

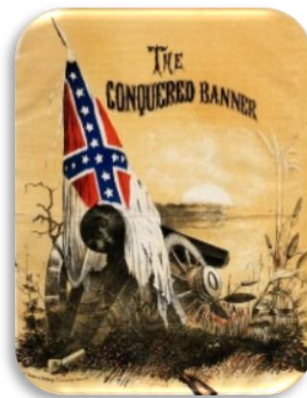


The Conquered Banner

Newsletter of the

Father A.J. Ryan San Diego Camp 302

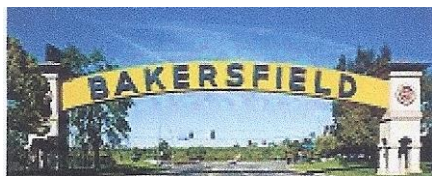
Sons of Confederate Veterans



VOLUME 26 NUMBER 3

MAY 2018

The Division Gathers at Bakersfield



Once again, fellow compatriots, your Father A.J. Ryan Camp 302 joined with nine of California Division's twelve camps as we met once again at the Four Points by Sheraton in Bakersfield, California in early March, 2018 for our yearly conference. After Division Commander Steve Smith welcomed the guests and members in attendance, William Glover delivered the Invocation and Division

LCDR Jon Fowler read the Charge. The convention was called to order and the camps ordered to report. Answering the roll call were: **General John Bell Hood Camp 1208, Los Angeles – The Stainless Banner Camp 1440, San Jose – General George Blake Cosby Camp 1627, Sacramento – Deaderick Doremus Thurmond Camp 1631, Santa Barbara – Inland Empire Camp 1742, Inland Empire – Captain James Iredell Waddell Camp 1770, Orange County – General Tyree Harris Bell Camp 1804, Fresno – General Albert Sydney Johnston Camp 2048, Bakersfield-Tehachapi – CSS Virginia Camp 2062, Ventura County.** Not present this year were **Captain Cameron Erskin Thom Camp 2007, Long Beach and Lieutenant General Wade Hampton Camp 2023, Modesto.** We'll look forward to seeing them next year.

The attendees were greatly pleased to have as special guests President of the California Order of the Confederate Rose Sandy Padgett, Sons of Confederate Veterans Commander-in-Chief Thomas Strain, Chief of Staff Charles Lauret, Army of the Trans-Mississippi Commander Johnnie Holley and his Aide-de-Camp George Gremillion.

Shortly after Roll Call, the camps began their annual reports. Here are just a few highlights as Camp 302 lead off: Commander Stephens mentioned the loss of Compatriot Stu Hoffman, the removal of the Jefferson Davis plaque from Horton Plaza, the renaming of Robert E. Lee Elementary School, and the City of San Diego disallowing of the joint annual Memorial Day Ceremony with the SUVCW at Mt. Hope Cemetery. The Commander highlighted the special events, donations and color guards along with the camp's current membership. Bob Crook of Camp 1208 told the gathering that the Los Angeles camp is the division's oldest active camp now in its 66th year. Camp 1440 of San Jose noted its work with grave identification along with Camp 1627 of Sacramento. Robert Williams of Camp 1770, Orange County stated that the Orange County Register claimed that the county had "the last Confederate monument." He also told of the pressure to remove "CSA" and Confederate names from the Santa Ana Cemetery monument. They, as well as other camps, reported on food drives, donations to worthy causes, membership, participation in the Hunley Award program, reenactments, recruiting and flagging events (to name a few). Ted Boyias of Camp 2062 reported that no security exists at the Nathan Bedford Forrest Home and he made a direct appeal to CiC Tom Strain.

Following the camp reports, the business meeting continued with additional matters and elections.

(Continued on Page Three)

International Headquarters
 Sons of Confederate Veterans
 P.O. Box 59
 Columbia, Tennessee 38402-0059
1-800-MY-DIXIE

Salute to the Confederate Flag

I salute the Confederate flag with affection, reverence and undying devotion to the cause for which it stands.

