



The SOUTHERN CROSS
Newsletter of the Sterling
Price Camp #145
Sons of Confederate
Veterans
St. Louis, MO
December 2016

Charge to the Sons

“To you Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will submit 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 he loved and which made him glorious and which you also cherish. Remember it is your duty to see that the true history of the South is presented to future generations.”

General Stephen Dill Lee

Camp Officers

Commander – Ray Cobb

First Lt. Commander – Bob Kennedy

Second Lt Commander – Bill Napier

Sgt. at Arms – Dan Maltman

Adjutant – Chuck Knight

Camp CALENDAR

Tuesday, December 13, 2016

*“The Life and Times of Louis Rosché (1852-1937);
Pioneer Steamboatman of St. Louis”
Barney Bradshaw, Missouri History Museum*

Tuesday, January 10, 2017

Sterling Price Camp Meeting

Saturday, January 21, 2017

*Lee Jackson Dinner
Lake of the Ozark Inn at Grand Glaze
Social Time begins at 5:00, dinner at 6:00.*

Saturday, March 18, 2017

The “Military Swap Meet”
Jefferson Barracks

Friday and Saturday, April 21 & 22, 2017

Missouri Division/Missouri Society Reunion

Fulton, Missouri

Please join us. All monthly meetings are held at Syberg's Restaurant - Dorsett, 2430 Old Dorsett Rd, Maryland Heights, MO 63043. Directions: Syberg's Dorsett is at the NE corner of the intersection of I-270 & Dorsett Rd, about one mile north of Page Ave. Fellowship begins at 5:30 and the meeting is called to order at 6:30. Are you interested in presenting at a program, or know of someone who is in 2016, contact Bill Napier, our Program Director.

Camp News

Missouri Division Confederate Flag Polo Shirts are available. The information is at the end of the newsletter. We need to do a camp order to save costs. Come to the next meeting.

The SCV will be breaking ground in October on **THE NATIONAL CONFEDERATE MUSEUM** at Elm Springs. There will be a plaque at the museum listing all the "founders" that give \$1000 toward the museum fund. That's a lot of money so would you consider sending \$10, \$25 or even \$50? The information is in the latest Confederate Veterans magazine. It is also available through the web site.

CALL FOR ARTICLES and prayer requests. Please send items you think might be of interest to camp members for inclusion in the *Southern Cross*. Or if you have a concern you want to share. Can't think of any, then organize a rally or grave marker dedication and send in photos. Send them to Southern Cross, P.O. Box 220084, Kirkwood, MO 63122.

Missouri Division Reunion - The date for the Missouri Division Reunion is April 21 and 22. We will have a Meet and Greet and Speaker Friday evening the 21 starting at 7:00 PM. At the Gates Camp Headquarters Building 107 South Main St., Auxassee MO. 65231. Right next to the Auxassee Bar and Grill they will supply the cash bar with soda and alcohol drinks. Saturday morning at 9:00 AM we will have the Missouri Division Business Meeting that will also be at the Gates Camp Headquarters Building. Then at 12:00 PM we will have the MOS&B Luncheon that will be at Callaway Electric Cooperative 1313 Cooperative Drive Fulton MO. It is 20 minutes from the Gates Building. We will be having a tour from 2:30 till 5:00 PM. At 6:00 PM we will meet back at the Callaway Electric Cooperative for the Reunion Meet Greet. The Reunion Dinner will start at 7:00 PM.

The Guest Motel will be the Holiday Inn Express 3257 County Rd. 211 Kingdom City MO. 65262. 573-310-6020. Its right across the Road from Ozarkland Gift Shop. You need to mention the Sons of Confederate Veterans when booking your room. This place just opened in April of this year. The rate is 107.64 plus tax each night. It comes with a full hot breakfast. We are still working with Comfort Inn for a discount. There is also a Days Inn and a Super 8. A Flyer will be emailed out by the end of January.

Confederate Memorial Foundation Association - Dues are \$10/year for General Membership, \$25/year for Contributing Membership and \$55/year for Sustaining Membership. Help support the efforts to maintain the Confederate Veterans Home in Higginsville. Mail to: CMFA, Inc., P.O. Box 332, Higginsville, MO 64037-0332.

