



The Conquered Banner



*Newsletter of the
Father A. J. Ryan San Diego Camp 302
Sons of Confederate Veterans*



VOLUME 33 NUMBER 2

March/April 2025

Camp 302 Compatriots

From time-to-time, it's good that each and every camp member be made aware of who their fellow compatriots are and the general area where they reside. It is truly unfortunate that in an organization like ours, and the fact that we are so spread out, makes it impossible to get everyone together for a group photo. So, we must be content to at least see our names in print.

Roy Adair, Coronado, Ca/San Angelo, Tx – John Brown, Buckeye, Az – Mike Climo, Oceanside, Ca – Rod Donohoo, San Diego, Ca – Donald Douglass, Valley Center, Ca – George Faircloth, San Diego, Ca – Gary Faulk, Chula Vista, Ca – John Flood, Lakeside, Ca – David Ham, Rio Rancho, NM – Gary Henson, Ash Grove, Mo – Charles Hill, San Diego, Ca – Steve Hughes, Barstow, Ca – Robert Johnson, Jr, Roanoke, Va – John Klinedinst, San Diego, Ca – Ira Lack, Temecula, Ca – Christopher Lockhart, Ramona, Ca – Daniel Martin, Jamul, Ca – Chuck Meadows, Escondido, Ca – Shannon Miller, Oceanside, Ca – James Millsap, Encinitas, Ca – Stephen Musgrave, La Mesa, Ca – Kevin Park, San Diego, Ca – Pence Parsons, San Diego, Ca – Steve Perdue, Lakeside, Ca – Jim Pollard, Alpine, Ca – Simon Reid, Chandler, Az – Othello Rowland, Wilburton, Ok – Mike Schooling, San Diego, Ca – Christopher Shelton, Spring Valley, Ca – Justin Shelton, Jr, Spring Valley, Ca – Steve Smith, Vista, Ca – Travis Smith, Vista, Ca – Jim Stephens, Oceanside, Ca – Michael Stephens, Waleska, Ga – Will Tisch, Santee, Ca – Shawn Turner, El Cajon, Ca – Boyd Walsh, San Diego, Ca – Steven Winn, San Diego, Ca – Peter Yancey, San Diego, Ca.

These next two gentlemen are not tied by blood to a Confederate veteran; they are, however, official Friends of the SCV and Camp 302

Robert Zoch, Jr, San Diego, Ca – Jordan Mantay, Front Royal, Va

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 and E-mail notification.

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 \$50.00 for members. Dues include the *Confederate Veteran* magazine and a newsletter.

Camp officers

<u>Commander</u>	<u>Jim Millsap</u>
<u>Lieutenant Commander</u>	<u>George Faircloth</u>
<u>Adjutant</u>	<u>Jim Stephens</u>
<u>Treasurer</u>	<u>Roy Adair</u>
<u>Webmaster</u>	<u>Roy Adair</u>
<u>Chaplain</u>	<u>Steve Perdue</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>

Father Abram Joseph Ryan

Is there a better time than now to introduce to our new compatriots, as well as refreshing the memory of our current members, the man who penned that immortal tribute to the South and its lost cause, *The Conquered Banner*?

For 32 years now, Camp 302 has had the distinction of being named for this remarkable Irish/American priest – Confederate Chaplain/Poet/ Patriot. How did this come about?

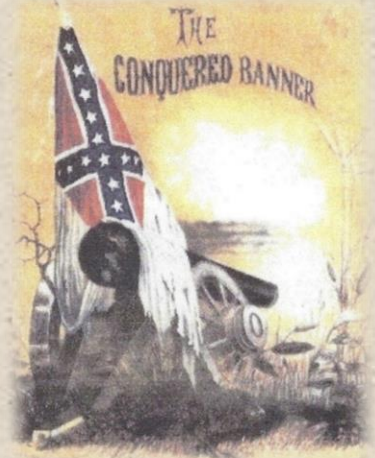
The namesake of Camp 302 was the brainchild of founding member and camp historian, the late Gene Armistead. In 1993, as the camp was being formed prior to its charter, Gene researched camp names throughout the SCV organization and found that no camp was named after this famous priest he admired. Gene approached the other founding members and they wholeheartedly agreed to the name, several remembering having to memorize Ryan's poem in school. The camp's first commander, Gene Harper, likewise approved but insisted that San Diego be a part of the name in order to signify the camp's position within the California Division. Today, therefore, we are known as **Father A.J. Ryan, San Diego, Camp 302.**



Because of Father Ryan's epic poem that our founding members knew so well and understanding that it immortalized the *Lost Cause*, also agreed with Armistead to name Camp 302's newsletter, *The Conquered Banner* that emblazes the masthead of this publication. The first edition appeared on September 18, 1993. It is a constant reminder of the man who faithfully served the Confederacy and gave the South and the world that immortal literary work tying us to our Confederate heritage.

