



Camp Website: www.humphreys1625.com



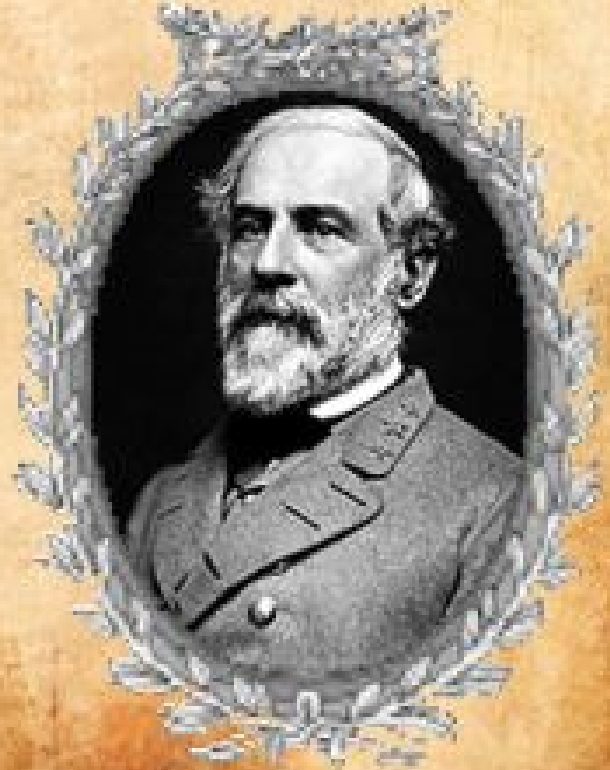
The Delta General

Joe Nokes, Camp Commander



Appomattox County
VIRGINIA

SESQUICENTENNIAL
APRIL 1865 - APRIL 2015



WHERE OUR NATION REUNITED

April 2015, Volume 18, Issue 4

Dedicated to the memory of Brig. General Benjamin G. Humphreys

CONTENTS

1. **Camp & Society News**
 - Commander's Note – p. 1
 - Adjutant's Report – p. 1
 - Lt. Commander's Note – p. 2
 - SCVMC Report – p. 2
 - OCR Report – P. 2
 - MOS&B Report – p. 2
2. **Division News – pp. 3-6**
 - Beauvoir News – p. 3, 6
 - 120th MS Division Reunion – pp. 4-5
 - 1st Brigade Picnic – p. 3
 - Division Memorial in Oxford – p. 3
3. **National Convention – pp. 6-7**
4. **Sesquicentennial Articles**
 - The Surrenders – pp. 8-9
 - The Battle of Selma, AL – p. 10

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Camp Meeting – Thursday, April 2, 2015 - 7:00 pm at the First Presbyterian Church in Indianola, MS**
- **April 19, Sunday @ 3:00 PM at the Old Greenville Cemetery in Greenville, MS – Camp CS Memorial Service**
- **April 25th, Division Memorial Service @ Oxford, MS at 2:00 PM**
- **April 25th, Division Memorial Service at Beauvoir, 2:00 PM**

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Brig. General Benjamin G. Humphreys
Camp #1625, SCV
website: humphreys1625.com

Camp News:

Commander's Report – Joe Nokes

Friends,

April is here! And April means Confederate History and Heritage Month! I know you all know this, but I say it again in order to stress the importance of this important time. We are absolutely charged with remembering our ancestors and with educating anyone and everyone about our ancestors and our Cause. There is a cornucopia of events in April. Two important Division level events include memorials at Oxford and Beauvoir (same day). There are so many others that I will not try to list them all here.

On our Camp level, we will have a Living History at Fort Pemberton on the weekend of April 10-12. We need as much help and participation as possible. I am working on getting reenactors, but we need some volunteers to come out and represent the SCV (especially on Saturday). More details will be forthcoming as the details of the plan come together.