Missouri State Guard flags – Here's your opportunity to be able to fly the flag that was carried by the Missouri State Guard as they defended the state from the unlawful war declared on it by the Federal government in Washington, DC. Those men carried this flag as they marched, fought and died to protect their homes and families from the Federal army under the warmonger Brigadier General Nathaniel Lyon, At Carthage, at Oak hills and over the siege and capture of the fortifications at Lexington she flew and now own your own 3" x 5" replica. They can be purchased via mail order at the price of only \$50, which includes taxes and shipping. Send orders to John Moloski, Burnt District Press, P.O. Box 207, Harrisonville, MO

64701. To contact John, call (816) 668-5862.

Southern Cross of Honor Sales - The Moses Wood Camp 125 is selling 26" X 12" crosses made from a composite resin material (similar to a bowling ball) and pigment dyed black. The crosses come with a metal rebar molded into the tang of it making it ready to place upon arrival. The crosses are \$30 plus \$5 packaging and handling as well as price of parcel post to your door. Discounts are available on shipping when more than 1 cross is purchased. Contact: Robert E. Little at rmrel1948@yahoo.com. Make checks payable to: Moses Wood Camp 125 SCV, 109 S. Johnson St., Gaffney, SC 29340.

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Sterling Price Camp Meeting Minutes

November 8, 2016

1. Meeting Called to Order: The meeting was called to order by Ray Cobb at 6:30PM.
2. Invocation: The invocation was given by Compatriot Charles Knight.
3. Pledge of Allegiance: The pledge of Allegiance was led by Compatriot Hal Fleming.
4. Salute to the Confederate Flag: The salute to the Confederate Flag was led by Compatriot Bob Kennedy.
5. Reading of the Last Meetings Minutes: A motion was made, seconded and passed to waive the reading of the minutes since they are in the newsletter.
6. Adjutant's Report: Charles Knight, the camp adjutant, reported on the monument, savings and primary checking accounts and the expense, deposit and dues activities since last meeting. The report was approved.
7. Announcements, Reports and Information Passed to the Camp:
John Harris spoke about the Secession Day Dinner (See newsletter for details).
Ray Cobb spoke about the Eastern MO Div. reunion and, the Lee Jackson Dinner (See newsletter for details).
Commander Cobb led a discussion and information session about State Guard and other flags for sale. There were no committee reports.
8. Old Business:
Hal Fleming asked about the status of the condolence and thank you letter to Dr. Hardy for the Camp's \$100.00 donation in his deceased wife's name to the new Confederate Museum at HQ. The letter has not been received by Dr. Hardy and Hal is following it up using information supplied by the Adjutant.
9. New Business:
Commander Cobb and Compatriot John Harris talked about the need for a projector for presentations since John Harris (who has been letting us use his personal projector) will now be serving on the Civil War Round Table at Jefferson Barracks when we meet at Syberg's. Adjutant Charles Knight volunteered his personal projector for Camp use when John Harris is absent.
10. Program for the Evening
Program Chair, John Harris, introduced Compatriot Zachary Burnett who spoke about "The Confederate High Tide-The Gettysburg Campaign". Zach's research was sound and extensive; his presentation interesting and polished and he had our rapt attention. A question and answer period followed his presentation. Until it came up in the discussion, I am certain that members of the Camp were certainly unaware that this was Zach's first presentation. FINE JOB!
Again, if you are missing meetings you miss out on some fascinating history.
Adjutant's Note: John Harris has done an outstanding job as our Program Chair. Those shoes of his will be filled by Bill Napier in January.
11. Other Announcements before Closing:
The "Military Swap Meet" will be March 18, 2017 at Jefferson Barracks.
The next Civil War Roundtable is Wednesday November 30th at JB. The topic will be "Jesse James."
12. The Singing of Dixie: Bob Fallert, a visitor from the Utz Camp conducted us in a heartfelt singing of "Dixie".
13. Benediction: The meeting was closed with a prayer by Chaplain Charles Knight.
Prepared by the Adjutant



Confederate Next Door

Antonio A. Capestro

Private/Baker

Company A

3rd Regiment Arkansas Cavalry

Antonio was born in Italy and come to the U.S. in 1856.. The 1860 Census for Missouri list him as born in Dardana (?). Whether this is actually Sardinia or the village in which he was born cannot be determined. What is known is that he came to the U.S, in 1857 and within 3 years was in St. Louis, living in the Seventh Ward with a 20-year old saloonkeeper, Mary Foppins and her brother William, age 13. They too were born in Sardana. Antonio's occupation was bartender, presumably in Mary's establishment. When the war erupted, he joined the Confederate army, about September 25, 1861 in Poplar Bluff, under the command of Colonel Bowen. At Camp Warner, Arkansas he was mustered into Co. A, 3rd Arkansas Cavalry. Company A was known as the Princeton Light Horses. His captain was W.H. Hodner and First Lieutenant was O. S.? Henry. He fought at the battles of Farmington, Corinth, Hatchie Bridge, Chickamagua, Atlanta and "many more" according to his application for a pension from Missouri. Antonio was detailed as a baker from 20 Jun 1862 1 Aug 1862, when he returned to his company. He was last present in the rolls 29 Feb 1864. Some records list him as A. A. Capestor.