On the following page, we will present *The Conquered Banner* in its entirety.

Abram Ryan, in his reticence, wrote little of his wartime experiences as a Catholic chaplain following the war, but his poetry, written afterwards, bespeaks volumes. Greatly saddened after hearing of Lee's surrender at Appomattox, Ryan penned *The Conquered Banner* on a piece of paper that was wrapped around a pair of old shoes, among many that he collected, to donate to the needy. The painting at right, which also adorns the masthead of this newsletter, was cover art for Dresden-born composer Theodore La Hache's sheet music for piano, becoming most popular in 1866, giving a musical setting for Father Ryan's anthem.



The Conquered Banner

*Furl that banner, for 'tis weary;
Round its staff 'tis drooping dreary;
Furl it, fold it, it is best;
For there is not a man to wave it,
And there's not a sword to save it,
And there's no one left to lave it
In the blood that heroes gave it;
And its foes now scorn and brave it;
Furl it, hide it—let it rest!*

*Take that banner down! 'tis tattered;
Broken is its shaft and shattered;
And the valiant hosts are scattered
Over whom it floated high.
Oh! 'tis hard for us to fold it;
Hard to think there's none to hold it;
Hard that those who once unrolled it
Now must furl it with a sigh.*

*Furl that banner! Furl it sadly!
Once ten thousands hailed it gladly,
And ten thousands wildly, madly,
Swore it should forever wave;
Swore that a foeman's sword should never
Hearts like theirs entwined sever,
Till that flag should float foever
O'er their freedom or their grave!*

*Furl it! for the hands that grasped it,
And the hearts that fondly clasped it,
Cold and dead are lying low;
And the banner—it is trailing!
While around it sounds the wailing
Of its people in their woe.*

*For though conquered, they adore it!
Love the cold, dead hands that bore it!
Weep for those who fell before it!
Pardon those who trailed and tore it!
But, oh! wildly they deplored it!
Now who furl and fold it so.*

*Furl that banner! True, 'tis gory,
Yet 'tis wreathed around with glory,
And 'twill live in song and story,
Though its folds are in the dust;
For its frame on brightest pages,
penned by poets and by sages,
Shall go sounding down the ages--
Furl its folds through now we must.*

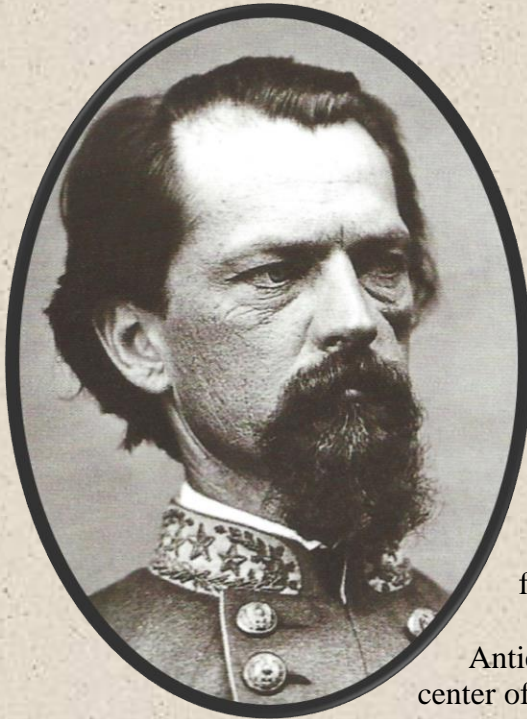
*Furl that banner, sadly, slowly!
Treat it gently--it is holy--
For it droops above the dead.
Touch it not—unfold it never,
Let I droop there, furl'd forever,
For its people's hopes are dead!*

Sources and recommended reading:

Poet of the Lost Cause, A Life of Father Ryan
Donald Beagle and Bryan Giemza
University of Tennessee Press, 2008

The Conquered Banner, November 2018
Civil War Chaplains

Confederate Personality



General John B. Gordon

Born in 1832, John Gordon attended the University of Georgia where he studied law and engaged in coal-mining before the Civil War. He began his Confederate service in 1861 by raising a company of volunteer infantry known as the Raccoon Roughs. When the governor of Georgia declined his service because the state had filled its quota of volunteers, Gordon took his men to Alabama to enlist them as part of the 6th Alabama. Gordon took part in the Seven Days Battles around Richmond in June 1862, earning a reputation for fearlessness in combat.