Also, our Memorial service in the Greenville cemetery will take place on Sunday, April 19. We need men for the Color Guard and ladies of the OCR to help with refreshments. We have had a strong showing the past few years, but we need an even stronger showing this year.

Why do I mention the need for a strong showing at these and all events? As you know, the Sesquicentennial of the War of Northern Aggression is ending, and then we move into the Reconstruction anniversary cycle. Our detractors will be out in strong force, believe me. Look no further than the current tag debate from Texas that has made it to the U.S. Supreme Court.

At every opportunity, we need to show a strong and unified front. In all truth, a pro-active approach is the best way. Be visible; get the public's good will; make them realize that we are not "the bad side". In other words, we prove our point first, intelligently, and well rather than be on the defensive.

So again, please come out and support activities. Look for new opportunities for new activities. And by all means, as the old cliché goes, "Kill 'em with kindness!"

Forward the colors,
Joe Nokes

Camp Meeting, March 5, 2015

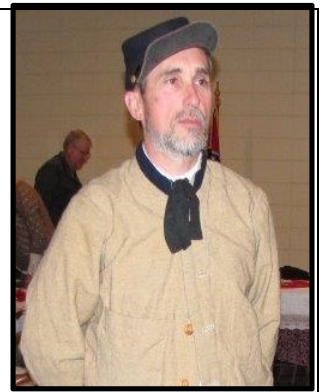
Adjutant's Report – Dan McCaskill

Commander Joe Nokes called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The Meeting was opened with an invocation and blessing by Camp Chaplain Earl McCown. Joe welcomed all members and guests attending the Meeting and then invited all to partake in the evening meal provided by the ladies of the Ella Palmer Chapter # 9, OCR. After the meal, Joe reconvened the Meeting. Color Sergeant Jimmy Alford led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag and salutes to the Flag of Mississippi and the Battle Flag of the Confederacy.

Program: 1st Lt. Commander Richard Dillon introduced our guest speaker, Army of Tennessee Commander Larry McCluney. Larry gave an overview of the Army of Tennessee which is the largest in the Confederation in membership. The office of AOT Commander is the third highest in the Confederation behind the C-I-C and 1st Lt. C-I-C. Besides overseeing the operation of the Army, the AOT Commander also sits on the GEC and well as serving on various committees. Larry has a Councilman and a complete staff helping with his duties. Joe Nokes serves as Larry's Chief – of – Staff. Larry also discussed several projects that being developed to help bring the SCV into the 21st Century such as a phone app and SCV TV. Larry brought some new recruiting items. He emphasized that while recruiting to give the prospective member something for nothing such as pens, rubber bracelet, or a bottle of water with the SCV logo. It was an informative program and gave everyone an idea of all the work that goes on in the Army of Tennessee.

Announcements: Some upcoming events are the 1st Brigade Picnic on April 4th in Batesville starting at 12 noon; the MS Division Confederate Memorial Service on April 25th on the Campus of Ole Miss at the Old Soldier's Cemetery and the traditional Confederate Memorial Service at Beauvoir on the same day. There will be a Confederate Memorial Service in Carrollton, MS on April 26th. The Camp's Memorial Service will be held on Sunday, April 19th at the Greenville Cemetery at 3:00 pm; the Camp will hold a Living History at Ft. Pemberton outside of Greenwood on Saturday, April 11th, details will be worked out at our next Meeting on April 2nd. Further down the line is the MS Division Reunion in Columbus, MS on June 5 – 7, 2015 with the National Reunion in Richmond, VA in July.

Officer Reports: 1st Lt. Commander Richard Dillon announced the up-coming speaker schedule: April Meeting, James Taylor; May Meeting, Earl McCown and June, Nathan McCaskill. 2nd Lt. Commander Brent Mitchell expressed our need to recruit. Adjutant Dan McCaskill reported that no new members had been recruited and the Camp Membership stands at 51. Dan had more to discuss in the business session. As Camp Editor, Larry asked how everyone liked the new format for the newsletter. Everyone gave positive responses. MOS & B Commander Earl McCown reported that the chapter had been re-instated as an active Chapter. Earl also announced his intention to run for MOS & B Division Commander. MS OCR Society: no report; OCR President Sandra Stillman extended an invitation to anyone wanting to go to the Meeting in Calhoun City on Thursday, March 9th.



