

"Intelligence Service Europe"



SCV Europe Camp #1612



www.scveuropecamp.jimdo.com

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Intelligence Service Europe, Year III, Issue 2, Feb. /Mar. 2010

Commander's Letter

Compatriots,
the new year is well started and the winters has caught us. The activities of our members started despite cold weather. A small armed force defied cold weather and thought of the soldiers before 148 years. Many events want to be visited. I would like to say: "participate in these events as often as you can". Thus you show your proud family history for the people in oversea.



Commander Achim Bänisch

EDITOR'S NOTE

February of a very cold winter, both sides of the Atlantic. If you want to see my red frozen nose during a recent reenactment, just have a look at the article about winter greatcoats. It is followed by Compatriot Landgraf's great yearly winter reenactment report.

The January/February issue of the Confederate Veteran finally brought the story of our Camp's grave marking ceremony for Heros von Borcke in Poland. Our search was the first serious operation to find the exact burial location and to contact his descendants; finally we made it possible to have a grave marking with military honors, our Camp's 2008 highlight, which became an act of German/American/Polish friendship.

And we continue introducing European Confederates in the WBTS with the Swedish Colonel series by Compatriot Bertil Haggman. And there is more to come!

Our new section, Educational Movies, had a very good acceptance among our readers and we got congratulations even from members of the General Executive Council. Don't miss the movie commented in this issue!

Regarding education I would like to launch an invocation to the readers to utilize the Camp Library. In every issue of the Newsletter we offer you a selected e-book for free; some of them are quite expensive if you buy them as hard-copies. The books offered in past issues are still available, of course. Education is critical to better defend our standpoint, also for foreigners to get a better understanding of the South and the values of the Confederacy our ancestors fought for. In addition, do not forget the Commander has hard-copies of interesting books, being these available only to Camp members. For a full list of the available printed and e-books you can have a look at the past Newsletter issues or just contact me.

Education will be a critical matter during the Sesquicentennial, helping you to better defend the Cause. And here I would like to insist in the importance of the call to join the Sesquicentennial Society we included in the last issue and the one you will find in this issue. It is not only about becoming member of an elite and getting a certificate and a beautiful medal. With that important effort you will help funding to create a Confederate Museum in Elm Springs and a financial reserve for the Bicentennial in 2060. Remember the Euro is beating the US Dollar, thus joining from Europe is not as expensive. And by joining fast you can win a silver dollar founded by our Camp! Read about this all inside these pages and enjoy them!

Raphael Waldburg-Zeil
Editor

THE SPIRITS OF LEE AND JACKSON AT LEXINGTON

From the Editor: Our Camp Associate Stefan Slivka from Slovakia remembers his visit to Lexington 1995 and his impressions there. His article is most valid to remember this year's Lee-Jackson Day.



Moments of reverent silence: Stefan Slivka in Lee Chapel.

This neat, little university town nestled between Allegheny Mountains and the Blue Ridge, has the unique distinction of two Confederate legendary heroes being buried here; the resting places of General Robert E. Lee, and his “right hand”, General Jonathan “Stonewall” Jackson are only a few hundred meters apart from each other. They fought side by side defending the South against overwhelming odds, and now, by fate’s chance they lie almost side by side in their eternal sleep.

Robert E. Lee came to Lexington after the WBTS, being invited to become the President of what was then called Washington College. The school was on the verge of bankruptcy when Lee arrived. In short five years, until his death in 1870, he

managed to bring this institution into solvency and respectability, not only in the South. His “pet” project was the building of a chapel on the campus grounds. It was completed in 1868 and named Lee Chapel after his death. There, in its basement, he set up his office, which still can be seen the way after he left it forever. It is an eerie room, and one has to pause to feel the spiritual presence of a person who worked so hard here. The same feeling lingers, as a person moves to another area of the basement where the Lee family crypt is located; three generations are laid to rest here. Lee’s favorite war horse, Traveller, is buried above, beneath the Chapel.



Three generations linked to Virginia: Lee Chapel Crypt

It's most impressive to see in the Chapel the monument of Lee at rest, crafted from finest white marble. It is placed on a podium in a large hall, where each year newcomers to the University are explained the school's famous Code of Honor established by Lee. There are no written rules, but the breaking of the code results in being expelled from the College. Principles are simple: no lying, no cheating and no stealing. Students and teachers, male and female alike are expected to have gentlemen manners and ladies behaviours.