Gordon's reputation increased following the Battle of Antietam in September 1862. There, his regiment occupied the center of the sunken road that later became known as Bloody Lane and resisted determined Union attacks. During the battle, Gordon suffered four wounds, the last, a head wound that almost killed him. Shortly after Antietam, he was promoted to brigadier general.

Gordon served as a brigade commander at the Battle of Gettysburg in July 1863. He planned and carried out a brilliant attack at the Battle of the Wilderness in May 1864 and was promoted to major general on May 14th. Gordon's abilities, combined with losses among Lee's officers, led to his promotion to division and later army corps command. At all levels, he performed brilliantly. By April 1865, Gordon was in command of over half of Lee's remaining troops. He surrendered along with Lee at Appomattox on April 9, 1865.

After the war, Gordon returned to Georgia, where he was elected to the U.S. senate three times and governor of Georgia once. He was the driving force behind the Confederate Veterans' movement and wrote an influential memoir of his wartime service. He died in 1904 and is buried at Oakland Cemetery in Atlanta.

Source: *Adapted from The Civil War Day by Day, Philip Katcher, Brown Bear Books, 2007.*

A Letter of Appreciation

It is always a great pleasure to announce a *Thank You* from organizations your camp donates to that means much to the preservation of our Confederate heritage as well as community service. *At Right* is such a letter, received last December from The General's Redoubt in Lexington, Virginia. You will recall that we announced a short while ago that Camp 302 Compatriot John Klinedinst, who is so much a part of the Redoubt and Washington and Lee University, was giving away copies of the book *Un-Cancel Robert E. Lee*. Because many of you paid for the book originally and, to be fair, several camp members at a recent meeting who also paid for the book agreed to use those funds to go toward a contribution to The General's Redoubt. Therefore, in November of 2024, a check for \$175.00 was sent to the Redoubt to help them continue the fight to save Lee's legacy.



The Generals Redoubt
PO Box 1097
Lexington, VA 24450

December 5, 2024

Sons of Confederate Veterans
Father A.J. Ryan, Camp 302, San Diego
690 Mural Street, Oceanside, CA 92057

To whom it may concern,

Thank you for your kind support of The Generals Redoubt. I am pleased to report that a group of generous donors, to boost TGR's Sixth Annual Fund, have created a Challenge Match of up to \$400,000 for every dollar given between September 3, 2024, and January 31, 2025.

Thus, your generous gift of \$175 will actually be adding \$350 to TGR's Sixth Annual Fund! Thank you for helping TGR meet this Match and in so doing, potentially raising \$800,000 that will enable us to accomplish so many different prongs of our Mission!

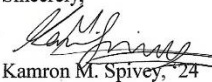
As TGR's inaugural postgraduate fellow, I continue to advance their on-campus initiatives to preserve the history and traditions of this great university. Last month, we released videos about George Washington's connection to W&L. You can view them, and much more, on our YouTube channel (@TheGeneralsRedoubt). They are a terrific resource for students and alumni!

We also enjoyed Gib Kerr's presentation of *Un-Cancel Robert E. Lee* on C-Span! They recorded the talk at Mulberry Hill in Lexington last month, and we recently shared it with our followers.

With your help, we can continue to educate the W&L community about the life and character of George Washington and Robert E. Lee. But our initiatives run deeper than just teaching about those illustrious men. TGR has greatly improved the campus environment this year: from helping to fund Mock Con to supporting student trips to historic sites and distributing hats, shirts, and other merch around Lexington. And we are very excited about the new opportunities that Fancy Hill will create!

As Lee's father, "Light Horse" Harry Lee, advised his children in 1816, "Dwell on the virtues, and imitate, as far as lies in your power, the great and good men whom history presents to our view."