Continued on page 2 . . .

Camp Business: The first item of Camp Business was the presentation of the financial report and the proposed Camp Budget for 2015 by Adjutant Dan McCaskill. After a short discussion, Larry made a motion to accept the financial report and 2015 Budget as presented. The motion was seconded by Kenneth Ray and passed. Second item of business was a proposal put forth by Dan to have the Camp sponsor Nathan McCaskill at the 2015 Boys State the last week of May at a cost of \$275. A motion was made by Kenneth Ray to have the Camp sponsor Nathan McCaskill at the 2015 Boys State to be held at Mississippi State University the last week in May. The motion was 2nd by Brent Mitchell and passed. It was also requested by the members that Nathan give a report on Boys State at the June Meeting. The third item of business was to select the date for our Confederate Memorial Service. April 12th and 19th were proposed and after a brief discussion Earl made a motion to hold the service on April 19th at the Greenville Cemetery starting at 3:00 pm. The motion was seconded by Robert Strawbridge and passed. The last item of business was a discussion on when to hold a Living History. Larry made a motion to hold a Living History at Ft. Pemberton the weekend of April 11th. Brent seconded the motion and it passed. With no other business coming before the Camp, Commander Nokes adjourned the business session and turned the Meeting over to the OCR for the raffle and Capture the Yankee. Kenneth Ray won the Forrest comic books and Dan McCaskill won the Beauvoir salsa. The evening was capped off by Richard Dillon capturing that elusive Yankee. Richard received half of the accumulated pot in the amount of \$ 138 which he donated to the Camp's Confederate Headstone Fund.

The Meeting was adjourned with a word of prayer from Compatriot Claude "Junior" Stillman. Attendance for the evening was 21.

Lt. Commander's Report – Richard Dillon

Our speaker for April will once again be Brother James Taylor. Brother Taylor honors us with a message of history and inspiration on a yearly basis. He always leaves us feeling just a little bit better about ourselves and life in general.

May's speaker will be Earl McCown. Earl was the speaker at the very first Camp Meeting I attended, and I left the meeting very impressed that he knew so much about his ancestors' lives during the war. I've been looking forward to his next program ever since.

June -- We need to determine a firm date as we discussed last month in order to find a speaker.

July -- Movie Night: Featured presentation Shiloh.

August -- Port Gibson Pilgrimage. We need to determine a firm date in order to reserve the pavilion at Grand Gulf Park.

Mechanized Cavalry Report: Richard Dillon, Cpl

I'm proud to report that the Mechanized Cavalry Captains voted to donate \$2300 to the SCV Museum to be built at Elm Springs and \$5000 to the Save Our Parks Defense Fund.

The Top Platoon held a meeting in Oxford on March 21st. Your Squad Leader, Sgt. Roberts will be informing you of upcoming rides

Don't forget -- WEAR YOUR VEST

Ella Palmer, OCR Report: Sandra Stillman, President

Our next meeting will not be until April 2nd. We will be planning and finalizing for our Camp Confederate Memorial Service. I need everyone onboard as we make plans for this event. I also want to hear ideas how we can support the men in recruiting as well as for ourselves. I hope to see you all at our Chapter meeting and look forward to renewing our fellowship.



78th Annual General Convention - Thursday, July 9 through Saturday July 11, 2015

Plan on arriving Wednesday or Thursday and leaving Sunday, July 12. The convention will be held at the Monaco Hotel in the heart of Old Town Alexandria, George Washington's hometown and Robert E. Lee's boyhood home. The Monaco offers free [shuttle service](#) to and from Ronald Reagan National Airport about four miles away. The hotel stands on the site of the Marshall House famous for one of the first hostile encounters of the War for Southern Independence.