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 the ideals which made him glorious and which you also cherish."

Lt. General Stephen D. Lee

Newsletter

The Conquered Banner is the official newsletter of Camp 302 and is published each odd-numbered month. Permission to reprint material contained in the newsletter is freely given to SCV, MOSB and UDC organizations. Commentary and articles are solicited and should be mailed or e-mailed to the Newsletter Editor. Deadline for submissions is the 15th of the preceding month. Consideration of space may require editing.

Meetings

The camp meets the 2nd Saturday of each odd-numbered month at various locations which are announced in the newsletter.

Correspondence

Membership applications, dues renewals, changes of address and other business should be directed to the adjutant.

Dues

Annual dues are billed each August and are \$45.00 for members. Dues include the *Confederate Veteran* magazine and a newsletter. A red "X" in the following box indicates your dues have not been received. { }

Camp officers

<u>Commander</u>	<u>Jim Stephens</u>
<u>LCDR</u>	<u>Jim Millsap</u>
<u>2nd LCDR</u>	<u>George Faircloth</u>
<u>Adjutant/Treasurer</u>	<u>Roy Adair</u>
<u>Chaplain</u>	<u>Jim Coulsby</u>
<u>Sergeant-at-Arms</u>	<u>Steve Smith</u>
<u>Historian</u>	<u>Vacant</u>
<u>Newsletter Editor/Publisher</u>	<u>Jim Stephens</u>

Minutes from the March 3, 2018 Meeting

The meeting was held at Marie Callender's Restaurant in La Mesa and was called to order at 10:45 a.m. by Camp Commander Jim Stephens. Jim Millsap, George Faircloth, Roy Adair, Ira Lack, Jim Coulsby, Steve Musgrave, John Armstrong, Wes Scarbrough and John Flood were in attendance. Following the Invocation by Camp Chaplain Jim Coulsby, the Pledge of Allegiance and Salute to the Confederate Flag were rendered. There being no new members to swear in, the Camp Commander proceeded to announce that Compatriot Ira Lack has been chosen as the recipient of the Camp "Rebel of the Year" award for 2017. This is the second time that Ira has received this award which is earned by his continued dedication and support of all the camp's endeavors. Next up, the Adjutant presented the Treasurer's Report, stating that there was currently a balance of \$45,695.67 in our Union Bank account. Since the previous report in January, 2018, there was \$0.00 in inflows, and outflows of \$141.00 involving a donation of \$100 to the Civil War Trust, \$25.00 for General's Day celebration expenses and \$16.00 for Rebel of the Year nameplate.

Old Business: It was reported that the Camp tax report has been filed for this year. Also, it was reiterated that the camp has a firm commitment to continue its support of Wreaths Across America each year, that all dates on the Camp Calendar for 2018 are set, and that the Camp website is up and running. It was noted as well that the recent changes to the camp bylaws have been posted on the website. The Commander thanked those who participated in the Color Guard at the very delightful UDC Southern Luncheon in Pomona last month.

New Business: It was announced that the Camp Challenge coins are here and ready for distribution. Each member in attendance at a Camp meeting receives one free coin. Additional coins can be purchased by camp members for \$2.00 each. Non-members may purchase a coin for \$5.00 each. A motion was passed to present each of the four guests from National HQ at our upcoming Division Convention with a coin. The Commander requested that members let him know of their knowledge of the passing of any military veteran in San Diego County so that he can pass this information to the VMC for inclusion in their memorial services. Preparations for the Division Convention in Bakersfield next weekend were reviewed and all seemed to be in order. Those planning to attend included Jim Stephens, Jim Millsap, Roy Adair and Steve Smith. All camp shirts have now been distributed but there are still a few left for purchase so please contact Jim if interested. We are still waiting to hear from Steve about the purchase of a new Confederate First National Flag, pole and stand as previously voted on. It was announced by the Camp Commander that it would appear we would not be conducting a joint Union/Confederate Memorial Day ceremony at Mount Hope cemetery this year. For its own political reasons, the City Council has not given permission for this long-standing annual event. Plans are not yet firm, but the UDC Stonewall Jackson Chapter will most likely hold a service in April in conjunction with Confederate Memorial Day. We will be notified and invited to participate as soon as a decision is made by their organization. A review of how to apply for Supplemental Member applications was discussed. Anyone desiring to submit an application for a Supplemental membership should contact the camp adjutant for assistance. A motion was passed to make our present meeting location, Marie Callender's Restaurant in La Mesa, as our permanent meeting place if possible. Compatriot Jim Coulsby stated that doing so would not be a problem.

