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Subject: Fw: SOUTHERN HERITAGE NEWS & VIEWS

From: Demastus@aol.com <<mailto:Demastus@aol.com>>
Sent: Thursday, July 16, 2015 5:05 AM
To: demastus@aol.com <<mailto:demastus@aol.com>>
Subject: SOUTHERN HERITAGE NEWS & VIEWS

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A Confederate Suggestion Moving Forward - Please Consider

From: grayguns@earthlink.net <<mailto:grayguns@earthlink.net>>

Folks,

Please forward to all concerned.

The communications and links I've received the last few weeks regarding the "flash mob" mindset to eradicate Confederate property has overwhelmed my computer. On several occasions I've noticed the opposition to Confederate flags and monuments claim it is about reconciliation. For those of you organizing and mustering every like-minded body to stand against this anti-Confederate frenzy, may I offer some suggestions.

If you get "face time" with politicians, focus your primary argument on codes / laws in place. Many of these were the result of reconciliation that started at the beginning of the 20th century. Do not attempt to give them 18th and 19th history lessons, but be prepared in case the opportunity arises for discussion. Your time will be short and you need to get the biggest bang for your buck. I've been fortunate to stand before various councils to defend monuments years ago and the real attention-getter was presenting these codes / laws to their attorney. I gave a few anecdotes to support what reconciliation led to these laws. Here are a few:

1. Following the Spanish-American War, which saw former Confederates serving under US colors, the world began to look at us as a "super power."
2. Recognizing the need to bind old wounds, the government and the north started giving back flags and other captured equipment.
3. Confederate Veterans were enlisted to teach our "doughboys" the Rebel Yell battle cry. Unfortunately, they could not duplicate the three-tone yell.
4. President Wilson appointed former disenfranchised Confederates to official posts such as Post Master General.
5. President Roosevelt sent the President's Own Marine Band to play at the only "out of South" UCV Reunion in Colorado. He also gave remarks at the unveiling of the Robert E. Lee memorial statue in Dallas, Tx. - recognizing Lee as one of America's greatest Christians and one of America's greatest gentlemen.
6. Southern men distinguished themselves in every war following the American Civil War, with more men serving from the South than any other sector of the country.
7. This reconciliation period led up to the Congressional Act of 9 March 1906, U.S. Public Law 810 Approved by 17th Congress 26 February 1929, and the final crown of reconciliation with U.S. Public Law 85-425: Sec. 410 Approved 23 May 1958.

As has been the case the last few decades, numbers are paramount. Enlist every able and willing body who believes in the Cause for which our Confederate Veterans fought. Present yourselves as simple citizens, not members of any "group." Unless they know you, mentioning you are a member of any group, especially a Confederate heritage group, make create a wall and they'll tune out your presentation. I've seen this happen too many times. Most people are Confederate at heart and may not even know it. Set personalities aside because the enemy has a massive army and like the invading yankees, they don't care where they get their bodies. And that is what gets the attention of politicians and media.

Below are the documents I mentioned. Please make copies to give others and especially every panel of politicians. Also included for dissemination is President Eisenhower's proclamation on the centennial of the American Civil War. This proclamation can also be found here: <http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/ws/?pid=12029>

I pray Godspeed and victory in this extended-chapter of our ancestors War for Southern Independence.

Confederately and God Bless,

Jimmy Ward

Congressional Act of 9 March 1906

We Honor Our Fallen Ancestors

(P.L. 38, 59th Congress, Chap. 631-34 Stat. 56)

Authorized the furnishing of headstones for the graves of Confederates who died, primarily in Union prison camps and were buried in Federal cemeteries.

Remarks: This act formally reaffirmed Confederate soldiers as military combatants with legal standing. It granted recognition to deceased Confederate soldiers commensurate with the status of deceased Union soldiers.

U.S. Public Law 810, Approved by 17th Congress 26 February 1929

(45 Stat 1307 – Currently on the books as 38 U.S. Code, Sec. 2306)

This law, passed by the U.S. Congress, authorized the “Secretary of War to erect headstones over the graves of soldiers who served in the Confederate Army and to direct him to preserve in the records of the War Department the names and places of burial of all soldiers for whom such headstones shall have been erected.”

Remarks: This act broadened the scope of recognition further for all Confederate soldiers to receive burial benefits equivalent to Union soldiers. It authorized the use of U.S. government (public) funds to mark Confederate graves and record their locations.

U.S. Public Law 85-425: Sec. 410 Approved 23 May 1958

Confederate Iron Cross

(US Statutes at Large Volume 72, Part 1, Page 133-134)

The Administrator shall pay to each person who served in the military or naval forces of the Confederate States of America during the Civil War a monthly pension in the same amounts and subject to the same conditions as would have been applicable to such person under the laws in effect on December 31, 1957, if his service in such forces had been service in the military or naval forces of the United States.