The 3rd Arkansas Calvary Regiment, CSA, fought in more skirmishes than any other Arkansas unit. It was organized at Little Rock on June 10, 1861, as the 1st (Borland's) Battalion Arkansas Cavalry. On July 27, 1861, the battalion was mustered into Confederate service for one year, and on July 29 was reorganized as the 1st Regiment Arkansas Mounted Volunteers. On January 15, 1862, it was redesignated as the 3rd Regiment Arkansas Cavalry. It was reorganized at Corinth, Mississippi, on May 26, 1862, with the addition of two companies (I and K) from the recently-disbanded Williamson's Battalion Arkansas Infantry. Much to the dissatisfaction of the men, the regiment was dismounted to serve as infantry, and fought as such at Corinth and Hatchie Bridge, where they suffered appalling casualties. This led some of the men to compose a letter to General Sterling Price, in a respectful tone, asking to be re-mounted. Not all men, like Private Capestro, signed the letter but I'm sure all felt the same.

August 26th, 1862.

Maj. Genl Price, Comd'g Army of the West.

Genl—The undersigned officers of the 3d Regiment Arkansas Cavalry would respectfully represent to you, that they were temporarily dismounted at Des Arc, Arkansas, in the month of April last by order of Genl Earl Van Dorn.

The horses belonging to the Regiment were sent home with the understanding that the Regiment would be remounted. They are still held in readiness and can be procured at short notice.

We respectfully request that we may be allowed to remount, and to effect this that authority be given to send a small detail to procure our horses.

We respectfully represent that there is no mounted Cavalry from Arkansas in your Army, and that this is the oldest Regiment, having entered State Service as early as the 7th June 1861.

Genl, we entered the service as cavalry from choice. When called upon to dismount, we obeyed the order cheerfully.

To you we now submit our request, being conscious that you will do us justice in the premises and assuring you that we cheerfully submit to your decision.

SAMUEL G. EARLE, Col. Comd'g 3rd Ark. Cavalry.

M. J. HENDERSON, Major.

WM. T. M. HOLMES, Capt. Co. A.

G. W. WINBURNE, Capt. Co. G.

W. H. BLACKWELL, Capt. Co. B.

G. W. CRAWFORD, 2nd Lt. Co. B.

H. C. CLEAVER, 1st Lt. Co. H.

J. F. TINDELL, 1st Lt. Co. B.

W. H. PARKS, 1st Lt. Co. F.

JOHN H. BARTHOLOMEW, 3rd Lt. Co. F.
STEPHEN JESTER, Captain, Co. F.
O. C. GRAY, 1st Lt., Co. A.
R. M. KING, Captain, Co. D.
THOS. C. DeCAULP, 1st Lt. Co. D.
W. J. BASS, 3rd Lt. Co. D.
J. L. HARRIS, 2nd Lt. Co. H.
R. H. DEDMAN, 2nd Lt. Co. A.
W. J. WOZENCRAFT, 3rd Lt. Co. A.
J. D. LOGAN, Capt. Comd'g Co. C.
JOHN BARRON, 1st Lt. Co. C.
J. D. HENSLEE, 2nd Lt. Co. C.
JAMES R. HARVEY, 3rd Lt. Co. C.
C. W. LEAKE, 3rd Lt. Co. H.
J. H. ROLAND, 3rd Lt. Co. G.
J. E. DUMAS, 1st Lt. Co. G

Finally, the regiment was remounted and served as cavalry for the rest of the war. The 3rd Arkansas Cavalry served under Major-General "Fighting Joe" Wheeler in the Confederate Army of Mississippi for much of the war. The regiment had an outstanding reputation, and benefitted from very competent leadership. The commanders of the regiment were Colonels Solon Borland, Samuel G. Earle, and Anson W. Hobson. The remnants of the regiment surrendered with the Army of Tennessee and were paroled at Chesterfield, South Carolina, on May 5, 1865.