Before the war, Jackson had more ties to Lexington. He was Professor of Philosophy and Artillery Instructor at the Virginia Military Institute. He married in Lexington, and here he purchased his first and only family house he owned. After he was called to arms in 1861, he was never to see his house again. As a museum, it is open to the public today. Lee and Jackson left for us a legacy of morals which are much needed in this twenty-first century.

Museum of the Confederacy Magazine remembers historic visit



For general interest we reproduce the cover of the Summer 2009 Museum of the Confederacy Magazine with the photograph of Eckhard von Borcke and JEB Stuart IV together with Museum member Sam Craghead (thanks to Camp Angel Nancy Hitt to bring this to our attention).

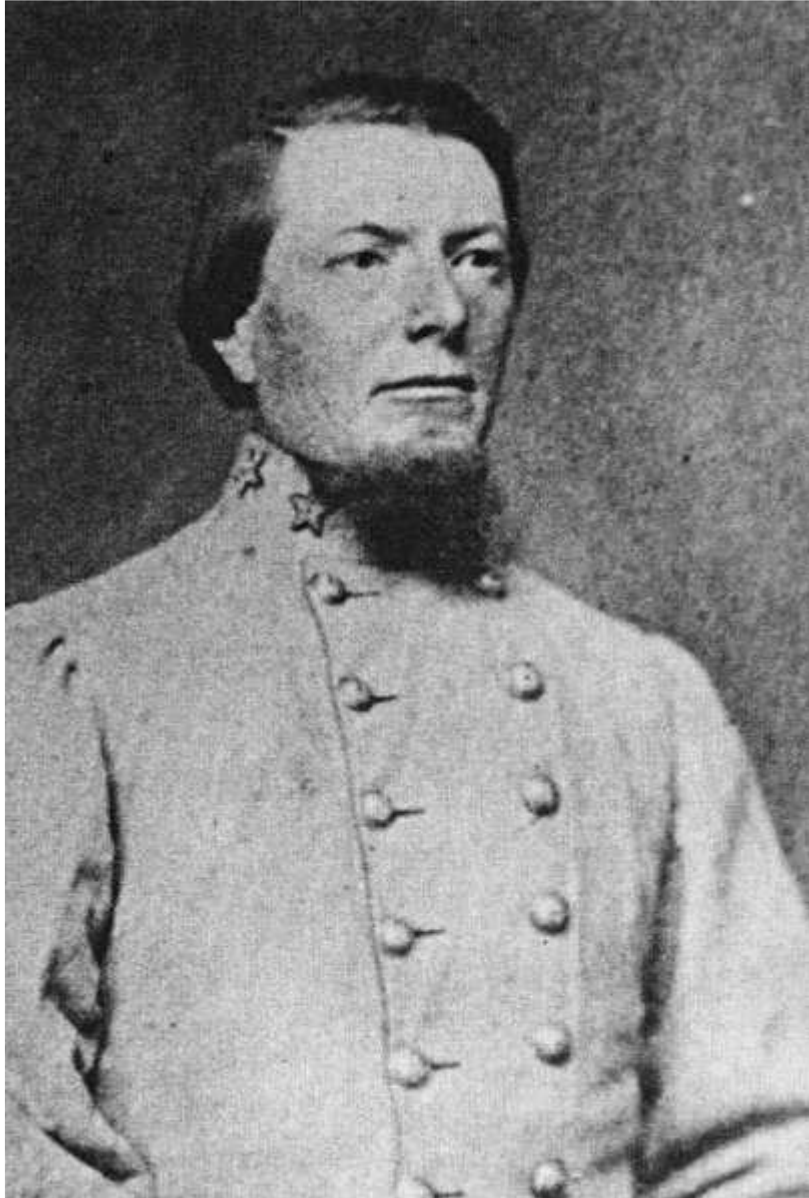
The ISE had already reported in the August/September 2009 issue (pages 6-9) about Eckhard's visit to the Museum and the battlefields of Virginia, guided by JEB Stuart IV. We also showed an exclusive photograph of Eckhard holding his GGrandfather's legendary sword and analyzed in close-up Heros coat-of-arms cast on the blade, something that had never been done before.