The next scheduled VMC Color Guard will be on April 28, 2018

Our next Camp Meeting will be held in conjunction with a Jefferson Davis birthday celebration at Marie Callender's in La Mesa on Saturday, May 12, 2018 at a time yet to be determined. There being no further new business, the Chaplain provided the Benediction and the meeting was closed by the Camp Commander.

("Bakersfield" continued from page one)

Before continuing, we must first thank all those who worked beyond the call of duty to set up this year's convention in Bakersfield which has been such a great central location to bring together the far-flung camps, ranging from Father A.J. Ryan Camp 302, Baily Brigade down South in San Diego to General George Blake Cosby Camp 1627, Shelby Brigade up North in Sacramento. Bravo Zulus to Division Lieutenant Commander Jon Fowler and his Bakersfield-Tehachapi Camp 2048 in arranging lodging and an excellent Banquet at The Four Points Sheraton. The hotel has always made the division feel welcome. And, of course, thanks goes to Baily Brigade Commander Robert Williams and his son, Division Quartermaster Ryan Williams, for being great hosts and providing a well-organized and welcoming hospitality room for all attendees to relax and get reacquainted with their division compatriots.



Seen above, left to right, Division Commander Steve Smith shares a moment of levity with Division LCDR Jon Fowler, Robert Williams, SCV Chief of Staff Charles Lauret, SCV Commander-in-Chief Thomas V. Strain Jr. ATM Commander Johnnie Holley, Division Webmaster Mike Climo, Quartermaster Ryan Williams and Kevin Street. Not seen in the photo is Division Adjutant/Treasurer Dr. Vern Padgett. Quartermaster Williams reported that the division now has a roster of material and a turn-over file. Jon Fowler, Steve Browning and Kevin Street announced that the Division Mechanized Cavalry is open to all members, not just bikers. Webmaster Climo talked of taking down the division website during the Confederate hysteria—it is now up. He told of using a different server and said that PayPal can now be used for division purchases.

We must always be careful when using social media. Kevin Street, during his Heritage Report, stated that Facebook had shut down the division page but other Confederate sites were still up. ATM Commander Johnnie Holley discussed his fair interview with a Boston talk show host and how he emphasized the need to humanize one's opponent. Division Commander Smith said, "Put them on the defensive" and CiC Strain went on to say that we all must be very careful who we talk to and what we say. Division Judge Advocate Robert Crook made the statement that the best thing to say is "No comment."

Progressing into the Financial/Membership report, Adjutant/Treasurer Padgett advised that the California Division has 283 members at present in 12 camps. He reported that 67 people attended the 2018 Convention: 23 guests, of which, 4 were from National; 37 members; and 7 cadets. Dr. Padgett reminded everyone that the History of Division Conventions is now online and that he now communicates with prospective new SCV members via the internet. He reported that the Division, after web services, travel expenses, and donations, the Division, adding dues payments of \$1415, now has a balance of \$2445.

The brigade commanders and Sandy Padgett of The Order of the Confederate Rose presented their reports. Sandy passed her thanks on to our own Deanne Smith for handling the OCR/SCV matters in San Diego. Division Commander Smith announced that the replaced Division Charter is in place, dated June 1994. At mid-day, the attendees broke for a great lunch before resuming.