When he returned to St. Louis or how are not known. On October 30, 1875, Antonio married Louisa Bernard or Bernero, who had just immigrated to the U.S. in 1865. In 1871, he was a fruit dealer living and working at 510 N. 5th Street on the southeast corner of Washington Avenue. From 1876 - 1881, the city directory listed him as a letter carrier residing at 2009 Division. In 1887, he lived at 815 N. 15th. Antonio is listed in the directory at 501 N. 13th Street in 1893. From 1895 to 1901, he lived at 708 N. Taylor and ran a saloon there. About 1904 he moved to 4489 Delmar and was still there in 1910. At the time of his death, he resided at 4515 Page, in 1917.

Children of Antonio and Louisa Capestro were: Rosa F. born 1876 (married ---- Bellagamba, died Oct. 13, 1906), Antonio Joseph born July 24, 1878 and died September 21, 1924, (Antonio married Emma Gratz and resided at 4515 Page drove a laundry wagon), and Andrew L. born 1880.

The family plot in Calvary Cemetery (Lot 0317; Section 019) has 6 graves, Anthony and Louisa, Joseph Capestro, Rose Bellagamba, and two sisters of Louisa Bernero.

Heritage Defense/Attacks

Badly damaged Confederate time capsule found under Louisville monument

Phillip M. Bailey USA Today 7/19/2016

<http://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/badly-damaged-confederate-time-capsule-found-under-louisville-monument/ar-AAkD4tY?li=BBnbfcL>



© Phillip Bailey/CJ Sarah Lindgren, city's public art administrator, looking over the time capsule from the Confederate Monument

A cigar lit by Confederate President Jefferson Davis. A scarf worn by one of his former secretaries. A likeness of Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee. Those were among the relics believed to be unearthed Monday when construction crews found a time capsule that had been buried under the Confederate monument near the University of Louisville for 121 years.

But it's hard to tell. Much of the contents found in the brass box aren't likely to have survived. The box, which sat six inches beneath the memorial, was waterlogged and covered in mud.

Mayor Greg Fischer tweeted that the water had "destroyed" the contents.

Lindgren said that several initial items found in the box were connected to the Civil War, including memoirs, an Oxford Bible and Confederate currency. She said the city's archives staff will dry out and clean the items to determine if any can be salvaged.

Fischer ordered this year that the 70-foot-tall memorial be removed, sparking a citywide discussion on race, slavery and the need to preserve history. A lawsuit was filed to block the statue's removal, but a judge ultimately ruled that the memorial belonged to the city. The dismantling of the monument, which cost \$400,000, began on Saturday, and the time capsule was discovered Monday.

The monument, which was installed 30 years after the Civil War ended, was donated by the Kentucky Women's Confederate Monument Association. It is being moved to Brandenburg, Ky. —which is about 44 miles downriver from Louisville — where it will be used as part of that city's Civil War re-enactments.

Besides the cigar, scarf and likeness of Lee, the CJ article said the time capsule was to contain Confederate soldier badges and colors; several thousands of dollars in Confederate money; and a photograph of Susan Hepburn, who led the fundraising campaign to build the monument and was sister to a rebel general. Lindgren said if any of the items are recoverable, they will be donated to the Filson Historical Society for a possible exhibit.

State lawmaker joins effort to remove Confederate flag at Orangeburg business

By GENE ZALESKI T&D Staff Writer

http://thetandd.com/news/local/state-lawmaker-joins-effort-to-remove-confederate-flag-at-orangeburg/article_2a84d10e-0e71-5186-b7c2-279c83e9be8d.html



The owner of Edisto River Creamery attempted to take down the Confederate flag in front of his store in November 2016 but was stopped by a group that says it owns the land the flag flies on. After an hour-long standoff with the Rivers Bridge Camp #842 Sons of Confederate Veterans, the flag remained.

An attorney hired by Orangeburg's Edisto River Creamery restaurant owner to help settle a property rights dispute involving the Confederate battle flag believes his client has ownership of the parcel in question. Bamberg attorney and state Democratic Rep. Justin Bamberg says the deed and drawings indicate his client, Tommy Daras, has rightful ownership of the entire property, including the flag pole and flag, at Russell Street and John C. Calhoun Drive.