SWEDISH CONFEDERATE COLONELS (Part 2)

By Bertil Haggman, Sweden, full member Europe Camp 1612

**Lt. Colonel Carl Jacob Hammarskjold,
34th Regiment North Carolina Infantry, C.S.A**



**Image taken from the Swedish American Genealogist,
Vol. XXI, no.3, September 2001**

Carl Jacob Hammarskjold was born in 1833 and followed his father, Carl Wilhelm Hammarskjold, when he left Sweden for Cooperville, South Carolina. There he managed a small ironworks for the Scottish owner. The older Hammarskjold brought Swedish workers across the Atlantic for the company. Then the father moved to Spring Hill, North Carolina, where he had purchased another ironworks. Carl Jacob helped his father and was later postmaster and ran a trading company.

When his father died in 1860 Carl Jacob sold the ironworks and moved to Charlotte close to the South Carolina border. The future colonel responded quickly to the NC governor's call for volunteers. In October 1861 he was appointed First Lieutenant of Company E, 34th North Carolina Infantry Regiment, C.S.A., which was initially commanded by another foreign born, Colonel Collett Leventhorpe of England.

In 1862 Carl Jacob had risen to Lieutenant-Colonel and his regiment fought in Northern Virginia. In the course of five days Hammarskjold led his regiment in three bloody battles (Mechanicsville, Gaines' Mill and Fraser's Farm). He was however, soon after forced to resign due to an eye injury.

In 1863 he decided to go to Sweden with his mother and sister. Back in the old country he was employed by the Swedish State Railways and became station inspector. In 1866 he was promoted to assistant traffic director and in 1875 rose further to become traffic director of the Fifth District. In 1870 he married Agnes Hellman. Passing away in 1884 he is buried at the Uppsala Cemetery.

A few years ago I was able to inform the Uppsala Cemetery Administration about the grave, which had not been registered. The House of Nobility in Stockholm bought a large collection of his of seals and weapon stamps. The Hammarskjold family is one of the foremost noble families in Sweden. Carl Jacob Hammarskjold was related to the late UN Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjold (1953-1961).

The Hammarskjold family in the South has attracted much attention in Sweden with books and films produced about the emigrant family. One of the Swedish workers coming over from Sweden to the South was Eric Erson, which will be the subject of the next presentation of a Swedish Colonel in Gray.



**THE FEW, THE PROUD, THE ELITE:
THE SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS IN EUROPE!
FULL MEMBERS, ASSOCIATES AND FRIENDS:
COME AND JOIN THE SEQUICENTENNIAL SOCIETY!**

Remember that our support from Europe of the SCV's efforts in protecting the reputation of the Southern soldier's good name, preserving monuments, maintaining cemeteries and fighting to defend all the treasure of Confederate Heritage is most important in these times as it will become even more important in the future. Membership in the Sesquicentennial Society is 200 US Dollars. In European currency that means 135, 50 Euros. Do you think you can't afford that expense? Do you know what your money will be used for? 75 % of the money received through your effort will be spending in building a new Confederate Museum at Historic Elm Springs to tell the world the truth about the War Between the States and the sacrifice of the Southern soldiers defending their homeland. Another 25% will go to the Bicentennial Fund as reserve for use by the SCV in 2060.

Membership now, in the 150 Anniversary of the War for Southern Independence is **not** about getting a nice certificate and medal. It's about active support, taking part in the fighting for the Cause. Payments from Europe can be made using the encrypted, secure SCV online Paypal donation page (it is not necessary to open a Paypal account). Just make sure to put "Sesquicentennial Society Membership" as purpose of payment.

<http://www.scv.org/> just scroll down to "Donate".



Membership certificate and medal

1960: A CENTENNIAL SPIRIT TO REMEMBER IN 2010

Letter to President Dwight D. Eisenhower dated August 1, 1960

"Dear Mr. President:

"At the Republican Convention I heard you mention that you have the pictures of four (4) great Americans in your office, and that included in these is a picture of Robert E. Lee.

I do not understand how any American can include Robert E. Lee as a person to be emulated, and why the President of the United States of America should do so is certainly beyond me.

The most outstanding thing that Robert E. Lee did, was to devote his best efforts to the destruction of the United States Government, and I am sure that you do not say that a person who tries to destroy our Government is worthy of being hailed as one of our heroes.

"Will you please tell me just why you hold him in such high esteem?"