General Robert E. Lee Remarks: While this was only a gesture since the last Confederate veteran died in 1958, it is meaningful in that only forty-five years ago (from 2003), the Congress of the United States saw fit to consider Confederate soldiers as equivalent to U.S. soldiers for service benefits. This final act of reconciliation was made almost one hundred years after the beginning of the war and was meant as symbolism more than substantive reward.

Additional Note by the Critical History: Under current U.S. Federal Code, Confederate Veterans are equivalent to Union Veterans.

By the President of the United States of America
A Proclamation

The years 1961 to 1965 will mark the one-hundredth anniversary of the American Civil War.

That war was America's most tragic experience. But like most truly great tragedies, it carries with it an enduring lesson and a profound inspiration. It was a demonstration of heroism and sacrifice by men and women of both sides who valued principle above life itself and whose devotion to duty is a part of our Nation's noblest tradition.

Both sections of our now magnificently reunited country sent into their armies men who became soldiers as good as any who ever fought under any flag. Military history records nothing finer than the courage and spirit displayed at such battles as Chickamauga, Antietam, Kennesaw Mountain, and Gettysburg. That America could produce men so valiant and so enduring is a matter for deep and abiding pride.

The same spirit on the part of the people at home supported and strengthened those soldiers through four years of great trial. That a Nation which contained hardly more than thirty million people, North and South together, could sustain six hundred thousand deaths without faltering is a lasting testimonial to something unconquerable in the American spirit. And that a transcending sense of unity and larger common purpose could, in the end, cause the men and women who had suffered so greatly to close ranks once the contest ended and to go on together to build a greater, freer, and happier America must be a source of inspiration as long as our country may last.

By a joint resolution approved on September 7, 1957 (71 Stat. 626), the Congress established the Civil War Centennial Commission to prepare plans and programs for the nationwide observances of the one-hundredth anniversary of the Civil War, and requested the President to issue proclamations inviting the people of the United States to participate in those observances.

Now, Therefore, I, Dwight D. Eisenhower, President of the United States of America, do hereby invite all of the people of our country to take a direct and active part in the Centennial of the Civil War.

I request all units and agencies of government--Federal, State, and local--and their officials to encourage, foster, and participate in Centennial observances. And I especially urge our Nation's schools and colleges, its libraries and museums, its churches and religious bodies, its civic, service, and patriotic organizations, its learned and professional societies, its arts, sciences, and industries, and its informational media, to plan and carry out their own appropriate Centennial observances during the years 1961 to 1965; all to the end of enriching our knowledge and appreciation of this momentous chapter in our Nation's history and of making this memorable period truly a Centennial for all Americans.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

DONE at the City of Washington this sixth day of December in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and sixty, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and eighty-fifth.

<http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/images/signatures/34.jpg>

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

By the President:
CHRISTIAN A. HERTER
Secretary of State

State House today (July 13)

There was a big turnout for the state house to meet with representatives and senators today. I hope you got to talk with many, I know I did. Seems like we have lots of support! I gotta say this was fast as it was announced fast and I had comments about it needed to be more organized. I guess you may be right to those who felt this way, and I am sure you will be looked upon to organize the next event. You have to know that if we go inside we cannot go on the floor so we had two options: 1.) get there at 3pm and meet with as many legislators as we could and we did. 2.) Rally and flag outside while they are meeting. Gotta tell you I am there all the time and know that what we did today was made an impression on getting our heritage bill passed. I have cards from many legislators who will help.

My suggestion is this for the next organizer: They will come back on August 3rd which is Monday, they will meet and Wednesday is generally committee day. **THAT IS THE DAY YOU NEED TO BE OUTSIDE AND RALLY WITH SPEAKERS AND FLAGS!**

We had one planned for then but the Governor wanted to surprise everyone with the quick call to assemble.

I hope they saw all of you in the galley today!

I am backing out of these so I hope someone steps up.

Yours in Dixie!

Mike Williams
Alabama Division Adjutant
Alabama Division Webmaster
Sons of Confederate Veterans
Email: Gwilli5413@knology.net <<mailto:Gwilli5413@knology.net>>
Montgomery, Al.

State House today (July 13)

Everyone there today did a good job representing the SCV and expressing our views. I was in Senator Bill Holtzclaw's office & he took the handouts and asked questions about the Tennessee and Arkansas bills. For those that want a well planned out event, it is not going to happen with the legislature. Times get changed, dates get changed and the members are always working on multiple things at one time. I know they work for us but they work for all of us. I saw all kinds of folks with different interests doing the same thing we were doing, moving from office to office, talking to whoever they could grab. I appreciate everyone that was there today but it would have been easier if we had about 50 more folks there to help spread out. By the time you stood in line to get into their office it was time for them to go to the floor. I will give Senator Holtzclaw a big thumbs up. He met with three of us plus a young lady and he did not try to rush us. He and Carl talked about the marine corp and we found out he has a Confederate connection. General James Thadeus Holtzclaw of Montgomery.

As Mike said, if someone wants to step up and organize one of these events please contact a DEC member. We will put you to work.