We have obtained a special rate for the convention. To obtain that rate, execute the following steps:

- Go to their [website](#)
- Click on Reservations
- Select your dates
- Key in **11580104146** in the Meeting/Group Code block
- Click on the button Check Availability
- You will be taken to our exclusive reservation page

The Washington area is loaded with history and places to visit. Consider coming early or staying late to take advantage of the many attractions here. If you make your reservations early, the special rate will extend pre- and post-convention as well, if rooms are available. And be sure to check out the [unique](#) Doggie Yappy Hour held every Thursday night in the courtyard of the Monaco.

Mississippi Division News

1st Brigade Picnic, MS Division Scheduled

First Brigade meeting April 4th at the library in Batesville, Ms 206 HWY 51 North 12pm. BBQ, bake beans, cole slaw and several deserts. Also a reminder camp reports need to be sent in no later than April 15th. I will pass on more info when speaker is confirmed.

Board Meetings will be Live Streamed on the Internet for Viewing

On April 25th, the Combined Boards of Beauvoir will live stream the board meeting by internet. This is an effort to bring the organization into the 21st Century and to create more transparency to the membership about the inner workings of Beauvoir. Members will be able to log-in and view the meeting except when the Board goes into executive session to discuss personnel issues and such. More information is forth coming in the next Jeff Davis Legion Newsletter.

Division Memorial Service Will Be Held in Oxford, MS on April 25th at 2:00 PM to Support the Court Case and Honor the University Greys

On behalf of the University Greys Camp # 1803 Sons of Confederate Veterans, and Bedford Forrest 448 United Daughters of the Confederacy. Mark your calendars now for **April 25, 2015** and plan to attend.

The public is cordially invited to join us as we remember and honor the service and sacrifice of our ancestors. Gather together with us in the Confederate cemetery on the campus of Ole Miss.

Our special guest speaker will be past Commander-In-Chief, Sons of Confederate Veterans, Mr. Chuck McMichael.

There will be food, live music, ladies in period costume, reenactors, and fellowship among like-minded Sons and Daughters of Confederate heroes.

There will be seating, but grab an extra lawn chair and come prepared to enjoy a relaxing afternoon with your family.

Confederate Memorial Day at Beauvoir

This Annual Service will be held Saturday **April 25, 2015** on the very historic property of beautiful Beauvoir: The Jefferson Davis Home & Presidential Library.

There will be a potluck lunch on the grounds around noon. The program will begin at 2pm with Larry McCluney, AoT Commander as the Speaker.

We will have more work completed on the Bricks for Beauvoir Project to view. Anyone who would like to come dressed out in Confederate Uniform would be welcome to be a part of the Honor Guard. SCV & UDC Camps who wish to lay a wreath are welcome to do so.

Anyone who would like to participate & take part can get with Beauvoir personnel & staff to make plans & accommodations.

We have a hotel partner, Regency Hotel, in the Promenade that can give you a good deal on a very nice affordable hotel room.

We hope you will make plans to be a part of this annual, very special event.



Bricks for Beauvoir Update

The ancestor bricks so many have purchased are now being laid for the walkway from the UDC Arch to the Tomb of the Unknown Confederate Soldier. The picture to the right shows the walk with Leroy Waller and Dan who have been working diligently to see it completed.

New Book Out Published by the SCV

Our new book, *To Live and Die in Dixie, The Struggle Continues ...* is available for order! Available in paperback and hardback at special prices for SCV members. Call General Headquarters at 800-380-1896 to order your copy



Available for Order!

TO LIVE AND DIE IN DIXIE
The Struggle Continues ...

The continuation of
I'll Take My Stand!
All of our Sesquicentennial
Series in one volume.