The business meeting progressed with important discussions, presentations and elections. There are existing plans to hold a joint SCV/SUV meeting every 3 years. The SUV has held their conventions at the same hotel in Bakersfield which makes this a viable possibility. David Pyle was elected Upper South Brigade Commander with Robert Williams garnering the same honor as Commander of the Bailey Lower South Brigade. Mike Climo reported that his Inland Empire Camp 1742 is sponsoring a youth to attend the Sam Davis Youth Camp in Texas. The Hunley Award was a big topic as usual. Camp 302 purchased 6 award packages to be presented this year. Vista High in North County will lead starting on April 27th. The ATM's Johnnie Holley told the gathering that the Hawaii Camp awarded 26 Hunley Awards. What an act to follow!

(Continued on Page Five)

Camp Meeting, March 3, 2018

A pre-convention meeting was convened at Marie Callender's Restaurant in La Mesa to go over routine business matters and prepare for the 2018 California Division Convention being held once again at the Four Points Sheraton in Bakersfield. The camp thanks all those who attended this breakfast/business function.



Members await breakfast prior to the meeting: John Armstrong, George Faircloth, Jim Coulsby, Ira Lack, Roy Adair, Wes Scarbrough, & Jim Millsap. Not shown: Steve Musgrave and John Flood.

Commander Jim Stephens presents Compatriot Ira Lack with the 2017 Camp "Rebel-of-the-Year" award for his continued dedication and support.

The newly minted Camp 302 Challenge coin was handed out for the first time *free-gratis* to the attending members with additional coins being purchased by the attendees. It was decided during the meeting that a complimentary camp Challenge coin would be presented to the SCV Commander-in-Chief and other guests at the Division Convention. LCDR Jim Millsap also showed the members the new Division Challenge coin prior to its introduction at the division convention. Much appreciation goes out to LCDR Millsap for his work in getting both the camp and division coins ready for issue. As seen in the upper right photo, a well-deserving Ira Lack receives his second Camp 302 "Rebel-of-the-Year" award.

Thanks goes out to Chaplain Jim Coulsby for his work in arranging the camp's meeting location at Marie Callender's. It is such a nice and centrally located establishment and they always make the camp feel welcome at our meetings. The camp voted to conduct our gatherings here on a permanent basis.

Compatriot Steve Musgrave received his new Camp 302 camp shirt. For anyone who desires, the camp has a large and an extra-large shirt remaining.

("Bakersfield" continued from Page Three)

On behalf of Camp 302, Commander Jim Stephens was honored to present the new camp Challenge coin to SCV CiC Strain and guests. Other proposals would be brought to the floor before the day's business came to a close. Among them, Division Commander Steve Smith proposed that efforts need be made to add Black and Hispanic Confederate names to existing monuments, citing that it would be interesting to see how the news media attacks that. There was a unanimous agreement to hold the 2019 Division Convention again at Bakersfield March 8, 9, & 10. Along with the duties assigned for next year, Camp 302 once again volunteered to manage the silent auction which continues to bring in needed cash for the division. The Colors were retired and after Benediction, business concluded.

The Saturday evening banquet was a great success, with a delicious meal served. Much thanks goes to Commander Fowler and his team for arranging the feast to cap off a productive day. UDC's Scarlett Stahl provided greetings from her organization and Commander-in-Chief Thomas Strain entertained the gathering with an outstanding presentation on the happenings at the national level. Awards were presented and a successful and busy silent auction was conducted with thanks to all who donated items for the auction bringing in a great return for the division.



Above, division officers and guests seated during the banquet. Brian and Robyn Adair are seated in the foreground.



At upper right, Camp 302 compatriots Lieutenant Commander Jim Millsap, Steve Smith, Commander Jim Stephens and Adjutant Roy Adair pose with SCV CiC Tom Strain during the evening festivities.