The restaurant is in the former Piggie Park Maurice's BBQ, which had been owned by the late Maurice Bessinger. The Sons of Confederate Veterans say Bessinger deeded a small portion in front of the restaurant to them for a memorial, including a marker and flag. "We are in a situation where two parties both potentially have a legal instrument giving them complete ownership," Bamberg said. Bamberg says the matter will need to be decided by a magistrate, who could issue a declaratory judgment on the legal owner of the parcel. Bamberg said the validity of both deeds needs to be examined, as well as title insurance. Bamberg said prior to taking the matter to court, additional research will be done on the parcel and deeds in question. "This is not a lawsuit," Bamberg said, noting it is simply an effort to determine who owns the property. "Rather than going back and forth, let a master-in-equity end all debate."

Bamberg, who was an outspoken opponent of the Confederate flag flying atop the South Carolina Statehouse before it was removed July 2015, said he is working on the case at no cost to Daras. "This is private property, which is very different," Bamberg said. "But his (Daras) point of view is that it will help move Orangeburg forward and remove division."

Bessinger raised Confederate flags at nine restaurants in 2000 after state lawmakers voted to bring the Confederate flag down from the Statehouse dome. He was well known for his barbecue sauce and support for the Confederate flag. Piggie Park restaurants removed the Confederate flag even before his death. The flag continued flying in Orangeburg because the Sons of the Confederate Veterans said it owned the land where the flagpole stood.

Daras said he and his wife have been receiving complaints and threats about the flag since they purchased the restaurant in 2014. Initially, Daras said he did not own the property where the flag was situated and had no authority to keep the flag or remove it. Upon further research, he saw it differently, Bamberg said. "He was told he did not own that portion of land where it sits," Bamberg said, noting his deed shows that he has a legitimate claim to challenge ownership.

According to county tax records, the SVC Rivers Bridge Camp 842 has been paying taxes -- about \$11 -- annually on the property, including the last two years during which Daras has been in business. Tax records show Daras paid property taxes on his portion of the property in 2016. A plat drawing corresponding to the deed shows Daras owns the entire property. The SCV parcel does not appear on the Daras plat. Last month, Daras attempted to remove the flag but was stopped by members of the SCV. After an hour stand-off, Daras decided to leave the flag up until acquiring more information. The flag

remains up.

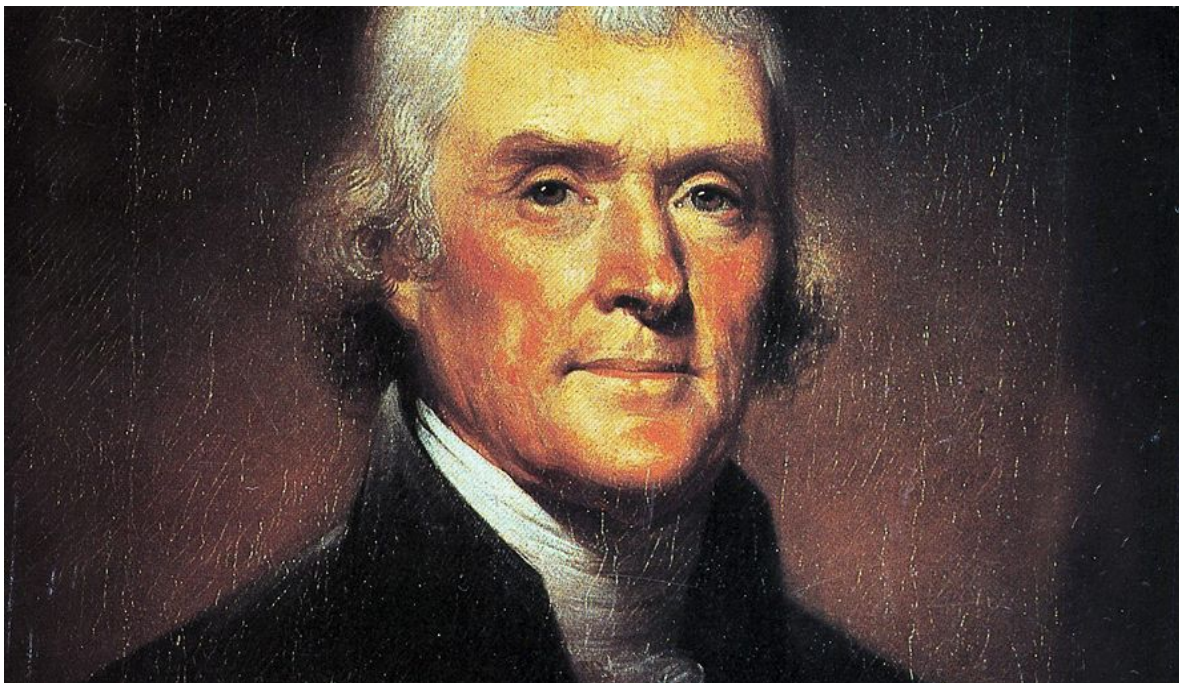
Sons of Confederate Veterans flag keeper Joseph "Buzz" Braxton at the time said the matter needed to be settled by a court of law. Braxton Friday said he has obtained a lawyer from Summerville and deferred all comments on the matter to his attorney. "It is best not to say anything," Braxton said. He declined to provide the name of his attorney but did say the lawyer has been notified of the newspaper's request for comment. Braxton said the site belongs to the Sons of Confederate Veterans as the group has been paying taxes on the property for the past 10 years. Daras said he too has been paying taxes on the property for the past two years. Bamberg agrees. "I have not personally seen where (SCV) have been paying taxes," Bamberg said. "This is an issue that needs to be looked at by the tax assessor's office."

