

THE GOVERNOR'S ORDERS

Madison Starke Perry

Fourth Governor of Florida, 1857-1861

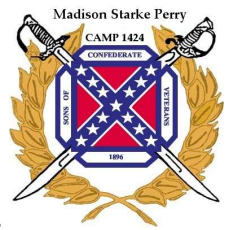
"To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we submit the vindication

of the cause for which we fought;...the defense of the Confederate soldier's good name, the guardianship of his history...it is your duty to see that the true history of the South is presented to future generations."

General Stephen D. Lee, C.S.A.

**Sons of Confederate Veterans
Madison Starke Perry Camp 1424**

Volume 43 No. 3



March 2026

NEXT Meeting back at Browns Country Buffet

In Alachua on THURSDAY, March 12th, 2026

Eating commences at 5:30PM with the Meeting starting at 6:30 PM

Brown's Country Buffet (Alachua, Florida).



Camp Commander's Comments

SEE YOU AT THE MEETING ON THURSDAY!

Commander David Leonard

Madison Starke Perry Camp 1424 SCV



Marlboro Jones (Pictured on the next page)

In spite of the Confederacy's desire to preserve slavery, a number of African Americans actually supported the Confederates during the U.S. Civil War. Here, Jeb Smith looks at a wide range of ways that African Americans supported the Confederacy from financial support to the military.

The existence of black Confederates remains a debated and controversial topic. Many pro-Northern authors dismiss the idea, arguing that Southern African Americans, who were treated horrifically under slavery, would naturally side with the Union rather than defend the Confederacy. These authors frame black participation in the Confederate cause as implausible, asserting that the Civil War was fought over slavery, with the North liberating slaves and the South defending the institution. However, this perspective reflects the idea that "history is written by the winners," and it overlooks the possibility that some blacks may have supported their local communities, families, or states for personal or social reasons.

Critics like Eric Foner and Kevin Levin often argue that claims of hundreds of thousands of black Confederate soldiers are a myth. They set up a straw man by focusing only on armed soldiers, while ignoring the broader range of black participation, including cooks, musicians, laborers, and other noncombatants. Even so, these same historians acknowledge that a small number of African Americans did serve in Confederate armies, demonstrating that black involvement, though limited, was real. Sources such as the Sons of Confederate Veterans estimate that 50,000 to 100,000 blacks served in some capacity, most as noncombatants but some as armed soldiers.

Modern historians often limit recognition to federally sanctioned Confederate soldiers, dismissing state militias, local units, or individually armed blacks as "not real soldiers." They emphasize that the Confederate government only authorized arming slaves late in the war, in 1864, which some use to argue that no black soldiers existed earlier. Yet this view overlooks the decentralized nature of the Confederacy, where states and local authorities had the power to arm slaves or free blacks at their discretion, and where individual choices also mattered.

Some arguments against black Confederate soldiers rely on fears of disloyalty or runaway slaves, as well as the late public awareness of their service, spurred by media like *Roots* in the 1970s and later attention from groups such as the Sons of Confederate Veterans. These points, however, address perception and politics rather than historical evidence. Just because popular awareness is recent does not invalidate earlier historical instances of blacks serving in the South's military or support roles. Observations of armed black soldiers and laborers in Confederate armies appear in primary sources, demonstrating that such participation did occur.

Article Continued

Defining a Confederate soldier as anyone who willingly served under a Confederate general or state authority, regardless of federal recognition, provides a more accurate understanding of history. While most black participants were noncombatants, some took up arms, and the Confederacy allowed states and masters discretion in these matters. Recognizing this broader definition of soldiering acknowledges that the Confederacy's structure, local loyalties, and individual choices shaped the roles blacks played, rather than imposing modern, nationalistic criteria that disregard state and personal agency.



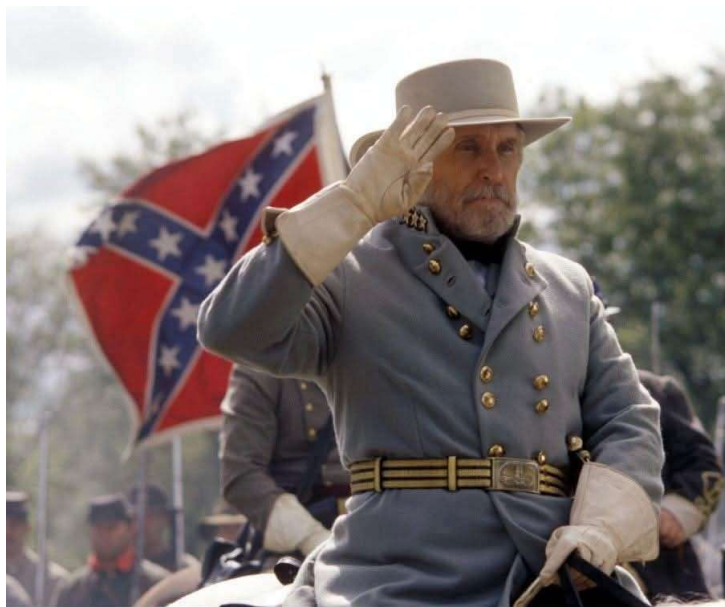
Editor's Note

Chaplain Jimbo Talbot had surgery to replace his shoulder on March 11 so he will miss our meeting on March 12. Please keep Jimbo in mind for a quick recovery.



Confederate Veterans Egbert Jones Camp U.C.V.

Huntsville, AL February 2, 1928



Rest In Peace to Robert Duvall aka Robert. E. Lee in "Gods & Generals" amongst many other roles

Black Slave Owners—Paradox of Freedom

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?si=q0NphbFUQiO2Mxxi&v=jwRnU5ltkkU&feature=youtu.be>



Fun Fact the last pensioner: As of 2020, the U.S. government was still paying a Civil War pension to Irene Triplett (died at age 90), daughter of a soldier who served in the Confederate Army before switching to the Yankees.



We're Looking for Contributing Compatriots!

If you have some interesting things to contribute to our monthly newsletter, please send the editor an email. How about a monthly column? Fame and [mis]fortune awaits!

YOU COULD EARN LOTS OF MONEY!!!



This newsletter is produced and edited by
2LTC Robert Lee Lightner
SCV Camp 1424
bobw4gj@gmail.com
(352) 871-6479