



The Prince's Dispatch



*Major General John Bankhead Mcgruder Chapter 258
Military Order of the Stars and Bars
Fredericksburg, Virginia
Volume 2, Number 1, January 2012*

The Dispatch Returns!

The Dispatch is back, returns in a new format, and is the 2012 look for our Chapter's quarterly newsletter. This newsletter will provide everyone with goings-on within the Chapter to include events, news, and history the way it should have been written the first time.

The Major General John B. Magruder Chapter 258 was chartered by the Virginia Society of the Military Order of the Stars and Bars, 9 August 2000. Chapter meetings are held quarterly and will be announced.





John Bankhead Magruder

(May 1, 1807 – February 19, 1871) MG Magruder was a career military officer that served in the armies of three nations. He was a U.S. Army officer in the Mexican-American War, a Confederate General Officer during the War Between the States, and a post-bellum he was a General Officer in the Imperial Mexican Army. "Prince John" to his army friends, John Magruder is

most noted for his actions to delay Federal troops during the 1862 Peninsula Campaign using ruses that gave Union General George B. McClellan the impression that the Confederates had a much larger force than it actually had. John Magruder was also a success while defending Galveston, Texas, against the Union Army and Navy in 1863.





Closing Out 2011

Commander Charles "Charlie" A. Embrey, Jr., and his wife Barbara, hosted the Chapter's 2011 meeting/social, combined with dinner and entertainment, on the 10th of December at their home. The air was full of great friendship and good cheer. It's been said that this is a time of the year when all hearts come home for Christmas. There were many warm hearts at Charlie and Barb's this year.

Let us be humbled and always remember our compatriots who were in the trenches during Christmas from 1861-1865.

God Bless Us All in 2012





2011-2013 Chapter Officers

Commander – Charles A. Embrey, Sr.

Lt Commander – Jan V. Harvey

2nd Lt. Commander – Joseph H. Wright, Jr.

Adjutant – Henry H. Knauf

Chief-of-Staff – L. Craig Rains

Judge Advocate – Ronald C. Gordon

Treasurer – Christopher H. Ezelle

Chaplain – John M. Embrey, Jr.

Sergeant-at-Arms – Louis Buttgen, III

Webmaster/Historian -

News Letter Editor – Christopher H. Ezelle





2011 Time Capsule

The Time Capsule will occur annually and is a summary of events that the Magruder Chapter participated in for the past year.

January 17st, Monday 1:00 p.m. Lee-Jackson-Maury Birthday Ceremony Culpeper UDC # 73, at the United Methodist Church. 12 Oak Lawn Drive, Culpeper, VA.

January 22nd, Saturday 1:00 p.m. Lee , Jackson, Maury Ceremony hosted by the Fredericksburg Chapter #163 UDC at Massaponax Baptist Church 5101 Massaponax Church Road Fredericksburg, VA 22407

March 7th, Monday 6:30 – 9:00 p.m. Magruder Chapter Quarterly Meeting St. George’s Episcopal Church, Faulkner Hall.

April 10th, Sunday 3:00 p.m. Dedication of Civil War Trail Marker by the Confederate Monument at Rappahannock Courthouse, Little Washington, VA.

April 19th, Tuesday 9:00 a.m. Fredericksburg City Circuit Court (Judge Pamela S. Baskerville) Removal Barton Street Monument 51 Confederate Soldiers members attended Charles A. Embrey, Sr., Henry H. Knauf, Joseph H. Wright Jr. and Louis Buttgen III.

April 30th, Saturday 11:00 a.m. Virginia Society Convention, Virginia Beach, VA. Attended by Cmdr. Charles A. Embrey, Sr. & Adj. Henry H. Knauf. Hosted by the Major Edgar Borroughs & the Princess Anne Cavalry Chapter # 281.

May 21st, Saturday 1:00 p.m. Remembrance of Jefferson Davis hosted by Culpeper UDC Chapter #73 at Culpeper Methodist Church 1233 Oak Lawn Drive Culpeper VA.

May 28th, Saturday 8:00 a.m. Placement of Flags Fredericksburg Confederate Cemetery.

May 28th 11, Saturday 7:30 p.m. Ceremony for Captain James Keith Boswell; Foot Marker, Section 12 row 7 Fredericksburg Confederate Cemetery; dedication by Mrs. Jean Eickoff and Sister Mrs. Sue Eterton, descendants from Georgia.

May 28th, Saturday 8:00 p.m. Tenth Luminaries Fredericksburg Confederate

Cemetery; sponsored by the Fredericksburg UDC Chapter #163.