The controversy over the Confederate flag heated up following the deaths of nine people at Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston in a racially motivated attack in June 2015.

On its website, the Rivers Bridge Camp has a statement condemning hatred and violence. "The Sons of Confederate Veterans is not a hate group," the statement reads. "The South Carolina Division SCV does not knowingly allow anyone with ties to hate groups to join and has removed, and will remove, anyone from its ranks who expresses racist sentiments."

The Orangeburg flag and its monument have come under scrutiny several times in the past. Supporters of the flag and monument say it marks the location where Union General William Tecumseh Sherman crossed the Edisto River. Orangeburg County Historical Society officials have said records indicate Sherman crossed the Edisto River in three places, none of which is near the marker in front of the restaurant. SCV members said the OCHS cannot prove a soldier did not cross the spot where the marker stands. About three years ago, the South Carolina Department of Transportation announced its plans to upgrade the V-style intersection at the front of the site. The upgrade raised concerns from some members of the Sons of Confederate Veterans that the plan would eliminate the memorial. The project has been delayed but is still slated to move forward.

U.Va. professors ask president to stop quoting Thomas Jefferson



Thomas Jefferson, upon winning the presidential election of 1800, called for the putting aside of partisan politics. (White House Historical Association)

By [Jessica Chasmar](#) - *The Washington Times* - Monday, November 14, 2016

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2016/nov/14/university-of-virginia-professors-ask-president-to/>

Hundreds of students and faculty at the University of Virginia have asked the school's president to stop quoting President Thomas Jefferson, the university's founder, because of his slave-owning past. The letter garnered 469 signatures before being sent to University President Teresa Sullivan on Friday, The Cavalier Daily **reported**. It was prompted by an email sent last week by Ms. Sullivan promoting unity in light of Donald Trump's presidential victory.

"Thomas Jefferson wrote to a friend that University of Virginia students 'are not of ordinary significance only: they are exactly the persons who are to succeed to the government of our country, and to rule its future enmities, its friendships and fortunes,'" Ms. Sullivan wrote in the email. "I encourage today's U.Va. students to embrace that responsibility."

Professors argued that Ms. Sullivan should refrain from quoting the late president due to his owning of slaves and other racist beliefs, The Cavalier Daily reported. "We would like for our administration to understand that although some members of this community may have come to this university because of Thomas Jefferson's legacy, others of us came here in spite of it," the letter read. "For many of us, the inclusion of Jefferson quotations in these emails undermines the message of unity, equality and civility that you are attempting to convey."

Assistant psychology Professor Noelle Hurd said the letter intended to "start a conversation" about how the administration could be more inclusive.

The next story isn't about Confederate heritage *per se* but is included to show how universities have become the new "lost cause." Trouble is that the article is 2 years old. There are many more examples to be included. It needs to be updated, but the methods of the Left, the SPLC and their ilk really haven't changed. It is not meant to condone or dismiss discrimination of any type.

Campus hate crime hoaxes: A best-of list

MICHAEL CIPRIANO - AMERICAN UNIVERSITY • DECEMBER 17, 2014

<http://www.thecollegefix.com/post/20532/>

From New Jersey to Wyoming, college campuses around the country have been plagued with hate crime hoaxes in recent years. Sometimes justified as trying to raise awareness for progressive social causes, the hoaxes often worked.

The College Fix compiled this list of recent university hate crime hoaxes.

Racist Facebook messages posted by student himself – November 2014

A University of Chicago student **admitted** to posting racist and violent messages against himself on his Facebook page after claiming his account was hacked. The elaborate hoax was an attempt to shame the school into making policy changes addressing race on campus.