552 pages with all 27 essays
just as they appeared in the
Confederate Veteran
magazine!

**Special Prices
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Members**

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*120th Mississippi Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans
and the 21st Mississippi Society, Order of Confederate Rose Reunions*



June 05-07, 2015 in Columbus, Mississippi
www.genbarksdale.org

2015 REUNION REGISTRATION FORM

SCV MEMBER NAME: _____ CAMP: _____

OCR MEMBER NAME: _____ OCR CHAPTER: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: (____) _____ - _____ EMAIL: _____ TITLE: _____

GUEST'S NAME FOR BADGE: _____

SCV EARLY REGISTRATION (PRIOR TO DECEMBER 31ST, 2014)*****QTY. _____ (X'S) \$30.00 _____

SCV REGULAR REGISTRATION (JAN. 1ST, 2015 TO MAY 22ND 2015)*****QTY. _____ (X'S) \$35.00 _____

SCV LATE REGISTRATION (POST-MARKED ON OR AFTER MAY 23RD 2015)*****QTY. _____ (X'S) \$45.00 _____

OCR REGISTRATION ON OR BEFORE MAY 22ND, 2015, \$10.00 EACH. AFTER MAY 23RD, 2015 \$15.00***** _____

ADULT SATURDAY NIGHT AWARDS BANQUET*****QTY. _____ (X'S) \$30.00 PER ADULT _____

CHILD'S PLATE (12 AND UNDER) SATURDAY NIGHT AWARDS BANQUET****QTY. _____ (X'S) \$15.00 PER CHILD _____

ANCESTOR MEMORIAL (COMPLETE ATTACHED FORM)*****QTY. _____ (X'S) \$10.00 EACH ANCESTOR _____

VENDOR TABLE (AS SPACE IS AVAILABLE, COMPLETE ATTACHED FORM)**QTY. _____ (X'S) \$20.00 EACH TABLE _____

REUNION PROGRAM ADVERTISEMENT (SEE BELOW RATES / COMPLETE ATTACHED FORM)***** _____

STARKVILLE CIVIL WAR ARSENAL MUSEUM SATURDAY AFTERNOON TOUR
(DONATIONS ACCEPTED AT LOCATION)*****QTY. _____ **FREE TO REUNION ATTENDEES!**

STEPHEN D. LEE HOME AND MUSEUM AFTERNOON TOUR
(DONATIONS ACCEPTED AT LOCATION)*****QTY. _____ **FREE TO REUNION ATTENDEES!**

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

All Registered SCV / OCR members will receive a Name Badge, Reunion Medal, Reunion Program, and a "Reunion goodie bag".

Late Door Registration will receive the same only as long as supplies last.

OCR Registrants will have a Ladies Tea in lieu of a Reunion Medal.

All registrations submitted for the amounts specified above must be post-marked appropriately within the specified time-frame.

No refunds to be distributed for cancellations on or after June 01, 2015.

For your convenience, ALL events except for the optional tours, will be held on-site at the host hotel

**Barksdale's
Headquarters Hotel:**

Recommend rooms be reserved ASAP as it is summer and they will become booked. ASK for the SCV Rate.

Courtyard Marriott
1995 6th Street North
Columbus,
Mississippi, 39701
662-245-1540

Reunion Contact Information:

Host Camp Commander:

Jim Strickland, Jr.
jmsj@cableone.net
Phone: 662-570-1581

Host Camp Adjutant:

Shawn Kyzer
camp1220adjutant@yahoo.com
Phone: 662-722-1738

Make Checks Payable to:

SCV Camp 1220

**Mail Registration Form
and Payment To:**

2015 MS Division Reunion
P.O. Box 404
Aberdeen, MS 39730

**Reunion Program
Advertisements:**

\$100.00 for Full Page
\$50.00 for Half Page
\$25.00 for Quarter Page

Please submit advertisement information and order form prior to May 1st 2015.