Sincerely,


Kamron M. Spivey, 24
Campus Director & Research Fellow

Mr. Stephens,
Thank you for your kind note. We couldn't keep up our work without John. And we're always thankful for what the S.C.V. does. Dee Vondrice

The Generals Redoubt is a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation (EIN# 84-1863901). We received your contribution of \$175.00, given by Check #2799 written on November 24, 2024. No goods, services, or other benefits were provided in consideration for this gift.



Camp 302 Meeting

Camp members and guests gathered at the LDS Family Search Center at 4195 Camino Del Rio South on Saturday morning, January 4, 2025, the first official meeting of 2025.

Those present for this session were as follows: **Commander Jim Millsap, Adjutant Jim Stephens, Treasurer Roy Adair, Chaplain Steve Perdue** along with compatriots **Ira Lack, Christopher Shelton, Justin Shelton Jr. with David Ham in New Mexico and Michael Stephens in Georgia (via Zoom,) and the camp's newest member, Pence Parsons. The camp's guests: Robyn Adair and Jane Zoch of the United Daughters of the Confederacy and Robert Zoch Jr. Friend of the SCV and Camp 302.**

The proceedings began at Approximately 11:30 AM when Chaplain Perdue led the group with the Invocation. The attendees then recited the Pledge of Allegiance followed by the Salute to the Confederate Flag.

This meeting, with many to follow, as camp officers with the unanimous approval of the attendees, chose this combination of ZOOM and in-person gathering, with this first meeting an experiment in coordination using both methods.

As decided upon at the last meeting in November 2024, Adjutant Stephens brought in Jersey Mike's sandwiches and Commander Millsap provided the chips and drinks for the members to enjoy. The camp funded this event on a one-time basis with future business lunches to be purchased by attending members on a volunteer basis.

The topic of present and future camp donations was the next subject for discussion. The source for the camp's annual and occasional one-time contributions that come out of Camp 302's account prompted Adjutant Stephens to remind our newest members the reason and justification for this.

The bulk of the camp's treasury comes from the bequest of our late compatriot/chaplain and benefactor, James Taylor, whose dedication to Camp 302 and the SCV led him to leave the camp over \$50,000 to be used to further the goals of the camp and SCV, with a clear objective to preserve our Confederate heritage throughout the confederation but also provide contributions to worthy community projects such as hospitals, animal rescue facilities, and food banks, etc., enriching the lives and well-being of all concerned. When the camp's annual donation to the Vietnam Unit Memorial Monument was brought up, Chris Shelton asked the question as to what the funds were used for. Roy Adair reminded all present that the money was used to replace the flags of the Southern states that fly among all the fifty state flags over the monument. They are replaced annually. He also indicated that he could possibly obtain some of the replaced flags and give them to members who request one of their home state.

At this point, we were presented the Treasurer's report as delivered by Treasurer Adair: This covers the period of 11/08/2024 to 01/02/2025. **\$30,457.34** was in the camp's bank account in November. **Outlays of \$549.44 included \$40.00 membership to national headquarters, \$100.00 donation to the division, \$175.00 donation to The General's Redoubt, \$29.20 for postage stamps, \$100.00 donation to The Friends of the Hunley, \$27.00 reimbursement to Roy Adair for name plate and, \$109.90 reimbursement to Jim Stephens for lunch provided at the meeting.** Income to the camp's account was \$31.66 that includes \$.25 bank interest and \$31.41 for miscellaneous deposits. The closing current balance as of this meeting is **\$29,907.90**. Keep in mind that members can request a complete list of donations and treasurer's report if desired.

Next came the discussion of the 2025 camp calendar and what is on the slate for the new year. Commander Millsap talked of the upcoming Division reunion at Bakersfield in late March. More on that will be forthcoming. The National Convention for the SCV will take place this year in Houston, TX on the 17th of July. Look out for that info soon in the Confederate Veteran magazine. Among the big events for the year, we talked of future visits to Julian and Ramona cemeteries and a trip to the USS Midway that many have enjoyed in the past. Dates for these outings to be determined.

