Timothy comes, to bring the cloak he left at the city of Troas, and the books and parchments also. And he makes one further request in chapter 4:21 of that epistle -- "do thy diligence to come -- -- before Winter."

COME BEFORE WINTER! A simple request from a doomed man who wanted to see for the last time the young pastor; to have a warm garment and something to read, before Winter arrived. On the surface it would seem just a request for some amenities. But there is a broader meaning, one that applied to our Confederate Forbearers and I believe speaks to us, their descendants, today.

COME BEFORE WINTER! The War Between The States was and is the most horrific conflict ever fought on the North American continent. In the eyes of many of our brave boys it started off as just a lark; a great adventure which, within the space of a few weeks would see the soundly thrashed Yankees scurrying back across the Potomac in fear of Southern Valor and Military Prowess. Many were afraid the war would be over before they got a chance to pull a trigger or smell gun smoke.

How sadly wrong they were! For that conflict dragged on for four years before grinding to a halt in a quiet country crossroads in rural Virginia; one with a quaint name: Appomattox.

It wasn't long before our soldiers got a dose of reality. They were the best fighting men the world had ever seen, but that didn't make them any less vulnerable to Yankee shot and steel, or the ravages of measles, cholera, smallpox or dysentery. And it began to dawn on them -- that this wasn't a picture book war, with colorfully clad soldiers standing up bravely against a dastardly enemy. As all of the ravages I have noted began to set in, they knew they were living on borrowed time, and as is ever the wont of mankind -- when the probability of being victim to any of those things dawned on them, they turned to God. They never knew which day would be their last -- whether it be by disease or the 1 ounce lead Minnie balls that at the very least would maim them for life. There was an overwhelming desire for many to, as is said by an old-time preacher-- "get right with God" ere the hammer fell -- and them with it.

The consequences of the heart's desire of many of our soldiers was dramatic and profound. During the winter of 1862 – 63 and 1864 – 65 great revivals swept both the Army of Northern Virginia and the Army of Tennessee. Chapels and brush arbors were quickly erected, and often the men would build a chapel or arbor before seeing to their own quarters. Prayer meetings abounded, and clergy from every Christian denomination, be they Baptist, Methodist, Episcopal, Catholic, Presbyterian – – all of these preached nightly under those arbors or in those primitive log Chapels. Their message was as simple as it was clear, and in the face of probable death or maiming, these ragged heroes were invited to step forward, to what was called the “mourners bench,” to cry out to their Creator for the saving grace of their eternal souls --- offered in the sacrifice of His only begotten Son. Scores were saved – – regenerated, converted – – I don't care what you call it, they became, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye – the blood washed children of Almighty God. To put it simply, in the knowledge of what they knew they were going to have to face on the gentle hills of Pennsylvania, or in the blazing thickets of the Wilderness, or the horror of the trenches around Petersburg; they were urged, and they acted. **THEY CAME BEFORE WINTER.**

We live in perilous times. St. Paul noted that in chapter 3 of this epistle and he is blunt about what humanity would and will be like in those last days. In addition, we have the ever present threat of a war so dreadful that all that will remain is the scorched soil of a barren planet. Death and tragedy roam the halls of our children's schools, in our workplaces, and even within the confines of what once was sacrosanct – – our homes. We don't know if that oncoming car, driven by a drunk, will cross into our lane and hit us. We don't know if cancer will stalk and destroy us. We don't know – – we don't know – – **WE JUST DON'T KNOW.**

COME BEFORE WINTER. Yes, **COME!**

The same phrase, written by the ancient Apostle and used to exhort our Confederate ancestors, speaks to us, their descendants, in this day and time. Perhaps the best expression of it comes from an obscure Presbyterian clergyman, a Reverend Clarence Macartney around turn of the 20th century. I quote his words to you with the hopes that their eloquence and sincerity will move you to the action taken by our brave Confederates of times gone by. Here are his words.

“Once again, then, I repeat these words of the Apostle. “Come before Winter”; and as I pronounce them, common sense, experience, conscience, Scripture, the Holy Spirit, the souls of just men made perfect, and the Lord Jesus Christ all repeat with me,” **COME BEFORE WINTER!**” Come before the haze of Indian summer has faded from the fields! Come before the November wind strips the leaves from the trees and sends them whirling over the fields! Come before the snow lies on the uplands and the meadow brook is turned to ice! Come before the heart is cold! Come before desire has failed! Come before your life is over and your probation ended, and you stand before God to give an account of the use you have made of the opportunities which in His grace He has granted to you! Come before Winter!

“Come to thy God in time, youth, manhood, old age past;

Come to thy God, at last.

Come!...**COME!!**

COME!”

Father John Sigmon.
Saint Mark's Anglican Church
13th Sunday after Trinity, 2014
Chiloquin, Oregon.

Adjutant and Chaplain
SCV Pacific NW Division
onegoodgibson@aol.com

Pacific NW Division Camps

Anchorage, AK. CSS Shenandoah, Camp 1820.
[Www.home.gci.net/~css-shenandoah-1820/](http://www.home.gci.net/~css-shenandoah-1820/)

Boise, ID. Cpl. William Mink, Camp 2244.
www.scv.org/about/join/campDetail.php?id=5411

Pasco, WA. Washington Artillery, Camp 2178.
www.scv.org/about/join/campDetail.php?id=5249

Portland, OR. Col. Isaac W. Smith Camp 458.
www.scvportland.org

Seattle, WA. R.E. Lee Camp 587
www.scv.org/about/join/campDetail.php?id=4054

1ST LIEUTENANT COMMANDER OF ALASKA



Veterans Day

This is sent to the great Pacific Northwest Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. It is hoped it finds y'all well and happy. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you!

It's cold in Alaska but I've been here for so long that it seems natural. It gets darker in the winter too. However, lately I've been wanting it to be dark sooner so we can turn on the outside Christmas lights.

Being a member of the SCV is fun and interesting. It's fun to meet others who maybe our ancestors met, had fun, worked and maybe fought a few Yankees (the spell checker make that a capital "Y" and I left off the "d" word not knowing who will read this) with. It's interesting since it makes us find out more about true history and our own ancestors.

I was born into a "divided" home with my Dad's side thinking they were all Yankees and my Mom's side saying they were all Confederates. When my Grand Parents got together they would argue about the War. I ended up on the South side in heart, but am respectful of the yankee enlisted men who were forced to join that side because of where they lived in the early 1860s.

Now further research shows that my Dad's side had Confederates too. In fact some of them were fighting amongst themselves.

That War was one of the saddest things to ever happen. Think about all the energy they put out against each other. If they had of put that together they could have taken over the world – almost anyway.

It goes for today too. All the various groups in America can and do spend much time trying to knock other groups down. There are so many "types" of American that group up. If they will just work together there is so much good that can be done.

Our SCV is a group, maybe the last group in this politically correct world that it is still OK for people to hate. I don't want to do anything that makes people hate us. I respect their groups too but expect the same back. After all we are all just plain Americans – and that's as good as we can be in this evil world.

Robert "Scott" Gartin
1st Lt. Commander of Alaska
SCV Pacific NW Division
gartintrading@gci.net



Alaska, the furthest north Confederate State!