On behalf of the Membership and Staff of the
General William Barksdale Camp 1220 located in
Columbus, Mississippi; you are cordially invited to attend the:



*120th Mississippi Division,
Sons of Confederate Veterans
and the 21st Mississippi Society, Order of Confederate Rose Reunions*

Held June 05-07, 2015 in historic Columbus, Mississippi!





SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

120th National Reunion

July 15-19, 2015

Richmond, Virginia

Hosted by the Major General J.E.B. Stuart Camp #1343

Name _____ Title/Position _____

SCV Camp Name & Number _____

Personal Address _____ City & State _____ Zip Code _____

Home Phone _____ Daytime Phone _____

Email _____ Spouse's Name _____

Guest Name _____ Guest Name _____

Registration is required of all members attending Reunion. Guests do not pay registration but must pay for meals and events.

Registration and Meals

Early Registration (Before April 1, 2015).....Qty _____ x \$ 40.00 = \$ _____

Late Registration (After March 31, 2015).....Qty _____ x \$ 60.00 = \$ _____

Extra Reunion Medal.....Qty _____ x \$ 35.00 = \$ _____

Numbered Special Edition Reunion Medal..(Limited to 150 Medals)..... Qty _____ x \$150.00 = \$ _____

Reception at Museum of the Confederacy (Wednesday).....Qty.....x \$ 25.00 = \$ _____

Chaplain's Breakfast (Thursday).....Qty _____ x \$ 25.00 = \$ _____ **

Heritage Luncheon (Thursday).....Qty _____ x \$ 30.00 = \$ _____ **

Forrest Cavalry Breakfast (Friday).....Qty _____ x \$ 30.00 = \$ _____ **

Awards Luncheon (Friday).....Qty _____ x \$ 35.00 = \$ _____ **

J. E. B. Stuart Breakfast (Saturday).....Qty _____ x \$ 25.00 = \$ _____ **

Debutante Luncheon (Saturday - free for Debutante, female-only guests \$28.00).....Qty _____ x \$ 28.00 = \$ _____ **

Grand Ball and Banquet (Saturday).....(\$65.00 Single / \$120.00 Couple) = \$ _____ **

Tours and Performances

Appomattox Tour (Tuesday, includes box lunch - 4 hr. round trip)Qty _____ x \$ 90.00 = \$ _____

Cemetery Tour Part 1 (Thursday - Hollywood, Huguenot Springs).....Qty _____ x \$ 40.00 = \$ _____

Battlefield Tour 1 Led by Robert E. L. Krick (Thursday - Gaines' Mill).....Qty _____ x \$ 40.00 = \$ _____

Ladies Tour Part 1 (Thursday - Richmond as Confederate Capital)Qty _____ x \$ 40.00 = \$ _____

Theatrical Production – "Reflected Glory: Letters to Anna" (Thurs.).....Qty _____ x \$ 10.00 = \$ _____

Cemetery Tour Part 2 (Friday - Shockoe, Jewish Confederate, Oakwood).....Qty _____ x \$ 40.00 = \$ _____

Battlefield Tour 2 Led by Robert E. L. Krick (Fri. - Frayser's Farm / Malvern Hill).....Qty_____x \$ 40.00 = \$ _____

Ladies Tour Part 2 (Friday - Richmond as Confederate Capital)Qty_____x \$ 40.00 = \$ _____

Theatrical Production – “Reflected Glory: Letters to Anna” (Fri.).....Qty_____x \$ 10.00 = \$ _____

Ride Around McClellan Tour (Saturday).....Qty.....x \$ 55.00 = \$ _____

North Anna Battlefield Tour (Sunday).....Qty_____x \$ 40.00 = \$ _____

Appomattox Tour (Sunday, includes box lunch - 4 hr. round trip)Qty_____x \$ 90.00 = \$ _____

Ancestor Memorial.....Qty_____x \$ 10.00 = \$ _____

Total Amount Enclosed.....\$ _____

Medals are available while supplies last. Each registrant receives one Reunion Medal. The purchase cost of extra Reunion Medals will be refunded if supplies run out. Special Edition Medals are numbered 1-150 and numbers will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. If you would like a specific number(s), please make a note on your registration form. Meals and tours may not be available for at the door registrations.