The con artist, Derek Caquelin, initially said that a group known as the UChicago Electronic Army was responsible for hacking his account. Caquelin claimed that the hackers were seeking retaliation for his online complaints about offensive Halloween costumes.

He eventually confessed to the hoax – which prompted a federal investigation – on his Facebook page. But it didn't stop more than 400 of the school's students from signing a petition demanding the university make tangible policy changes to "address the culture of racial intolerance at the University of Chicago."

'White Only' and 'Colored' signs publicity stunt – August 2014

In an **effort** to "make a point" about social injustice, a student at Sweet Briar College in Virginia hung signs on doors and water fountains in a dormitory reading "White Only" and "Colored."

The interim president of the all-female liberal arts college, James Jones, tried to spin the stunt into a teachable moment.

In an announcement to the Sweet Briar community, Jones noted that the previous night the community had watched the play *Sweet Remembrance*, which depicts "a racially divided world view." The president speculated: "Someone, moved by the play, sought to use the old, abusive words to remind us that while such terms were part of the historical past, some of the emotions lurking behind the words might still linger in a few."

The vandal emailed Jones explaining the hoax, writing that her mission was to show that "words can still have an extreme impact."

In a response email, Jones asked that the student turn herself in, but noted that her hoax was "well

intentioned.”

The hangman graffiti – March 2014

Police **determined** that a Grand Valley State University student who found racist graffiti on her dorm room whiteboard was the same person who drew it.

The drawings consisted of a hangman surrounded by the words “black b**ch die” and “f**k black history month.”

The public liberal arts school in Michigan nevertheless hosted a campus-wide “Teach-In,” which featured student and faculty presentations about preventing discrimination and oppression on the university’s campuses.

Transgender student tasked with responding to bias creates it – November 2013

After two Vassar College students **claimed** they were victims of a series of hateful messages posted on students’ residences, the messages were revealed to be a hoax perpetrated by the two students themselves.

The messages included “Avoid Being B*tches,” “F**k Ni**ers,” and “Hey Tranny. Know Your Place.”

One of the students, Genesis Hernandez, identifies as transgender and was a member of the school’s Bias Incident Response Team. Hernandez and the fellow hoax perpetrator withdrew from the school after the hoax was uncovered. “It is our unfortunate duty to report that two Vassar students have admitted responsibility for creating a number of recent bias and hate-speech messages in public spaces on campus,” Vassar President Catherine Hill wrote in an email announcement. “They also falsely reported these as anonymous messages. Sadly, our community has been deeply hurt by these actions.”

Wyoming student threatens to rape herself – April 2013

An anonymous **posting** was made to a Facebook page called “UW Crushes,” which appeared to sexually harass a University of Wyoming student named Meghan Lanker-Simons.

“I want to hate f**k Meg Lanker Simons so hard,” the message read. “That chick runs her liberal mouth all the time and doesn’t care who knows it. I think it’s so hot and makes me angry. One night with me and shes gonna be a good Republican b**ch.”

Students, faculty and community spoke about rape culture and the role of social media in society at a **rally** on UW’s campus after the post appeared. There was only one problem: Lanker-Simons was the author of the post, police determined. She was charged with interference with a police investigation. Police collected “substantial evidence” showing the post was made from Lanker-Simons’ personal computer while it was in her possession.

Alleged ‘KKK’ sighting results in cancelled classes – March 2013

Officials at Oberlin College in Ohio cancelled classes after an **alleged sighting of a “KKK”** figure wearing a white robe and hood on campus. Despite no photo or video evidence of the story, the school hosted a series of discussion groups to help students cope with the disturbing report. It may have simply been a **student wrapped in a blanket**.

“We hope today will allow the entire community—students, faculty, and staff—to make a strong statement about the values that we cherish here at Oberlin: inclusion, respect for others, and a strong and abiding faith in the worth of every individual,” the university said in a statement.

“Indeed, the strength of Oberlin comes from our belief that diversity and openness enriches us all, and enhances the educational mission at its core.”

Racist, anti-Semitic messengers are staunch Obama supporters – March 2013

Two Oberlin College students were found to be the **facilitators** of a month-long circulation of racist, anti-Jewish and anti-gay messages around campus. Among the messages were “Whites Only” written above a water fountain, “Ni**er Oven” appearing in an elevator and a note in the Multicultural Resource Center reading “Ni**er + Fa**ot Center.”