*Sincerely yours,
Leon W. Scott"*

Eisenhower's response, written from the White House on August 9, 1960, reads as follows (Transcribed copies of the original letters are kept in the Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum, Abilene, Kansas. It may be send to any interested person as pdf. document):

"Dear Dr. Scott:

"Respecting your August 1 inquiry calling attention to my often expressed admiration for General Robert E. Lee, I would say, first, that we need to understand that at the time of the War Between the States the issue of Secession had remained unresolved for more than 70 years. Men of probity, character, public standing and unquestioned loyalty, both North and South, had disagreed over this issue as a matter of principle from the day our Constitution was adopted.

General Robert E. Lee was, in my estimation, one of the supremely gifted men produced by our Nation. He believed unswervingly in the Constitutional validity of his cause which until 1865 was still an arguable question in America; he was thoughtful yet demanding of his officers and men, forbearing with captured enemies but ingenious, unrelenting and personally courageous in battle, and never disheartened by a reverse or obstacle. Through all his many trials, he remained selfless almost to a fault and unfailing in his belief in God. Taken altogether, he was noble as a leader and as a man and unsullied as I read the pages of our history.

From deep conviction I simply say this: a nation of men of Lee's calibre would be unconquerable in spirit and soul. Indeed, to the degree that present-day American youth will strive to emulate his rare qualities, including his devotion to this land as revealed in his painstaking efforts to help heal the nation's wounds once the bitter struggle was over, we, in our own time of danger in a divided world, will be strengthened and our love of freedom sustained.

Such are the reasons that I proudly display the picture of this great American on my office wall.

Sincerely,

Dwight D. Eisenhower"



Centennial spirit at its best: President Eisenhower

THE EISENHOWER SILVER DOLLAR!

A silver dollar with the profile of late President Dwight D. Eisenhower on the obverse, minted in the first 1971 series will be awarded by our Camp to the first reader of this Newsletter who joins the Sesquicentennial Society (Camp member or not)! Join fast, be the first, and get an Ike dollar with a collector's value of more than 25\$! Just state "ISE Newsletter call" by joining.



REENACTMENT ACCURACY: THE GREATCOAT

One topic that recurs again and again during reenactor talks is that of authenticity of uniforms. The Confederate Army is rather peculiar in this because of the historical facts: Southern soldiers wore whatever they could get. As stated by a reenactor: *“Southern units were a complete hodgepodge in appearance.”* But this does not mean you may wear whatever shirt, pants or hats you want. It would do well for Confederate reenactors, to care to be as authentically attired as possible in their whole appearance. This is particularly true in regard to uniform parts like the greatcoat. We have chosen it as an example of a complicated item, difficult to obtain in the Confederate Army even during the War. Most privates never saw any regulation greatcoat: they were never issued one. In winter, many used Union blue coats; others had only a horse blanket to cover themselves. Let’s have a closer look at the greatcoat.



**Three Confederate soldiers with Infantry greatcoats.
Note the elbow-length buttoned shoulder capes are worn closed.
Most probably it was intended to produce a more cute look for the
photographer.**

It is a fact that true Regulation-dress greatcoats were quite rare among enlisted troops. The Regulations stated double-breasted greatcoats in cadet-gray cloth for both officers and enlisted, being the shoulder cape to reach the wrists for the cavalry soldiers (Art. 1527) and the elbows (Art. 1528) for the infantryman. (See, *“Regulations for the Army of the Confederate States, 1862”* and *“1864. Revised and enlarged”*, War Department, Richmond, “Overcoats”, page 406 (1862 Edition) and page 410 (1864 Edition). Length of the shoulder cape was intended to protect the arms of the horsemen while riding in snow and rain, the shorter Infantry cape gave more freedom of movements for handling the musket.

It must be said that a well-made regulation-dress coat was expensive during the WBTS and still it is today. In addition, many reenactment coats offered today differ considerably from the Regulations.



Rare 1861 ambrotype of Col. Spruce Baird, 4th Texas Regiment, Arizona Brigade. He is wearing a regulation dress double-breasted Cavalry greatcoat in cadet gray over a civilian suit. (© Courtesy by Cowans Auctions)

The 1862 Regulations advised soldiers "*always to carry their overcoats, to cover them in resting or when wounded*", but many had only a blanket to march in snow and rain and to sleep in extreme cold. In fact, during summer few private soldiers even bothered to retain a greatcoat, issued or not. They hoped to be able to take one from a dead Yankee before hard winter set in. This was not always possible and during the extreme hardships of the winter 1864/65, in both the Eastern and Western theatres many a good soldier, already weakened by poor food or diseases, succumbed to exposure.