May 30th, Monday 9:00 a.m. March (Parade) from Barton Street Monument to Fredericksburg Confederate Cemetery.

May 30th, Monday 10:00 a.m. 145th Observance of Memorial Day Services, Fredericksburg Confederate Cemetery.

May 30th, Monday 12:00 a.m. Masonic Cemetery Fredericksburg; 17th Annual Memorial Day Ceremony, Fredericksburg Lodge #4 A.F. & A.M.

May 30th, Monday 2:00 p.m. Memorial Day Ceremony at the Spotsylvania Confederate Cemetery, sponsored by the Fredericksburg UDC Chapter #163.

June 13th, Monday 6:30 – 9:00 p, m. Magruder Chapter Quarterly Meeting St. George’s Episcopal Church, Faulkner Hall, Fredericksburg.

September 9th, Friday 1:30 p.m. Honor Guard for Mrs. Robert (Barbara) Crookshanks, President Ladies Memorial Association, who passed on Sept. 3rd 2011 MHW, buried Fredericksburg Confederate Cemetery.

September 12th, Monday 6:30 – 9:00 p, m. Magruder Chapter Quarterly Meeting St. George’s Episcopal Church, Faulkner Hall, Fredericksburg.

September 24th, Saturday, 11:00 a.m. Warrenton-Fauquier Heritage Parade.

September 26th, Monday 1:00 p.m. Memorial Service at Ramoth Baptist Church, Stafford, VA.

For Compatriot Louis Buttgen Jr, who passed September 24th. Matthew Fontaine Maury Camp #1722 served as Honor Guard with Rifle volley and taps. The Magruder Chapter conducted a service at the grave site. Charles A. Embrey Sr., John M. Embrey Jr., Charles A. Embrey Jr., Col. Jan V. Harvey, Henry H. Knauf, and Christopher H. Ezelle attended. Compatriot Buttgen will be missed by all.

21. December 10th, Saturday 5:00 –12:00 p.m. Magruder Chapter Quarterly Meeting /Christmas Party





Chapter Provides Donation

“The Old Dominion Bulletin”, December 2011, a newsletter of the Virginia Division of United Daughters of the Confederacy:

Re-enactors Waverly Adcock and Dr. John Ogletree of West Augusta Guards, 5th Virginia Infantry, spoke at the Chapter’s regular November meeting and addressed flag conservation efforts for two flags that are currently being stored in the Augusta County Courthouse.

The flags, a silk painted banner carried by the 5th Virginia Infantry during the early years of the war, and a large canvas encampment flag of the 1st Virginia Cavalry are the artifacts for the conservation effort.

Donations are being received under the auspices of the Augusta County Historical Society, P.O. Box 686, Staunton, Virginia, 22402.

After the unanimous motion to support this conservation measure to save a piece of Virginia's history during the December 2011 meeting, the Magruder Chapter provided a check for a \$100.00 donation (\$50.00 for each flag) toward this valiant restoration effort.

5th VA Infantry Flag

1st VA Cavalry Flag





An Historic Reality!

What were the arguments offered by those who supported the institution of slavery?
By Christopher H. Ezelle

There are a number of arguments for and against the institution of slavery and each warrants merit. The arguments include religious, political, and ego-centric; therefore, proscribing it evil is as warranted as proscribing it beneficial.

Between 1800 and 1830, a Second Great Awakening moral and cultural reformation occurred, and with it came abolition and the verbal deliverance that slavery was a social sin. As such, since slavery was a sin, it violated the Highest law and that was the law of God. But, even in the Bible, slavery was justified for the Southerner.

However; the Constitution of the United States permitted slavery, and domestic slavery was essentially good for the

economy and culture. Implementing the master-slave concept civilized Africans and gave them a security that was collectively better than that on the African continent. And what would happen if they were deported back to Africa? Perhaps they would be engaged in lifelong tribal warring as today, or even be captured again and sold as slaves in another part of the world. Being Another argument was that slavery was essential to the economy and culture. It allowed the new Victorian Southern Gentleman the time to leisurely labor in the arts and in literature instead of obscenely putting hand to plough and basking in the blistering sun to scratch out a living. Slavery was deemed a positive good and there would always be servants to the higher race. While the Gentleman was striving to mentally better himself, the slave endured to make his living and theirs at the same time. It was believed that emancipation would destroy this 19th century simulated utopia. It would cause a devastating blow to the country as a whole, and it applied to Northern and Southern masters alike. Slavery to the economic growth of the South's King Cotton was as the textile industry's dependence on the South's cotton in the North. Without, there would be neither.