What’s more, it was discovered that the students – who were removed from the school – are avid supporters of Barack Obama. One of the students, Dylan Bleier, **organized** a voter registration drive at a Walmart in Ithaca, New York, on behalf of the senator before the 2008 presidential election.

Lesbian caught faking anti-gay notes – July 2012

A Central Connecticut State University student **told** hundreds of the school’s students at a rally that she had been receiving hateful messages in her dorm room for being a lesbian. But after setting up surveillance cameras to identify the perpetrator, police discovered the alleged victim, Alexandra Pennell, was writing the notes herself.

After setting up a camera in Pennell’s room with her permission, police discovered the camera had been disabled twice, and a note arrived during one of those times. Police then set up a second camera in a hall closet without Pennell’s knowledge, which captured her leaving the notes. Pennell told police she faked the

notes to get her roommate to spend more time with her. She was expelled from the university and charged with eight felony counts of fabricating evidence and eight misdemeanor charges.

New Jersey students write racial graffiti aimed at themselves – February 2012

Two black students at Montclair State University in New Jersey reported finding **hateful and threatening graffiti** aimed at African Americans and women on their dorm room doors. One of the messages **read**, “Black B— you will die.” The graffiti prompted the university’s students to hold a rally in response to a string of bias incidents that had been happening on the campus, including threats to gay and lesbian students. Police, however, discovered that the students, Olivia McCrae and Tanasia Linton, penned the graffiti themselves. They were arrested with “sufficient probable cause” and charged with making false reports, criminal mischief and disorderly conduct.

Law student makes up police harassment story – April 2011

A black student at the University of Virginia Law School penned a letter to the editor of the school’s newspaper, **Virginia Law Weekly**, alleging that he was harassed and racially profiled by two UVa police officers. The student, Jonathan Perkins, wrote that two white police officers stopped and questioned him, telling him that he “fit the description of someone we’re looking for.” The officers allegedly made fun of Perkins, frisked him, and refused to give him their names and badge numbers. “As I stood there, humiliated, with my hands on the police car, my only thought was: ‘There is nothing I can do to right this wrong. I have absolutely no recourse,’” Perkins wrote.

A university investigation, however, found that Perkins made up the story. Perkins confessed to the fabrication, claiming in a **statement** that “I wrote the article to bring attention to the topic of police misconduct. The events in the article did not occur.”

‘You get more of the behavior you decide to reward’

So why have our nation’s campuses been flooded with such hoaxes? Robert Shibley, senior vice president of the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education, **wrote last year** that students invent hate crimes because they know they can make a “political statement” or get a “major reaction” out of their campuses with very little effort.

“Economists and parents alike know that you get more of the behavior you decide to reward,” Shibley wrote. “If your goal is to make a political point about discrimination, or simply to rile people up, creating a racial issue on campus is a surefire method to do so.”

Racism and hate crimes are certainly problems that should not go unnoticed. But progressive activists don’t seem to care about solving these problems. As the hoaxes have demonstrated, they inflate them to draw attention to their causes. By creating hate in an instance where there is none, these polarizing divides may remain in place for generations to come.

Editor’s Ramblings

Our culture has a major problem with ingratitude. That became apparent when the parents of a soldier recently killed in Afghanistan were allowed to deplane a plane ahead of everyone else. A few privileged elites couldn’t wait two minutes for a grieving military family to pass through their cabin? In a shameful example of entitlement and self-absorption, passengers in first class booed the family as they passed through the pricey cabin. It is enough to ruin the holiday season. See the story by Deirdre Reilly, CBS San Francisco at <http://www.lifezette.com/momzette/first-class-cabin-boos-gold-star-family/>.

And have a Merry Christmas.

When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly. . . (Matthew 2:10)



*For unto you is born this day in the city of David
a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. (Luke 2:11)*



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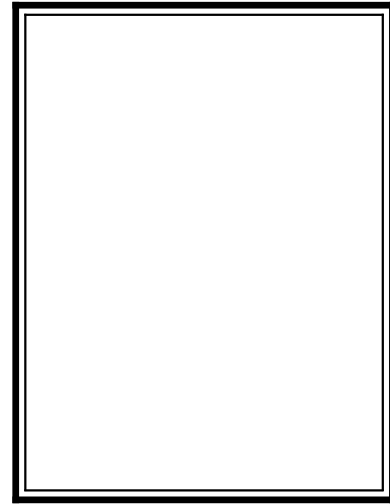
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