In Europe there are reenactors using Napoleonic era British Army greatcoats, with flat pewter buttons changed to CS Army "I" buttons. This gives a quite real appearance and it's a good improvised solution. A certain British firm has recently started to offer the Napoleonic greatcoat with small buttons added to the shoulder cape to better simulate a Confederate greatcoat. They say: "We consider this to be the best quality greatcoat available today." Maybe they refer to the quality of their wool (if the statement is true, you must discover at your own risk while standing

guard in freezing cold or marching in heavy rain...). The problem: it is still a very expensive solution and you may check other sutlers for alternative prices. Main problem in Europe is that few "Civil War" sutlers do exist; some offer low quality clothing, others are just not serious, they may even take your credit card by phone and forget about... There are firms with a wide range of garments, extremely expensive and neither their leathersgoods nor cloth garments are of quality. But there are a few very good ones. We have found an excellent German firm which makes custom-orders following the original 1862/64 Regulation-dress patterns, including a large variety of colors and wool qualities in best value for money. And they offer superb leather goods too. Several of our members like to use their products and are delighted. On the other side, if you decide to buy American, shipping costs and import taxes maybe not as horrible as expected. Most American Sutlers send their products with shipping insurance inclusive, so if it gets lost or is stolen you may recover your money.



Red nose and a frozen face, but feeling warm in his American-made greatcoat: the Editor in the midst of fog and snow during a winter reenactment

But in whatever uniform you may dress, including the greatcoat for reenacting during winter, always remember those great men in the Confederate Army who had nothing to warm themselves but thinking on the loving ones at home and on the flame of liberty they did defend. Now we will read a report of a tough but convivial winter reenactment by our member Compatriot Landgraf.

Winter Camp Reenactment January 08, 2010 – January 10, 2010 "The Muddy Hills", Dolgesheim, Germany

By Tom Landgraf, full member Europe Camp 1612, SCV

Another year passed by; another winter has come. This was the eight IGCW "Muddy Hills" Winter Camp in a row, the toughing reenactment for daring friends I started to organize 8 years ago.

Friday morning we gathered together to build up the camp. The weather promised to be good, at least not as bitter cold as it was last year, with extremes down to -4 degree Fahrenheit (see ISE Feb/March 2008, pages, 13-14). But this year we had intense wind and snow anyway. A first taste of things to come we got already while setting up the camp, with temperatures of 26,6 Fahrenheit but worsened by the windchill factor to 5 Fahrenheit. After sedulous working we had the tents, the oven and the additional windbreaking canvas assembled and ready.



Left, assembled tents, windbreaker canvas. Right, luxury camp stove, lamplight.

Under the windbreaker protectors it was almost calm and after lighting the first camp fire, we had a wonderful hot coffee. Then we made ourselves comfortable in camp - someone made a joke about how great and useful an underfloor heating in the tents would have been... However, we took some thick wooden blocks and put them beneath the fire, once heated up, we sat warm and fine!

The other volunteering comrades in arms arrived by and by. Weather was getting worse, the much feared storm did not set in, but the windy, icy air with unceasing snowfall was uncomfortable enough.

Later in the evening, Camp-cantinière Kirsten brought a delicious potato-soup for dinner. We ate it with hot tea. Afterwards we continued warming ourselves with other drinks. I don't even want to know what the mixings offered were, but it was truly "Oh be joyful" and "Moonshine"! Late in the night Lt. Werner appeared, late, but steady. We had a really funny first evening.



Left: Pvt. Christian Becker, right: Lt. Werner Zwingmann (aka Jimmy Banks)

The morning after: we had slept quite well, at least most of us. The problem was that all the night long the wind had been blowing snow through every little opening of the tents. It was a really cold wake-up and we had to search for our brogans, clothes and equipment under the frozen snow, INSIDE the tents.