During the awards presentation, Camp 302 was the winner of the coveted California Division "Camp-of-the-Year" Award. Shown here at left, Commander Jim Stephens gladly accepts the Camp-of-the-Year Sword from the 2017 winner, Commander Robert Williams of Orange County Camp 1770. Much thanks goes out to members of Camp 302 for making this happen. Pictured left to right: ATM Commander Johnnie Holley seated, CiC Tom Strain, Shelby Brigade Commander Jon Fowler, Jim Stephens, Division Commander Steve Smith and Robert Williams.

(The Division gathers at Bakersfield, continued from Page Five)

More photos from the 2018 Convention



LCDR Jim Millsap, Commander Jim Stephens, Adjutant Roy Adair And Robyn Adair of the UDC show off their camp shirts at the hotel Hospitality Room prior to the convention



It's all smiles as Commander Stephens presents Camp 302 challenge coins to SCV Commander-in-Chief Tom Strain and the national guests.



Jim Millsap and Commander Robert Williams of Orange County Camp 1770 ham it up during the reception in the Hospitality Room.



Many of the 2018 Convention attendees and their guests gather at Bakersfield's Union Cemetery on Sunday, the last day of the division's gathering, to pay honor to the Confederate veterans buried there. This annual ceremony is hosted by the ladies of the UDC, Mary Boykin Chesnut Chapter 2634

WAR BETWEEN THE STATES

April 1863 – May 1863

Now, in early April, we see riots and demonstrations in some Southern cities, particularly in Richmond due to food shortages and rising prices as a result of a major drought the previous year and, despite the best efforts of the Confederate Government, staples such as flour and butter have raised the average grocery bill from \$6.55 to \$68.25. Sadly, in May, General Stonewall Jackson will die after his wounding at Chancellorsville (The following was taken from *Civil War Day by Day*, Philip Katscher, Chartwell Books, Inc. 2010, pp 86-95.)

April 7 – The Battle of Charleston Harbor. Charleston is well protected by Fort Sumter and other lesser fortifications, and has withstood several naval assaults earlier in the war. Union Rear Admiral Samuel F. Du Pont launches a major assault on the city with a flotilla of seven monitor warships and two other ironclads. However, the ships are driven back by 77 Confederate cannon on Fort Sumter and run into the harbor's mines and obstructions. Du Pont is forced to withdraw. He decides against renewing his attack the next day after one of the ironclads, the USS Keokuk, sinks during the night. Union land and sea forces will besiege Charleston during the next 20 months.

April 11 – Union Colonel Abel Streight raids into Alabama and Georgia in an attempt to cut the Western and Atlantic Railroad. He fights a rear guard action at Day's Gap, Cullman County, against the Confederates led by Nathan B. Forrest. Streight's entire command of 1,500 men will be captured on May 3.

April 13/15 – The Battle of Suffolk/Norfleet House Battery. An inconclusive Confederate siege of Suffolk, Virginia, costs a total of 1,160 casualties.

April 29 – The Battle of Grand Gulf. Seven Union ironclads are unable to subdue Confederate shore batteries at Grand Gulf, Claiborne County, despite a five-and-a-half-hour bombardment. However, this setback does not hamper Grant's Mississippi offensive.