The subject of camp officers and elections came to the forefront. Members present agreed to keep the current elected camp officers in place, consisting of commander and lieutenant commander along with the appointed officers: adjutant, treasurer and chaplain. Treasurer Adair expressed his desire to relinquish his post sometime in the near future. In Camp 302, the treasurer and adjutant hold joint duties. Compatriot Chris Shelton volunteered to assist in setting up ZOOM with wireless microphone and speakers at the search center. He is also willing to assume the position of treasurer in the future. Roy stated that he can start training Chris soon. Also, Commander Millsap indicated that after three successive 2-year terms, he is ready to turn the helm over to a successor. Even though he was not present at the meeting to voice an opinion, Compatriot Gary Faulk was unanimously recommended to be the next camp commander with the decision that he be placed in the position of lieutenant commander in the foreseeable future until formal elections can be conducted. Current LCDR George Faircloth has graciously consented to step down when called upon.

A big advantage to gathering at the Family Search Center is that we now can view videos and other presentations on the large multi-purpose monitor in the meeting room, and this time we viewed a video reenactment of Pickett's Charge at Gettysburg brought in by Roy.

It was now time to swear in Camp 302's newest member, Pence Parsons, who becomes the 39th official member. Pence is a retired Navy Captain and former commanding officer of an E-2 advanced early airborne warning squadron. His bio will be coming in a future issue.



Compatriot Parsons raises his right hand and prepares to take the oath as Commander Millsap reads the Pledge



Pence shows off his membership certificate along with Adjutant Stephens, Commander Millsap and Chaplain Perdue. Treasurer Roy Adair looks on.

To close out this important camp meeting, one of the final discussions was centered around food and refreshments for future meetings. Compatriot Shelton volunteered to bring in sandwiches for the next gathering in March and the decision was made that attendees can pay all or part of their share of the food.

At this point, Chaplain Perdue led the group in the Benediction to close out this January 4th meeting.

Division Members Gather at Domingo's



Domingo's Mexican Restaurant is a quaint little establishment in Boron, CA that has a unique story that many members of the California Division can attest to. Pictured above are the division members who attended a great luncheon and get-together at Domingo's on Saturday, December 7, 2024. Commander Jim Millsap and Mike Climo represented Camp 302. Thanks to Jeannie Terry who took the photo.

A portion of the gathering was to honor Mike Climo as division commander. He received two awards: **The Meritorious Service Medal from CIC Boshers and the Distinguished Service Medal from ATC Commander J.C. Hanna.**

As mentioned, Domingo's and Boron are quite unique. In the March 2019 issue of *The Conquered Banner*, I reported on the first visit that a few of us in Camp 302 made to this restaurant. Thanks to Compatriot Greg Frazier of Tehachapi Camp 2048 for recommending this location for get-togethers and good food.

The town of Boron is located several miles west of Kramer Junction where Highway 395 and 58 intersect. Domingo's Restaurant is just off Highway 58 on the 20 Mule Team Road. Adjacent to Boron is where Borax was mined for years. One can stand on the main street of this town and virtually see from one end to the other. The uniqueness of Boron is that it is located very close to Edwards Air Force Base where NASA and Air Force flight crews work and train. Space Shuttle and International space station astronauts trained here.

Domingo's popularity with the Air Force and NASA, at one time, cannot be overstated. His restaurant was packed with memorabilia and signed photos of astronauts, aircraft models and a proud owner of an American Flag brought back from space, just to mention a few. It was a favorite watering hole for many base personnel that kept Domingo busy. His restaurant would

not be the first popular hangout for military and NASA folks to frequent. Then! We have **Florence "Pancho" Barnes**, *Seen at left.*

In the early 1950's, the illustrious, if not reputable, aviatrix Pancho Barnes owned and operated the Happy Bottom Riding Club that saw the likes of Jimmy Doolittle, Chuck Yeager, Buzz Aldren, Bob Hoover and other famous aviators and crew stop by for drinks, food and entertainment. A good friend of this writer, WWII fighter pilot and retired



Navy Commander Glenn Tierney, told of the times he flew out of NAF China Lake and Edwards AFB and met with Pancho on many occasions. As he remembered, she was not a particularly attractive woman and given to strong language, but her fame as a flyer and being so well liked, led to the officers mess at Edwards to be named after her. Amid some controversy, The Happy Bottom Riding Club mysteriously burned down in 1953 and its ruins now stand on an expanded portion of Edwards AFB. Pancho passed away in 1975 in Boron but her legend is alive and well. While not as notorious as the riding club, Domingo's was the place for many years that saw base personnel come to eat and drink. We were told that at one time, a commanding officer of Edwards came to Domingo's almost every day.