For breakfast, Christian Becker had prepared ox tongues with French dressing in a bread roll – a rare delicacy Confederate soldiers for sure never saw in winter encampments (or elsewhere), but this high-energy food was necessary to spend the ice cold day to come. First activity was a march in the snow to Weiland's Farm. There lunch was served to the chilled-through men by Dieter; vegetables with baked potatoes and Pinkel sausage (a Northern German speciality).

Afterwards we marched back to the camp. Then cannon drill started. Thorsten Gerhard and myself as Sergeant gave instructions about how to operate the gun, loading procedures, firing safety and proper cleaning of the barrel. In addition we gave a lecture about the aspects of law concerning black powder explosives, including permissions, legal assurances for participants, etc. After the theoretical part, we started firing the gun. Several salvos were fired in perfect drill. Shots in single and double powder load were fired. Some of the volunteering recruits had never been so close to a firing cannon! Unfortunately I was so busy supervising the drill and firing that I could not make any photograph.



Left: Frank Steinmetz (with Davy Crockett fur cap), right: Pvt. Thorsten Gerhard

Early evening there was a briefing about the coming reenactments for 2010. A Cavalry-Workshop on the Hackstock-Ranch; a planned reenactment in Hildburghausen; Raid of my 2nd Platoon in Dammbach; the summer camp, Reenactment in Wildflecken, and, and... The remaining of the evening was again dedicated to „Oh be joyful“ and storytelling, our bottoms kept warm by the told block-heating method as shown below.



To warm wooden blocks and sitting on them help to avoid a frozen bottom...

The last night was again windy and brought snow, but not as dramatically as the first one. After breakfast we reduced stocks and stored them in the cars and vans. We left after a short goodbye, everybody promising to be here again next year. The next winter camp is scheduled from January 7 to January 9, 2011.

Sgt. Tom G. Landgraf
1st CS-Cavalry, 1st Squadron, 2nd Platoon

<http://www.rheinhessen-raids.de/>

THE PREACHER'S CORNER

Protestant and Catholic prayer: an Ecumenical Legion for Dixieland



"When the Lord shall open the many mansions of His Father's house to receive his own, I would that we should be there together, but more I would, oh!, most I would, that we should all be there."

Jefferson Davis

So many testimonials of living Christian brotherhood during the War Between the States exist. In written memories and reminiscences of soldiers, points of view expressed in contemporary newspaper articles; everywhere we can find ecumenical spirit of unity against a demonic enemy on earth, but also unity as Christians fighting as the Army of the Lord; practising together the power of prayer and worship of God. It was from Him that strength came upon them to bear witness by withstanding an overwhelming enemy during 4 years. And it will do good to remember this spirit during the Sesquicentennial of our Cause to be able to receive the same strength.

A very interesting testimonial is J. William Jones' book "Christ in the Camp" a compilation of experiences of military chaplains and the religious revival in the Army of Northern Virginia. One of the many qualities exposed by the author is that a military chaplain has never to go into "*fierce polemics with Christians of other denominations*" (p.244). Not only unity among Protestants, but communion with Catholics was defended. The *Richmond Daily Dispatch* published in November 26, 1863 on page 2:

"It would be a refreshing and beautiful spectacle if the whole Christian world, both Roman Catholic and Protestant, could unite in their prayers at the period designated for the restoration of peace to this bleeding and distracted land. Surely here is a platform and an occasion on which all Christendom could lay aside its internal differences, and send up to the throne of the Eternal Father from the altars of Catholic temples and the pulpits of Protestant churches, one blending volume of solemn, earnest, and faithful prayer that, in the language of the English ritual, God may "abate the pride, assuage the malice, and confound the devices" of our enemies."

Jones' "Christ in the Camp" extracts from a soldier's letter:

"I wish all the members of our Churches could be here and hear how fervently the soldiers pray that the revival of religion in the army may reach the churches at home; that their brethren at home may be turned from the sins of extortion and speculation, and that all may be brought to humble themselves before God." (p. 317).

Last year Thomas Lark wrote regarding Catholics in the January/February 2009 issue of the *Confederate Veteran*, page 42:

“True Catholics are men and women of tradition. They believe in the Social Kingship of Our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Socio-politically, they square up point-by-point with their Evangelical friends, enthusiastically supporting gun rights and vehemently opposing infanticide, political correctness and socialism at home and abroad. It is no surprise to Trad Caths that the Confederacy and Catholicism go hand-in-glove. Our Tridentine Mass, essentially unchanged in 17 centuries, would have been known by Generals Beauregard and Longstreet, Admiral Semmes and so many others.”

