

Rebel Underground

Sons of Confederate Veterans

Major John C. Hutto Camp # 443
Jasper, Alabama

Published Monthly

April 2013

Meeting Notice - Sunday, 21 April - 2:30 PM First Methodist Church, Jasper, Alabama Confederate History Month



Leonard Ray Wilson 77, of Jasper, went home to be with the Lord on April 4, 2013.

Wilson was born on March 6, 1936, and was a lifelong resident of Walker County. He was an active member of the Macedonia Church of Christ, Sons of Confederate Veterans, Council of Conservative Citizens and Alabama Constable's Association.

He attended the University of Alabama, Baylor University and was a graduate of Birmingham School of Law. Throughout his career he was active in local and state politics. Wilson had the distinguished privilege to serve as an Alabama delegate in five

Republican National Conventions and collaborating with Alabama's Confederate Library at Confederate Park. He compiled hundreds of books and Civil War

artifacts to preserve and commemorate Confederate history for future generations.

Wilson was the distinguished editor of this newsletter, and singlehandedly diverted the Major John C. Hutto Camp #443 from sure extension in the 1980's by his undying devotion and perseverance to the cause for which we fight.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Cleo Wilson and William Wilson.

He is survived by his son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Ray Wilson Jr.; three grandsons, Adam, Jack and Webb Wilson; and a host of other relatives and dear friends.

He will be remembered with love by his special friend, Bonnie Englebert; her daughter, Ginger Burson, and adopted grandchildren, Isabella and Mycah.

Confederate flag at old North Carolina Capitol coming down



A Confederate flag is seen on display at the old Capitol, which houses the governors office and still hosts numerous government events in Raleigh, N.C.

RALEIGH, N.C. – A Confederate battle flag hung inside the old North Carolina State Capitol last week to mark the sesquicentennial of the Civil War is being taken down after civil rights leaders raised concerns.

The decision was announced Friday evening, hours after the Associated Press published a story about the flag, which officials said was part of an historical display intended to replicate how the antebellum building appeared in 1863. The flag had been planned to hang in the House chamber until April 2015, the 150th

anniversary of the arrival of federal troops in Raleigh.

"This is a temporary exhibit in an historic site, but I've learned the governor's administration is going to use the old House chamber as working space," Cultural Resources Secretary Susan Kluttz said Friday night. "Given that information, this display will end this weekend rather than April of 2015."

The decision was a quick about-face for the McCrory administration, which initially defended the decision. Many people see the flag as a potent reminder of racial discrimination and bigotry.

State Historic Sites Director Keith Hardison had said Thursday the flag should be viewed in what he called the proper historical context.

"Our goal is not to create issues," said Hardison, a Civil War re-enactor and history buff. "Our goal is to help people understand issues of the past. ... If you refuse to put something that someone might object to or have a concern with in the exhibit, then you are basically censoring history."

Paisley, LL Cool J Stand by ‘Accidental Racist’

By ABC News - Apr 10, 2013



It only took a few hours for a six-minute song about race to spark a backlash after its release Monday.

The song by the unlikely duo of Brad Paisley and LL Cool J, "*Accidental Racist*," was slammed by music critics and fans alike for its attempt at a dialogue on race between two men from starkly different backgrounds with lyrics like "If you don't judge my do-rag ... I won't judge your red flag" and "If you don't judge my gold chains ... I'll forget the iron chains."

The country singer, 40, and his rapper counterpart, 45, say the national debate sparked by their song, released on Paisley's new album,

“*Wheelhouse*,” is exactly what they wanted to happen.

“I’m not really sure we’re going to find any answers but it was the idea that we were asking the question,” Paisley said in an exclusive interview with his duet partner that aired today on “Good Morning America.”

“Martin Luther King says that darkness cannot drive out darkness, only light can,” LL Cool J said. “Hate can’t drive out hate, only love can. So what we’re talking about is compassion.”

“*Accidental Racist*” focuses specifically on how northerners like LL Cool J, who grew up in New York City, view Southerners, like Paisley, a native of West Virginia, and vice versa.

“I’m not advising anyone to truly forget slavery, but what I’m saying is forget the slavery mentality,” LL Cool J said. “Forget the bitterness. Don’t get bitter, get better.”

Critics have been especially harsh on specific lines in the song like LL Cool J’s singing “let bygones be bygones,” and Paisley singing that white Americans are “still paying for mistakes that a bunch of folks made before we came.”

“Some people take exception to some of the lyrics [and] I respect that,” LL Cool J said. “I’m sensitive to that.”

Paisley, for one, found out about the controversy from LL Cool J, who alerted him to the backlash after the video, in which LL Cool J plays a Barista, was released on YouTube Monday.

“I got a call from this guy saying, ‘Have you seen anything?’” Paisley said, adding that LL Cool J went on to tell him to look at Twitter. “I was like, ‘No, I don’t want to look at it.’”

Despite the backlash, the two stars, who will sing together again on LL Cool J’s next album, to be released later this month, say they are proud of the song and the discussion it is creating.

