

Chairman's Report . . . *Jim Hanks, Jr.*

The seasons roll by, the earth following its customary course. The winds blow, the tides flow, and the League grows. Season upon season, we renew our ties and reaffirm our resolve. We follow our established course, refining our techniques and teaching them to others, all the while adding to our toolkit.

We are fighting to preserve our beliefs and way of life, cultural values, ethnic identity, and integrity as a distinct people against cultural genocide. This issue of the "South Carolina Patriot" focuses on home-schooling, one very special "tool" with which South Carolina families are reasserting their spiritual and cultural autonomy. As John Chode points out in *The Paradox of Jabez Curry (2002)*:

"Reeducation began with the new Southern state constitutions which required heavy taxation to pay for public schools. This was diametrically opposed to the small government, low tax philosophy of the South. Explicit in the wording of these new constitutions (ratified by Northern carpetbaggers) was Federal supervision of Southern education "forever." In fact, the South had more secondary schools to population than the North: "By the census of 1860, the population of the North was about 19 million and of the South about 8 million. At the time the North had 205 colleges, 1,407 professors and 29,044 students; the South had 262 colleges, 1,488 professors and 27,055 students. To the victorious North, it had the wrong kind of education."

We know what we lost and we know how we lost it. Now we are learning how to take it back.

The spring of this year found us demonstrating in public places and attending League meetings, forming new chapters and writing new books, articles, and editorials, traveling, making speeches, giving encouragement, forming alliances, and growing stronger.

One fascinating event of this season, "Meet the Authors and Musicians," brought an impressive array of outstanding Southrons to our Abbeville store during Abbeville's "Spring Fling" celebration. Southern Cultural Center Director, Robert Hayes, with the help of Dr. Jim Kibler organized this delightful get-together which featured the incomparable Miss Deborah Brinson on the harp and the father/son duo of Trent and Alan Harrelson on banjo and guitar. Our favorite authors and scholars gave fascinating talks, and we even learned the truly improbable details about the discovery of the H. L. Hunley from Dr. Lee Spence, the man who *actually* discovered her.

Abbeville is the stage for Robert's productions. As impresario of "Olde South Christmas," Robert has transformed the yearly event from the lackluster, ill-defined "Dickens Holiday," into the dynamic focus of regional pride that it has become. Season upon season, Robert's Abbeville events add luster to the town of Abbeville and to the South Carolina League of the South.

Robert Iacomacci, another man who makes things happen, "voted with his feet" last year by moving to South Carolina. A Christian and a freedom loving copperhead, Robert is passionately committed to reclaiming our God given birthright. He has written a fine booklet describing the erosion of our constitutional liberties. He represented South Carolina at the Secession Conference in Vermont, and he spoke out on the State House steps during our Lincoln-Sherman trial.

Now Robert has taken on the most important task of all. As chairman of the Abbeville Chapter of the South Carolina League of the South, he is building our organization one meeting at a time. In addition, Robert has begun another project of extreme significance. Each chapter needs a website, and Robert has seen to it that Abbeville has its own. We now have another website, as well: this one operated by a talented young Southern nationalist and League member of Cherokee County.

It is not enough to know in your heart that you are against our oppressors. It is your duty actively to fight them. Whatever your talents, you must employ them. You must do it boldly. You must do it publicly.

When the NAACP holds its annual grievance fest and flag bashing and when the NSM marches, the South Carolina League of the South confronts the race baiting demagogues. When Morris Dees comes pandering, the SCLoS is there, exposing him for the poverty pimp that he is. When Columbia's sack and destruction is reduced to a "Civil War Days"

tourist attraction, the SCLoS appropriately commemorates the atrocity by hanging Lincoln and Sherman in effigy for their heinous crimes.

When John McCain comes to our state, we meet and greet him every time. While asking for our vote in the 2000 South Carolina Republican primary John McCain stated, "Personally, I see the battle flag as a symbol of heritage...." But after he lost the primary here, he flew back to South Carolina to declare our flag "offensive." "The Confederate flag is offensive in many, many ways as we all know It's a symbol of racism and slavery," he told the cameras. Now he's back and we are his shadow. We flagged him in Columbia, and we flagged him in Charleston. We were there for the Republican debate, where we flagged him again. At the debate he said he wished that we would drop the flag issue. Dream on, Bomb Bomb, we do not forget and we do not forgive! You are a self professed liar and coward, and we will hound you till you leave our state for good, defeated, and your political career at an end.

Nor will we forget Spurrier, another carpetbagger with a big mouth. He said that he hadn't expected his remark to turn into such a big deal. He has a lot to learn. School is about to start.

Now summer is come again to dwell among us, defining and reminding us of who we are and what we share: our faith, our history, our future ...our climate. While scalawags and carpetbaggers huddle in the air conditioning, we will be on the move. Summer is our element.