Christians soldiers in the Confederate Army, both Catholics and Protestants of every denomination, stood together during the war in an ecumenical spirit that should be recovered today in every SCV Camp prayer: a prayer for unity and strength. While Confederate Heritage in the South, like Christian values worldwide, is being attacked more and more fiercely, Christians should pray a stand together united.

Significantly, on October 6, 2008 Pope Benedict XVI stated during the 12th General Assembly of the Synod of Catholic Bishops in Rome:

“We are truly a part of what is universal. And thus we go out into the communion of all our Christian brothers and sisters, of all humanity, because the desire for the Word of God, which is one, is hidden in our heart. Therefore even evangelization; the proclamation of the Gospel, the mission is not a type of ecclesial colonialism, where we wish to insert others into our group. It means going beyond the individual culture into the universality that connects all, unites all, and makes us all brothers. Let us pray once again that the Lord may help us to truly enter the "breadth" of His Word and thus to open ourselves to the universal horizon that unites us with all our differences.”

Amen.



EDUCATIONAL MOVIES

JEZEBEL (1938)



Plot summary: Set in antebellum New Orleans, *Jezebel* is a wonderful drama directed by [William Wyler](#). Julie Marsden (Bette Davis) is a headstrong Southern Belle whose actions will cost her the man she loves. Julie is a tempestuous, manipulative girl who plays with fire, and burns herself by failing to live according to the society rules of her time and place. Having Julie offended her fiancée, Preston Dillard (Henry Fonda), and the whole New Orleans high society by most frivolous actions, a deeply hurt Preston leaves to the North but eventually comes back, married to a Yankee woman, Amy Bradford (Margaret Lindsay). Julie then engages in a kind of manoeuvres which portray her truly as the biblical Jezebel. She starts flirting with infamous duellist Buck Cantrell (George Brent) and brings him to quarrel with Preston, but the plot goes wrong. Preston's inexperienced younger brother Ted (Richard Cromwell) is the one who is goaded into challenging Buck. In a pistol duel Ted emerges victorious; Buck is fatally shot. Then something happens that overshadows everything else. A deadly epidemic of yellow fever sweeps the city (a recurring plague of the 19th century. It killed General John Bell Hood in 1879). Preston comes down with it and, like all other victims is to be quarantined on an island. Loving wife Amy prepares to go along to care for him, risking her own life, but a repenting Julie stops her. She tells the Northern woman that she doesn't know how to deal with the slaves and Southerners on the island. She begs to go in her place, as an act of redemption. Amy agrees and Julie redeems herself at the end by doing a supreme Christian sacrifice.

Analysis: Sometimes it is claimed this film was developed as a vehicle for Bette Davis after she failed to win the part of Scarlett O'Hara in "Gone with the Wind", but "Jezebel" is a quality on its own and Bette Davis the *perfect* cast for

it (she won the 1938 Oscar). Far beyond being only a great melodramatic motion picture, this movie reveals a lot about rules and values of the forever gone Gentleman-class society of the Old South. And it does it at its best, in every dialogue. Chivalry and honor, society behaviour, reasons for a duel, slave-servants, everything is represented in a natural, comprehensive way; a way lost today even to most cautious approaches.

The conservative strictness of Southern society rules are portrayed at her debutante ball. Julie chooses not to wear a white robe, but to appear dressed in red! She is conspicuously warned not to proceed:

Aunt Belle: *Child, you're out of your mind. You know you can't wear red to the Olympus Ball.*

Julie: *Can't I? I'm goin' to. This is 1852, dumplin,' 1852. Not the Dark Ages. Girls don't have to simp around in white just because they're not married.*

Aunt Belle: *In New Orleans they do. Julie, you'd insult every woman on the floor.*



The scandal scene: unmarried Ms. Julie Marsden dressed in a brazen red robe with her astonished but stoic fiancée at the beginning of the Olympus Ball. Even the black servant looks disdainful to the strange couple. (© Warner Bros. 1938)

Getting aware of the scandal at her arrival, everybody disdainful staring at her, she feels embarrassed and begs her fiancée to leave, but Preston, offended himself, adamantly refuses. He forces her to dance and to feel the consequences of her stubborn, egoistic will: All the other couples gradually retire from the floor, finally leaving them alone and isolated. They finish the dance surrounded by an area of white dresses on the perimeter of the ballroom - an unbearable humiliation for Julie. But one she has provoked herself by breaking dress code and manners of a

