

**Next Meeting:**  
**14 June 2023**  
**1800 Hours**  
**MVCSC Compound**  
**Columbia, SC**

## MVCSC Officers and Board Members

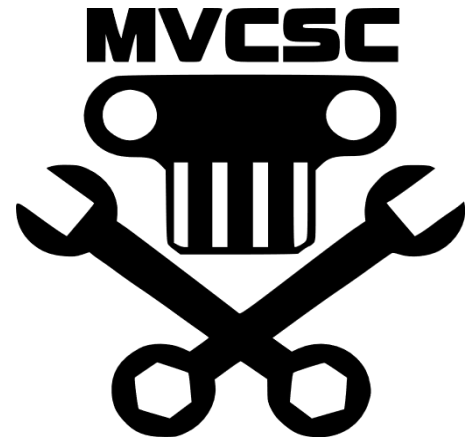
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# Under the Hood

E-Newsletter of the MVCSC  
 Web Site: [themvsc.com](http://themvsc.com)



## President's Corner



David Cartledge

April was a significant month for MVCSC. We were honored to assist with the memorial ceremonies for 13 Revolutionary War veterans whose remains were found at the site of the

Battle of Camden. It was truly a once-in-a-lifetime event for us all.

Our official participation began at 0700 on 19 April as the flag draped coffins were loaded on our HMMWV contingent at the Richland County Coroner's office. From there we were escorted by the SC Highway Patrol through various elementary, middle and high schools between Camden and Columbia. After the school visits, we staged at the State Capitol for a well-attended press conference. Our seven HMMWVs then transported the remains through Fort Jackson and finally to the famous Kershaw-Cornwallis House at the Rev War Park in Camden, where the soldiers lay in repose for

36 hours.

On Saturday morning, the coffins were loaded onto horse drawn caissons provided by our associate member Steve Riggs and taken through Camden to Bethesda Presbyterian Church for funeral services. Many dignitaries from throughout the USA as well as England, Scotland, and France were in attendance. After the service, our HMMWVs transported the coffins 8 miles to the battlefield, loaded back on the caissons and moved to the final ceremony site. The ceremonies included F-16 and Apache flyovers before the US Army took possession of the coffins for future burial in a national cemetery to be built on the Camden battlefield.



Coffins of 12 Continental Soldiers, including 5 teenagers, and 1 British Dragoon, lie in repose within Kershaw-Cornwallis House

I want to extend my gratitude to all the MVCSC members who upfitted and maintained the HMMWVs, constructed the coffin platforms, assembled the MKT, cooked meals for re-enactors, and helped coordinate this massive event. Thanks for what you do and lets...

Keep 'em rollin!

Dave

# The Camden Burials Project

In August of 1780 over 6,000 American and British soldiers met in bloody conflict along the old wagon road just north of Camden, SC. While an American defeat, the aftermath of this battle inflamed the rugged back-country militias of the Carolinas and Virginia, and the tide turned against the British, leading ultimately to decisive victory at Yorktown. This project focused on honoring 13 soldiers whose remains were recently uncovered on the battlefield where they fell—12 Continentals and 1 British Highlander.

The opportunity for MVCSC to participate in a major way to honor and remember these earliest Revolutionary War veterans is rooted in relationships and trust. As the SC Battleground Preservation Trust turned to our friends Steve Riggs and Archie Willis of Bachman's Battery in Charleston, so Steve turned to MVCSC to add its unique personnel and resources for major roles in remembering these heroes.

In the space that follows you will find pictures of most who participated in this profound opportunity. John Peck, Jeffrey Ray, Adam McDowell, Charles Viohl, and a host of other contributors led the 2-month effort to make sure seven HMMWVs were mechanically and visually ready to publicly convey 13 hand-made period coffins to places throughout the Midlands where these soldiers' remains were honored by thousands of students, soldiers, politicians, and citizens.

Member and chef Mike Michaelski and his well-used MKT were called upon to provide meals for horse-drawn caisson units and re-enactors from across the Mid-Atlantic and South as they staged for 3 days of ceremonies in Camden. Numerous MVCSC volunteers helped support this effort and other logistical needs that arose with such a massive event. As David wrote in his President's remarks, this was a once-in-a-lifetime event, and every MVCSC participant was honored to recognize these early patriots.



The MVCSC HMMWV Detail

From L to R in WWI Uniforms: Dave Cartledge (detail commander), Charles Viohl, Larry Robb, Jonathan Milner, Landon Saxton, Brian Davis, Jason Joyner (British uniform), and Tony Saxton. They drove 200 miles over the course of the ceremonies with the honored remains. Member John Harris provided one of the HMMWVs.



The MKT team above was led by Mike Michaelski (far end) and included Kimberley Byrd and Ron McManus. Alec Vardas (right photo) became an early morning food preparation hero! Well done!!



April 25, 2023

Dear Members of the Military Vehicle Collectors of SC:

Thank you for your group's contribution of caisson carriages for the Camden Burials Project. Your carriages contribute to the care and honor befitting Revolutionary War remains. I know it means a lot to everyone involved in the ceremony.

Your actions truly reflect what it means to serve in the most military friendly community in the world. You made a tremendous difference.

"Victory! Starts Here!"

Sincerely,

*J. Kelly*  
Jason E. Kelly  
Brigadier General, U.S. Army  
Commanding



## Affiliations

MVCSC is incorporated in South Carolina as a nonprofit organization, and is recognized as tax exempt under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Donations are tax exempt to the degree allowed by law. MVCSC is an affiliate member of the Military Vehicle Preservation Association, an international organization providing technical support and historical research for local efforts in vehicle restoration and public education.



**UNDER THE HOOD** is the official publication of the Military Vehicle Collectors of South Carolina and is a regular email publication meant as a service to the members of MVCSC and other interested persons and organizations. The views expressed herein are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect positions of MVCSC. All MVCSC members are invited to submit articles, pictures, and first hand accounts for publication on subjects that are relevant to military history and historic military vehicle preservation. The Board of Directors and the editor reserve the right to edit for length and content that is appropriate to the organization's mission and requirements as a 501(c)(3) incorporated in the State of South Carolina.



In Memorium Joe P. Naber 9/27/67-3/19/23

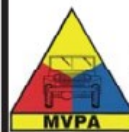
US Army veteran Joe was one of the first members of MVCSC and a friend to all. His ashes were placed in the Fort Jackson National Cemetery on 17 April 2023.



### Who Will Protect Them? YOU... AND THE MVPVA

**You've done the hard work to preserve your historic military vehicle.**

Now, support the organization that works hard to preserve your continued access to vehicles and parts. **Join today and keep history in motion!**



**MILITARY VEHICLE  
PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION**  
**HISTORY IN MOTION**

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