May 1,2,&3 – The Battle of Chancellorsville. Joseph Hooker, commander of the Army of the Potomac, devised a new plan as the Army of the Potomac and the Army of Northern Virginia faced one another across the Rappahannock River at Fredericksburg. Instead of attempting a frontal attack on the Confederate positions overlooking Fredericksburg, Hooker divided his army and took half of it—three corps totaling 75,000 men—to cross the river at fords upstream and come around in a wide sweep to hit Lee from behind. John Sedgwick stayed at Fredericksburg with 40,000 men to pen the Confederates...Like Hooker, Lee divided his forces, leaving 10,000 men under Jubal A. Early to hold Fredericksburg and marching his remaining 50,000 men west to meet Hooker. Hooker is taken by surprise today when the Confederates start an attack on his lead divisions at noon. The Union commander begins to lose his nerve. In midafternoon he halts the advance and orders his forces back to Chancellorsville to take up defensive positions...Lee now has the initiative. In one of the war's boldest moves he divides his army once again. He sends Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson and 28,000 men on a 12-mile march to strike Hooker's right flank while his remaining troops face three Union corps. The march takes all day, but at 1800 hours Jackson attacks the Union XI Corps, which is routed. Only nightfall saves Hooker's army. During the evening Jackson is shot by his own men who mistake his party for Union cavalry. J.E.B. Stuart takes over Jackson's command and reopens the attack while Lee strikes from the south. The Union line is pushed back from Chancellorsville toward the river. Hooker is stunned when a shell explodes near him and he hands over command to Darius Couch.



May 16 – The Battle of Champion Hill/Bakers Creek. A tactically confused Confederate force is crushed at Champion Hill, the survivors fleeing across Baker's Creek. The Confederates are being driven back towards Vicksburg.

May 18 – The Siege of Vicksburg. Grant's armies commence the siege of Vicksburg, entrapping Pemberton's Confederates.

Civil War Facts: (From *The Civil War, Quiz and Fact Book*, Rod Gragg, Promontory Press, 1985, pp 25,56 & 120) the American Civil War consisted of more than 10,000 military actions, ranging from major military campaigns to minor exchanges.

The Union army's XI Corps, which saw action at Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, and Chattanooga, contained so many soldiers of German extraction that it was popularly known in the army as the "German Corps"

A frustrated Confederate General, Richard S. Ewell said, "Jackson is driving us mad. He don't say a word-no order, no hint of where we're going." This complaint was made in response to Stonewall Jackson's habit of keeping his battle plans in strict secrecy.

Confederate Memorial Day



On Saturday, May 21, 2018, the United Daughters of the Confederacy, Stonewall Jackson Chapter 476, conducted a memorial service at Mt. Hope Cemetery at the Stonewall Jackson Monument. Robyn Adair prepared an excellent program and was assisted by Sandra Bill and Charmaine Malone. Jim Stephens and Ira Lack represented Camp 302. Ladies, we thank you for the invitation. The attendees responded to a beautiful poem that was read and the Roll Call of the States was carried out with the placing of the flowers at the Stonewall Jackson Monument.

Burials in the Stonewall Jackson Plot

Alexander Bell	William K. Logan
PVT William J. H. Boyette	MAJ Wilton P. Maxwell
Charles Burgoyne	William H. McCoy
CAPT Leo Chenault	Ephraim M. Orick
LTCOL Stephen M. Davis	PVT James L. Patterson
PVT Otto E. Fabian	PVT Laban W. Rice
Marcus D. Faulk	PVT William H. Roach
PVT Robert C. Franklin	PVT George B. Savage
COL James Milton French	PVT William L. Slocum
George Fry	PVT Cincinatus Q. Smith
PVT Richard Gordon	PVT James S. Swetnam
PVT John F. Haden	Aaron Wood
PVT James Hughes	



Robyn Adair, Charmaine Malone, Ira Lack, Jeff Malone, Sandra and Ed Bill at the Stonewall Jackson plot.

L to R: Robyn Adair, Sandra Bill, Ira Lack, Charmaine Malone, Jim Stephens. Stand next to the Stonewall Jackson Monument.

