

Why is it important for us to remember and celebrate the 150th anniversary of the War Between the States?

The guns have grown quiet; the smoke has fallen, so why should we remember the War Between the States? Despite the time that has passed we have the duty and responsibility to remember and share our heritage with others. We do not wish for those soldiers in gray to go down in vain, therefore we remember and celebrate the sesquicentennial of the War Between the States.

Remembrance is one of the best ways to honor our Confederate soldiers. One hundred and fifty years is long time yet we still know what happened during the war and the causes for which they fought. We have the knowledge we do because our grandparents and great grandparents made it their mission to spread the true history of the South to others. Our present education system is trying it's hardest to make us forget the true history; and the disappointing part is that they are succeeding. We are being taught lies and twisted truths, but by seeing people who are remembering the war that changed countless numbers of lives, we are in turn opening people's eyes and able to teach them what really happened and the true history.

If we were to just think of the 150th anniversary as just another day we would cease to remember the sacrifices they made. The trials and tribulations the Confederate soldiers endured, helped pave the road of the lifestyles we have today. They changed our lives, so as we approach the sesquicentennial of the War Between the States let us remember what they did for us. If we do not continue to remember and tell others our side of the story there will not be a 200th anniversary to celebrate. But not only should we tell people of the War Between the States on a big day such as the sesquicentennial, but everyday should be a teaching moment.

I am often asked why we, as southerners, continue to celebrate the War Between the States shouldn't we be ashamed that the South lost. The

thing is we will never be ashamed we had the bravest men and woman who gave everything they had for us. They lost everything they had but never stopped celebrating. They knew they were fighting something way bigger than a war, they were fighting for a different way of life and although they might not have won on the battlefield they won so much more. They created a better life for themselves, their grandkids, and even there great grandchildren. So why would we be ashamed? Just as they celebrated years ago we celebrate now. We celebrate and remember their accomplishments and their bravery as they fought one of the bloodiest wars in the history of the United States. Even to this day and many after we shall remember and celebrate the 150th anniversary of the War Between the States.