“Let’s not be victims of things that happened so long ago,” Paisley said. “In the

end, I felt like what we had on tape was something that people needed to hear.”

LL Cool J said, “At the same time, let’s respect it. But then after we respect it, let’s also open our hearts up so we can move forward.”

Confederate flag mistakenly raised over Mississippi Supreme Court

JACKSON, Miss. – Officials say a mistake is to blame for the Confederate flag being raised over the Mississippi Supreme Court building on Friday.



Kym Wiggins, public information officer for the state Department of Finance and Administration, tells The Clarion-Ledger that the flag was put up accidentally when workers were replacing a worn Mississippi state flag.

Wiggins says workers had gone to a local vendor to get state flags and were given two boxes labeled "Mississippi State Flag."

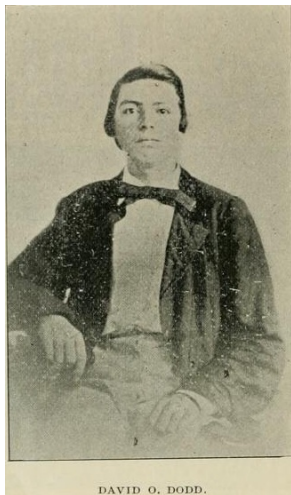
She says that unknown to the workers the boxes actually contained Confederate flags. The flag was up for about two hours.

Wiggins says the vendor has been notified to make sure no future problems take place.

Teenage spy lives on in Ark. street signs, school long after his death in former Confederacy

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. – The story of David O. Dodd is relatively unknown outside of Arkansas, but the teenage spy who chose to hang rather than betray the Confederate cause is a folk hero to many in his home state.

Street signs and an elementary school in the state capital have long borne Dodd's name, and admirers gather at his grave each year to pay tribute to Dodd's life and death.



"Everyone wants to remember everything else about the Civil War that was bad," said one of them, W. Danny Honnoll. "We want to remember a man that stood for what he believed in and would not tell on his friends."

A state commission's decision, though, to grant approval for yet another tribute to Dodd has revived an age-old question: Should states still look for ways to commemorate historical figures who fought to defend unjust institutions?

"(Dodd) already has a school. I don't know why anything else would have to be done to honor him," James Lucas Sr., a school bus driver, said near the state Capitol in downtown Little Rock.

Arkansas' complicated history of race relations plays out on the Capitol grounds. A stone and metal monument that's stood for over a century pays tribute to the Arkansas men and boys who fought for the Confederacy. Not far away, nine bronze statues honor the black children who, in 1957, needed an Army escort to enter what had been an all-white school.

The newest nod to Dodd would mark a site across town where he was detained after Union soldiers found encoded notes on him about their troop locations. Dodd was convicted of spying and sentenced to death, and legend has it he refused an offer to walk free in exchange for the name of the person who gave him the information.

"He was barely 17 years old when the Yankees hung him" on Jan. 8, 1864, Honnoll said. "Yeah, he was spying, but there (were) other people that spied that they didn't hang."

Dodd is certainly not the only teenager to die in the war or even the lone young martyr, said Carl Moneyhon, a University of Arkansas at Little Rock history

professor.

"If you start talking about the 16-, 17- and 18-year-olds who were killed in battle, the number is infinite," Moneyhon said. "There are tens of thousands of them. They become unremarkable."

So it seems all the more curious that some have come to portray Dodd as Arkansas' boy martyr.

"It's part of the romanticizing of the Civil War that began in the 1880s and the 1890s, that looks for ... what could be called heroic behavior to celebrate in a war filled with real horrors," Moneyhon said.

And it's caught on, though many question why.

If this flag offends you...



You need a History lesson.

"It's a very sad story, but at the end of the day, Dodd was spying for the Confederacy, which was fighting a war to defend the institution of slavery," said Mark Potok, a senior fellow at the Southern Poverty Law Center.

Editor's note: Less than ten percent of Confederate soldiers own slaves. Why would a man, who never owned slaves, go to war and suffer untold misery, loss of limbs, lifetime disabilities, and almost sure death to preserve slavery? The Un-Civil War was not about slavery. "He who knows nothing is

closer to the truth than he whose mind is filled with falsehoods and errors."

Thomas Jefferson

Sharon Donovan, who lives on West David O. Dodd Road, said she wouldn't mind another Dodd namesake in her neighborhood.

"The fact that we live in the South, I could understand why he would want to do it because he was actually working for us in a way. ... For that era, I think it was probably a noble thing to do," Donovan said.

About a half-mile away, a banner outside an elementary school proclaims, "David O. Dodd Committed to Excellence." A doormat bearing Dodd's name shows a black boy smiling next to a few white ones. About half of the school's 298 students last year were black and only 27 were white.

Jerry Hooker, who graduated from Central High School years after the desegregation standoff over the Little Rock Nine, lives at the site where he says Dodd was detained almost a century and a half ago. The Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission approved his application and agreed to chip in \$1,000 for the marker noting the spot's historical significance.