The H.L. Hunley Award



Friday, April 27, 2018, Camp 302 kicked off its annual H.L. Hunley Awards presentations at Vista High School. Commander Jim Stephens, working with Vista High's AFJROTC OIC, Colonel Vinny Lostetter USAF (ret) and MSgt Tom Haygood, USAF (ret), presented the 2018 Hunley Award to C/A1C Gisselle Santos. Commander Stephens was extremely impressed with the military decorum and precision the young Air Force JROTC cadets displayed in all aspects of the awards ceremony from the way they presented the colors, marched in review, their uniforms and, in general the pride they show for themselves and their school. Colonel Lostetter and MSgt Haygood can indeed be proud of the work they do for the AFJROTC program. It is quite evident that these students are our future. This is the second year that Camp 302 has presented this award to deserving cadets at Vista High School and we have been invited back for 2019. Five other schools in the San Diego area remain with Mar Vista High School on May 10th followed by Kearny High School scheduled for Tuesday, May 15th. Coronado High School will have their awards night May 23rd and Mira Mesa High School follows on Saturday, May 26th, then we have Westview High School on Sunday, June 10th to close out this year's H.L. Hunley cycle. Once again, I encourage all our members and friends to make an effort to attend one of these ceremonies to see your camp in action and appreciate these JROTC programs and what it does for our San Diego County high school students and, especially, what the H.L. Hunley Award means to your own camp and the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

Next Camp Meeting

Date: May 12, 2018

Time: 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Location: Marie Callender's Restaurant, 6950 Alvarado Road, La Mesa. Take 70th off I-8 then proceed on Alvarado.



VETERANS MEMORIAL CENTER, BALBOA PARK



Your camp performed its quarterly Color Guard duties at the VMC on Saturday, April 28th. We were welcomed, as always, by Mr. John Vorhies of the Marine Corps League and Captain Will Hays of the Veterans Museum. *I will say here, most emphatically, that I would like to see more camp members making an effort to come out once every three months for this short ceremony honoring our veterans. This event should not take any appreciable time out of your weekend activities.* Due to the absence of the 82nd Airborne personnel, Camp 302 was asked to help out on the rifle salute, but because of only two muskets and no ammunition, this portion of the ceremony was skipped. All concerned said that, upon our suggestion, in the future, a black powder salute with our pistols would be gladly accepted if needed. A highlight of the memorial was, in an addition to the reading of over sixty names of San Diego County Veterans who have passed away recently, John Vorhies sharing with the guests of his remembrances of his association with R.Lee Ermy, the actor and Marine Corps Veteran

who died in early April. M/Sgt Ermy was a dedicated proponent of America's military and a staunch American. *Pictured L to R: Compatriot Ira Lack, Lieutenant Commander Jim Millsap, Commander Jim Stephens and VMC Bugler, Clayton Becker.*

NOTES FROM THE COMMANDER



As we enter May, a busy time in our camp calendar begins. As mentioned earlier, we have the six Hunley Awards that will go to our area schools this month and in June; I want to thank LCDR Jim Millsap, Chaplain Jim Coulsby and Compatriot George Faircloth for their valuable assistance for this year's presentations. I cannot forget to mention Adjutant Roy Adair and Compatriot Mike Schooling who also participate in these activities. Our camp meeting is just a few days away and we will also celebrate President Jefferson Davis' birthday at that time. As always, we'll have a lot to discuss during the business portion of the meeting.

Unfortunately, this will be the first May in many years that Camp 302 and SUVCW Sgt. William Pittenger Camp 21 will not conduct a joint Memorial Day Ceremony at Mt. Hope Cemetery due to us being told that we were not allowed in the cemetery displaying our Confederate regalia. I want to thank Commander John Finch of the Camp 21 for supporting Camp 302 at this time. To make matters worse, due to San Diego budget shortfalls, the cemetery is now charging high fees for any group, including veterans groups, to perform ceremonies on site.

This of course, put both camps out of the picture at Mt. Hope in honoring this country's veterans. I will say that both Camp 302 and Camp 21 will be exploring other cemeteries in our immediate area to conduct this time-honored Veterans Day ceremony for 2019.

In this issue, you've read of the camp's activities at the Division Convention and other events since our last gathering. I'll see you at Marie Callender's Saturday, May 12th and we can look ahead to our future events.

Jim Stephens