Although there were tumultuous times from 1850 to 1860, the South's climb to economic prominence led them to believe that slavery was a necessity for their agrarian lifestyle and for their government; exclusive to the South, proven by the dynamic effects of the cotton industry worldwide. Cotton was King and industrialization was not the means to the

end. In the South people were not equal. The Negro was a lower step down than the poorest white man. There would always be owned subordinates, and the Southern superior white race would have the money. In essence, if it weren't for slavery, the South wouldn't be where it was. It was also apparent to the South that slave state governments were more effective, ran more efficiently, and made the best use of labor and time, at minimal cost.

Slavery was security; the reason for true prosperity, and proved as successful in America as it proved successful for ancient civilizations. Things that may seem revolting to some are not necessarily revolting to others. In many cases, it is accepted for its value added. And slavery was the accepted norm then. Gedahlia Braun stated, "American slaves had surprisingly positive things to say about slavery." <http://www.americancivilrightsreview.com/slavery-whatexslavessaid.htm>



Did the Union Recognize the CSA as a Country?

By Christopher H. Ezelle

The Confederate States of America (CSA) designed and adopted its own Constitution on March 11th, 1861 which made the CSA a nation. The Union, by exception, recognized the CSA as a nation as a result of Confederates capturing large numbers of Union prisoners and using the prisoner exchange system which is

international diplomatic recognition shared among most nations.

At the start of the War Between the States, a formal exchange system for prisoners of war was not arranged because President Lincoln did not recognize the Confederacy as having wartime rights. However; after the Union defeat at First Manassas, and with a large number of Union prisoners held by the Confederacy, the U.S. Congress requested (demanded) that Lincoln take measures to effect an exchange.¹

The CSA was also recognized by the Five Civilized Tribes: Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Creek and Seminole, also known as nations. These were Native American tribes that signed treaties of alliance and support with the Confederacy. Additionally, the Confederacy traded with Mexico, Canada, Great Britain, and France and although the Confederacy may not have been called a nation, their colors were saluted (recognized) just as legitimate ships of legitimate nations.





Battle of Fredericksburg Sesquicentennial Medal

The Battle of Fredericksburg, 11 – 15, 1862. Major General Ambrose E. Burnside, Union Army General; perhaps the worst and most ineffective general in the Union Army, with three grand divisions of over 130,000 soldiers, sent nearly 13,000 of his own soldiers to their death knowing that General

¹ <http://www.familyhistory101.com/war-pow/1861-1865.html>

Robert E. Lee and 90,000 Confederate soldiers had dug in deeply at Marye's Heights and were not going to be removed.

In honor of Battle of Fredericksburg and the Confederate victory, the Chapter is proud to offer this high-quality medal for their service for token donation of \$15.00, of which a small portion is returned to the Chapter.

The ribbon for the medal is scarlet and represents the dangers of battle and the sacrifices made by Confederate soldiers for The Cause.

The medal's obverse (front) inscription reads: "Battle of Fredericksburg, Virginia, December 11-15, 1862". In the center of the medal is the current Flag of the City of Fredericksburg. In the left portion of the Saint Andrews cross is "1862". In the right portion of the Saint Andrews cross is "2012". In the lower portion of the cross is "150th".

The medal's reverse (back) inscription across the top reads: "The War Between The States 1861-1865". The inscription on the bottom reads: "Sesquicentennial 2011-2015". In the center of the medal is the colorful 1st National Flag which was the flag that flew during the Battle of Fredericksburg. In the center of the white on the banner is inscribed "Honorem Infinitum" meaning "Honor Forever".

There are no qualifications to order this medal. There are limited quantities and after this 150th Battle of Fredericksburg Anniversary medal is gone, there will be no more.



Medal Photos Provided by Christopher Bright,
Graphic Design Professional

The Southern Gentleman's Corner

This is an area of the newsletter where you will find things that you just may not have known:

- Many doctors who saw service in the Civil War had never been to medical school, but had served an apprenticeship in the office of an established practitioner.
- Northern slave States included Maryland, Delaware, Missouri, Kentucky, and Washington, D.C. and slave ownership was reaffirmed in 1857 as a constitutional right by the Supreme Court.
- Lincoln stated to Southerners on 4 Mar 1861, "I have no purpose, directly or indirectly, to interfere with the institution of slavery in the States where it exists. I believe I have no lawful right to do so, and I have no inclination to do so."



If you have something you would like to share, please forward to me at christofer2@verizon.net