As division members saw on this recent gathering at Domingo's, it was not as full of all the great artifacts it once had and perhaps lacked the ambiance some of us originally experienced. This may be partly due to Domingo's gambling habit which has caused him to lose control of his restaurant a few times. He has it back now but for how long is the question. Regardless, it is a great place to have good Mexican dishes and to absorb the atmosphere of this high desert locale along with the aviation history that is so much a part of the area.

Division Executive Council Meeting

Division members from around the state gathered in front of their computers and cell phones Saturday, January 25, 2025 to participate in the first California D.E.C. Meeting via Zoom for the year. In order of their signing on we have the following: **Greg Frazier, Tehachapi Camp 2048, Jim Stephens, San Diego Camp 302, Tod Terry, Tehachapi Camp 2048, Division Commander Mike Climo, San Diego Camp 302, Division Lieutenant Commander Jim Millsap, Commander Camp 302, Steve Madden, Inland Empire Camp 1742, Jay Gillette, Fresno, Camp 1804, Division Adjutant Vern Padgett, Los Angeles Camp 1208, Les Winebarger, Tehachapi Camp 2048, Farrell Cooley, Orange County Camp 1770, Jon Hussey, Inland Empire Camp 1742, Tad Smith, Sacramento Camp 1627, and Dan Sheppard, Modesto Camp 2023.**

Steve Madden started the proceedings with the Invocation followed by the Salute to the Confederate Flag. As a summation of 2024 to start with, Adjutant Padgett went over the minutes of the 30th California Division Reunion in Bakersfield that he sent out to the executive council and they were unanimously approved by those present. Vern talked about the camp dues payments to the division for 2024-2025 that came to \$2,145. Vern stated that there is a little over \$7,000.00 in the division account. An interesting note he brought forth is that for two camps, Los Angeles Camp 1208 and San Diego Camp 302, the national headquarters number matched the division dues sent to him from them. One camp paid for more members shown on the HQ roster while other camps paid less. Vern also indicated that the national roster shows our division with more members than actual. The reason behind this, as many of us have found out in our conversations with membership director, Eric Prevetti, is that several staff personnel at headquarters have resigned recently, putting them well behind in updating camp rosters. While we're talking rosters, Vern suggested that the division may reinstate some past members and place them in the Long Beach and Santa Barbara camps due to their low numbers.

The Fresno radio ad in 2024 was an interesting topic that was brought forward by Tod Terry with Tad Smith requesting clarification on the subject. Tod explained that the script for the ad was accepted by the station and was to run for 1 month via the station, internet and streaming. Also, Adjutant Padgett, after the question was asked, said that the division paid a little over \$500.00 for this which was not bad. After a week's time of running the ad, the station received word from their headquarters in Atlanta that they had several complaints from listeners (they did not reveal from whom), telling Fresno to remove the spot. However, the station was very responsive and willing to rerun the ad if the division wished to revise and tone down the script particularly by removing the word "Confederate." Because of this, attendees to the 2025 California Division Reunion/Reconfederation will discuss plans for a future ad.

Looking ahead for this year, Commander Climo reminded all that the dates for the Reconfederation are Friday, March 28, 2025 – Sunday, March 30, 2025. The hotel registration link is on the division website: <http://www.californiascv.org/upcoming.html>. The hospitality suite will be in the San Joaquin room with the Saturday business meeting in the Belridge Triple with the dinner in the ballroom as in the past. We were told by Mike that the hotel renovations are complete and work is now being done on the outside. This should be completed by the time the division meets there in March. With this being the gist of the D.E.C., Vern gave the Benediction to close out the meeting.

Greetings From the Commander

I hope everyone is well and enjoyed a great Christmas holiday with family. We had a good turnout at our 1st camp meeting of the new year on January 4th at the Family Search Center and inducted our latest new member, Pence Parsons.

This new meeting location is working out great with access to a large computer screen and we are able to hold a zoom call for the members who are out of state. We will continue our meeting there and will continue to hold Zoom calls for our members.

Our next camp meeting will be on March 8, 2025, just prior to the California Division Convention in Bakersfield (March 28-29).

So! Things are shaping up nicely for a great year, 2025.

Deo Vindice

Your Vigilant Commander,
Jim Millsap

