

Irish Brigade Camp #4

Patriotic Instruction – August 2017

Ross H. Schwalm

A Historian's Review of the National Patriotic Instructor's August 2017
unsigned memo

Jeffrey French, PDC, PCC
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Monthly Patriotic Instruction
August, 2017

Ross H. Schwalm, Past Nothing
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August, 2017 – a Historian Rebuttal

"The power of noble deeds is to be preserved and **passed on to the future**", as stated by Joshua Chamberlain sums up what we as the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) mission is as stated in our C&R. We need to preserve our history based on documented **truthfulness**.
As an organization we need to educate the public about the War of Rebellion based on the **facts** and not revisionist versions or political correctness.

IBC #4 Mandate to educate others (An Outward Focus)- Speakers Program, Living History, Battlefield Tours

Truth comes from documented evidence.

Facts come from documented evidence.

Assumptions are not "Facts" but come from analysis of information.

Brother Tim McCoy demonstrated this well at the Headstone Dedication of a Black Soldier CPL Butler in Baltimore, Maryland. Here is an excerpt from the Baltimore Sun; "**He was well aware that the war was prompted by the issue of slavery**," McCoy said, according to a prepared text of his remarks. "And, **as an African-American, he surely knew** that the war's outcome would determine whether an immoral institution that enslaved people like him would continue to exist in the United States."

Does a letter or sworn testimony from CPL Butler exist that indicates "he was well aware"? Or is this an assumption of Brother McCoy?
Does a letter or sworn testimony from CPL Butler exist that indicates "he surely knew"?
The Baltimore Sun got caught up in "assuming" the evidence existed and is "fact".

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This truthful statement was offensive to the Sons of Confederate Veterans who wish to rewrite history based on the Lost Cause.

Great Job Brother McCoy in carrying out our mission in preserving our history based on truthfulness.

Everyone in our organization need to follow this example and continue to educate the public on the Civil War history.

No! Use facts from original sources!

Brother Ben Hawley stated in the same article; "The Civil War is over,

we celebrate our Ancestors." Let me add that we not only celebrate our ancestors,

but perpetuate their memories by giving account to history based on facts and honesty.

Of course it was offensive since it was not based on fact. "The Lost Cause" is a set of beliefs and theme of history not a rewrite. A set of beliefs can rise to the level of "facts" such as accepted religious teachings but often cannot be proved. Brother McCoy, without citing CPL Butler's testimony or evidence, did not do a great job as laying out the truth.

Fact unless you add Reconstruction which is still going on as Civil Rights. "In order to form a more Perfect Union" Fact – Revolution is not Over!

I do not celebrate that my ancestors had to kill their fellow countryman who choose to rebel

I do honor my ancestors based on fact.

Note on Beliefs Reference: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lost_Cause_of_the_Confederacy

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What Brothers Tim McCoy and Ben Hawley demonstrated is showing the courage to present **history honestly** and **patriotism** in the Country they love so much. **“Not really”** **By offending others!**

Let us continue to promote the American Flag, the preservation of History, and Patriotism in our Country as the Boys in Blue and the Grand Army of the Republic done before us. **(Stick to the facts!)**

Yours In Fraternity, Loyalty, and Charity.

(Maybe we should add “Truth”)