Hooker, 59, said the move to commemorate Dodd is not about honoring slavery, but about remembering the past.

"I don't think it has a thing to do with race whatsoever," Hooker said. "He was a 17-year-old kid with a coded message in his boot that had enough of whatever it is in him that he didn't squeal on his sources."

Still, in a city that stripped "Confederate Blvd." from its interstate highway signs shortly before dignitaries arrived in town for the opening of Bill Clinton's presidential library, the question remains: Should Dodd's name be etched into another piece of stone or metal for posterity's sake?

"There are currently more monuments to David O. Dodd than any other war hero in Arkansas," Potok said. "You would think that at some point it would be enough."

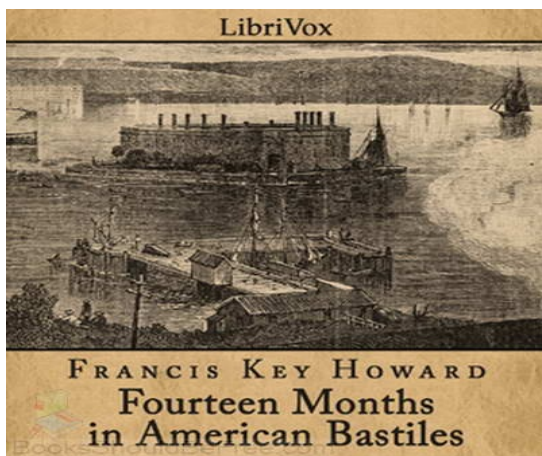
Francis Key Howard (1826 - 1872) was the grandson of Francis Scott Key and Revolutionary War colonel John Eager Howard. Howard was the editor of the Baltimore Exchange, a Baltimore newspaper sympathetic to the Southern cause. He was arrested on September 13, 1861 by U.S. major general Nathaniel Prentice Banks on the direct orders of general George B. McClellan enforcing the policy of President Abraham Lincoln.

The basis for his arrest was for writing a critical editorial in his newspaper of Lincoln's suspension of the writ of habeas corpus, and the fact that the Lincoln

administration had declared martial law in Baltimore and imprisoned without due process, George William Brown the mayor of Baltimore, Congressman Henry May, the police commissioners of Baltimore and the entire city council.

Howard was initially confined to Ft. McHenry, the same fort his grandfather Francis Scott Key saw withstand a British bombardment during the War of 1812, which inspired him to write *The Star Spangled Banner*, which would become the national anthem of the United States of America. He was then transferred first to Fort Lafayette in Lower New York Bay off the coast of Brooklyn, then Fort Warren in Boston.

He wrote a book on his experiences as a political prisoner completed in December of 1862 and published in 1863 titled *Fourteen Months in the American Bastiles*. Howard commented on his imprisonment;



"When I looked out in the morning, I could not help being struck by an odd and not pleasant coincidence. On that day forty-seven years before my grandfather, Mr. Francis Scott Key, then prisoner on a British ship, had witnessed the bombardment of Fort McHenry.

When on the following morning the hostile fleet drew off, defeated, he wrote the song so long popular throughout the country, the Star Spangled Banner. As I stood upon

the very scene of that conflict, I could not but contrast my position with his, forty-seven years before. The flag which he had then so proudly hailed, I saw waving at the same place over the victims of as vulgar and brutal a despotism as modern times have witnessed."

Maryland was considered one of the five border states at the outbreak of the U.S. Civil War. On April 27, 1861 Lincoln suspended the writ of habeas corpus in Maryland partially as a response to the Baltimore riot of 1861, and in portions of mid-western states such as southern Indiana.

The first person to be arrested after this order was issued was Lieutenant John Merryman of the newly formed (1861) Baltimore County Horse Guards, a unit composed of southern sympathizers. Merryman was accused of treason for destroying bridges and telegraph wires to prevent Union troops from marching through Baltimore to reinforce Washington D.C.

Lincoln's action was challenged in court and overturned by the U.S. Circuit Court in Maryland (led by Supreme Court Chief Justice Roger B. Taney who was incidentally married to Anne Phoebe Charlton Key, Francis Scott Key's sister) in *Ex Parte Merryman*, 17 F. Cas. 144 (C.C.D. Md. 1861). Lincoln citing the actions of prior U.S. President Andrew Jackson chose to ignore the ruling. It was for criticizing Lincoln's actions in the editorial section of the Baltimore Exchange that Howard was arrested.

HUTTO CAMP OFFICERS

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|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Commander | James R. Blackston |
| 1 st Lt. Cmd. | John Tubbs |
| 2 nd Lt. Cmd. | Brandon Prescott |
| Adjutant | Trent Harris |
| Chaplain | Barry Cook |

Website:

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Disclaimer - Some of the stories in April's newsletter may contain material written by those who hate the South, the truth and freedom. True Southern Heritage lovers will not have any trouble distinguishing fact from fiction.