Southern lady. Preston takes his leave of Julie, implicitly breaking their engagement. Julie seeks revenge in a most perfidious way. Before the dramatic end of the movie a lot of revealing scenes show the society of the Old South to us. Matters like Slavery are only slightly questioned in the movie, in dialogues like this one, between Yankeedom-returned Preston and nationalist Southerner Buck, a conversation perfectly suitable to the 1850's:

Buck: *Well, you talk mighty like a black abolitionist.*

Preston: *I think you know I'm no abolitionist. I believe the tide has turned against us. But I'll swim against that tide just as far as you will, Cantrell....Naturally, we claim the right to the customs we were born to, even some of us who question the value of those customs.*

Buck: *I like my convictions undiluted, same as I do my bourbon.*

North-South confrontations are also included in the Gentlemen conversation (in the movie it's an attempt to break out the reason for a duel):

Buck: *If the Yankee nation don't let us be, we'll have to go up there and teach 'em manners.*

Preston: *I'm afraid facts are against you doing it as easy as that.*

Buck: *I think your facts are mostly to scare women and sell Northern bonds.*



**Julie flirting with renamed duellist Buck Cantrell
(© Warner Bros. 1938)**

As the yellow fever arrives the movie achieves perfectly how to create in the audience real fear from the plague (Sudden sounds of gunshots and barking bloodhounds. "A poor fool who was crazy enough to think he could run the fever line" is shot down as he attempts to pass the parish boundaries). Panic strikes the city of New Orleans, martial law is declared and the drama involving city and inhabitants is palpable in the air.

The final conversation between Julie and Amy speaks for itself; it's a friendly but dramatic clash between Northern and Southern cultures:

Julie: Amy, of course it's your right to go. You're his wife. But are you fit to go? Lovin' him isn't enough. If you gave him all your strength, would it be enough?

Amy: I'll make him live or die with him.

Julie: Amy, Amy, do you know the Creole word for fever powder, for food and water? How to talk to a solid, over-worked black boy and make him feel he will help you? Pres' life and yours will hang on things just like that, and you'll both surely die.

Amy: Then it will have to be that way.

Julie: It's not a question of provin' your love by layin' down your life for Pres. Nothin's so easy. Have you the knowledge and the human strength to fight for his life and for your own as one will have to fight? Amy, it's no longer you or me.

Amy: What do you mean?

Julie: I'll make him live, I will. Whatever you might do, I can do more, 'cause I know how to fight better than you. Amy, if you knew the horror of that place. It isn't a hospital! It's a desolate island haunted by death. They'll put Pres in an open shed with a hundred others. You must be there with him day and night, watchin' every breath he draws. You must bathe him, keep him clean, give him drugs, fight for his food and water. You must keep the livin' from him and the dead. Be there by him with your body between him and Death.

At the end of the movie, Julie, the former rebellious, insensible, frivol and perfidious *Jezebel* has turned to be a true Southern woman. A kind of prophetic figure of what thousands of women in the South would become less than a decade after: During a bumpy wagon ride bound for the wharf, Julie stoically cradles Preston's head in her lap. Flames from a burning barrel engulf the screen, and cannon-shots sound. The film ends on this apocalyptic scene; most significantly, beneath Bette Davis a Catholic Sister of Charity seats in the wagon, this scene stands also in a prophetic way for their hospital work in the WBTS, were Southern women and Catholic nuns cared for the wounded.

The only arising moral question related to this self-sacrifice has been previously resolved with a conversation between the two women; it ends with these words of Julie after the ones Preston's wife gives her permission for going:

Julie: We both know. Pres loves his wife. Who else would he love? Not me, surely. I've done too much against him. You see, I never know how to be gentle and brave as you are. Had there been any love in his heart for me, I'd have taken him from you. I tried and failed 'cause he loves only you.

We believe "Jezebel" to be a highly recommendable movie; it will make you travel back to a time truly gone with the wind.

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THE MEMOIRS OF COLONEL JOHN S. MOSBY

EDITED BY
CHARLES WELLS RUSSELL

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS



BOSTON
LITTLE, BROWN, AND COMPANY
1917

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