



# JEFFERSON DAVIS COURIER

4<sup>th</sup> Regiment South Carolina Volunteers  
Camp 7, Easley, SC

*"...all we ask is to be let alone; that those who never held power over us shall not now attempt our subjugation by arms."*



SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

MAY 2008

**FROM THE DESK OF:**  
**LT. COMMANDER DENNIS BLANTON**



**APRIL GUEST SPEAKER:**



Bill Kibler

Bill Kibler is a Vice President and Senior Portfolio Manager with the Kibler-Blackburn Group, a division of Smith Barney in Anderson. Bill is a native of East Tennessee, a graduate of Erskine College, and has worked in the investment industry for 28 years. Bill has studied and written much about the financial history surrounding the War Between the States, and looks forward to sharing stories and financial memorabilia from the period. Bill and Cindy and their two sons reside near Honea Path.

**Subject: The Financial Battlefield: How Stockbrokers Won the War**  
Financing won the war for the North. A handful of stockbroker types invented creative financing vehicles that are still in use today. Their Southern financial counterparts came up with equally creative financing that didn't work. Some of the details are interesting, and we will see a few examples of Southern financing.



## **BATTLE OF CENTRAL**

**Sponsored by:**  
**The Battle of Central SC Committee**

**Hosted by:**  
**The Provisional Army of the Confederacy**

**Event Dates:**  
**May 16, 17 18, 2008**

**Location:**  
**Tankersley Farm Hwy 93 Between Central & Norris, SC**

## CALENDER EVENTS

Next Camp Meeting: May 20, 2008

George's Creek Community Center, 2306 Saluda Dam Road, Easley, S.C. 29640

Supper: 6:30 pm----- Program: 7:00 pm----- Visitors Welcome!

MEALS ARE \$9.00 PER PERSON

### ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY PICK-UP SCHEDULE FOR 2008

JULY 12

SIGN UP SCHEDULE @ MEETING SEE CHIP DYCHES FOR MORE INFO  
YOUR CAMP NEEDS YOUR HELP ON THIS VITAL COMMUNITY PROJECT

### Sons of Confederate Veterans Reunion 2008

Mt. Pleasant, NC 28124

July 16, 17, 18, 19

Hosted by:

Captain Jonas Cook Camp #888

For more info: [http://www.jonascookcamp.com/Home\\_Page.html](http://www.jonascookcamp.com/Home_Page.html)

### We missed you at the: Confederate Memorial Day Program in Pickens

The Sons of Confederate Veterans' local Pickens County Camps 7 & 71 conducted their annual Memorial Day program on Saturday May 10<sup>th</sup> 2008 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at the Pickens County Court House.

Participants in the program are pictured below for you enjoyment:



POSTING OF THE COLORS 2<sup>ND</sup> SC RIFLES



RON WILSON FREATURED  
SPEAKER



PRESENTATION TO ALLISON ANDERSON  
PICKENS COUNTY LIBRARY, DARK HOURS  
BY JOE PAYNE



COMMANDER LARRY OBERSTAR



COMMANDER KEN NABORS



CHAPLAIN JACK NORRIS

## RICHARD ROWLAND KIRKLAND, The Angel of Marye's Heights



Born in August 1843, he was the fifth son of Mary and John Kirkland. They lived in the rural community of Flat Rock in the Kershaw District, South Carolina.

A friend described him as a slender, but well-proportioned muscular man at 5'8", who weighed about 150 pounds. His photograph reveals a handsome young man with a mustache.

A good marksman, Kirkland excelled in riding a horse. His war letters reflect a religious young man of moderate education typical of the thousands of young men who went to war in 1861.

Despite his youth, Kirkland was eager to fight for his country. He enlisted before his older brothers and friends in Company E, 2nd South Carolina. After a year of service as a private, he switched to Company G to be with his friends and was soon promoted to sergeant.

By December of 1862, Kirkland had become a combat veteran, having seen action at 1st Manassas, Savage Station, Maryland Heights and Antietam. He had also witnessed the death of several of his best friends.

During the Battle of Fredericksburg on Dec. 13, 1862, Kirkland's unit formed behind the Stone Wall at the base of Marye's Heights and helped slaughter the Union attackers. After a day of severe fighting, the scene shifted from severe fighting to tremendous suffering.

After dark on the 13th, doctors and soldiers began caring for the injured. The walking wounded made their way to the rear while those with disabling wounds remained on the field.

Daylight on the 14th revealed a ghastly scene to the Confederates behind the Stone Wall. About 8,000 Union soldiers had been shot in front of the wall and many of them remained where they had fallen. As hours went by without food, water or medical treatment, their suffering increased.

Nearby soldiers from both sides listened to the painful cries and pleas for help. While the suffering emotionally moved many, none dared face almost certain death to provide help.

At some point in the day, Kirkland could no longer bear listening to the pleas, so he walked over to the home of Martha Stevens. He went upstairs and told General Joseph Kershaw, his brigade commander, that he would like to try and help the wounded Union soldiers.

The surprised general at first refused the request, but he later relented.

Kirkland gathered all the canteens he could carry and filled them at the near by water well. Then, at extreme risk to himself, he ventured out to help the Federal soldiers. He carried water and warm clothing to the suffering Federal soldiers.

Kershaw anxiously watched Kirkland for hours on his errand of mercy.

Kirkland went on to fight at Chancellorsville and Gettysburg. On Sept. 20, 1863, during the Battle of Chickamauga, Kirkland and two buddies got out in front as they charged up Snodgrass Hill.

Realizing their predicament, they turned to rejoin their unit. Kirkland lingered for a fatal moment to fire one more shot and was mortally wounded. His final words were, "Tell my pa, I died right."

His body was returned home for burial. Years later, a friend visited his grave and described the location as "one of the most sequestered, unfrequented, and inaccessible spots I ever saw."

In 1909, his remains were moved to Quaker Cemetery in Camden just a few paces from the grave of Gen. Kershaw.

In 1965, the magnificent statue sculpted by the famous artist Felix DeWeldon was unveiled in front of the Stone Wall in Fredericksburg where he had performed his humanitarian acts.

At a time we sorely need heroes, this young Southern boy set an admirable example of concern for his fellow human beings and extreme courage.

*"But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you ..."* - Jesus, in Matthew 5:44



The Jefferson Davis Courier  
is published monthly for  
members of Camp 7, SCV.  
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“With Fire & Sword”  
“Virtue-Mine-Honor”  
“Grip Fast”

**\*\*\*\*\*Save your Camp Money\*\*\*\*\***

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**Please** call the editor/publisher listed above and get on the email list.

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