****Note:** To guarantee meal tickets, registration must be received by July 1, 2015.

Make Checks Payable to: SCV Reunion 2015

Mail Registration To: SCV Reunion 2015...PO Box 29814...Henrico, VA 23242-0814

Contact the Double Tree by Hilton Richmond-Midlothian at 804-379-3800 (rates are \$109.00 per night)

Ask for the "SCV Reunion Special Rate". All prices are subject to state and local taxes.

For more information contact Edwin Ray, Committee Chairman - 804-517-6587 or jray250443@aol.com or JEBStuartCamp@Gmail.com.

Reunion Website: <http://www.jebstuartcamp.org/2015reunion> Camp Website: <http://www.jebstuartcamp.org/>



The Major General J.E.B. Stuart Camp #1343 is honored to host the 120th National Reunion in 2015 in Richmond, Virginia. We encourage you to sign up for a tour of the Old Dominion State while you are visiting with us. If we can do anything to make your trip more memorable, please contact us at JEBStuartCamp@Gmail.com and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

Sesquicentennial Article on the War for Southern Independence: The Appomattox Campaign – March 29-April 9, 1865

What was to become the final campaign for Richmond began when the Federal Army of the Potomac crossed the James River in June 1864. Under Lieutenant General U.S. Grant's command, Federal troops applied constant pressure to the Confederate lines around Richmond and Petersburg, and by autumn, three of the four railroads into Petersburg had been cut. The South Side Railroad remained the only means of rail transportation into Confederate lines, and once severed, the Army of Northern Virginia would have no other choice but to evacuate the capitol.

However, Lee's concern stretched beyond the Confederate capitol to Federal actions elsewhere in the south. By February of 1865, two federal armies, one under Major General William T. Sherman and the other under Major General John M. Schofield, were moving through the Carolinas. If not stopped, these armies could sever Virginia from the rest of the south, and if they joined Grant at Petersburg, Lee's men would face four armies instead of two.

Realizing the danger, Lee wrote the Confederate Secretary of War on February 8, 1865: **"You must not be surprised if calamity befalls us."** By the time he wrote this letter, Lee knew he would have to abandon the Petersburg lines, the only question was when. Muddy roads and the poor condition of the horses forced the Confederates to remain in the trenches throughout March.

Once again, Ulysses S. Grant seized the initiative. On March 29, Major General Philip H. Sheridan's cavalry and the V Corps began moving southwest toward the Confederate right flank and the South Side Railroad. On the 1st of April, 21,000 Federal troops smashed the 11,000 man Confederate force under Major General George Pickett at an important road junction known locally as Five Forks. Grant followed up this victory with an all out offensive against Confederate lines on April 2nd.

With his supply lines cut, Lee had no choice but to order Richmond and Petersburg evacuated on the night of April 2-3. Moving by previously determined routes, Confederate columns left the trenches that they had occupied for ten months. Their immediate objective was Amelia Court House where forces from Richmond and Petersburg would concentrate and receive rations sent from Richmond. Once his army was reassembled, Lee planned to march down the line of the Richmond and Danville Railroad with the hope of meeting General Joseph E. Johnston's Army of Tennessee coming from North Carolina. Together, the two Confederate armies could establish a defensive line near the Roanoke River, and assume the offensive against Sherman.

The march from Richmond and Petersburg started well enough. Many of the Confederates, including Lee, seemed exhilarated at being in the field once again, but after the first day's march signs of weariness and hunger began to appear. When Lee reached Amelia Court House on April 4, he found, to his dismay, that the rations for his men had not arrived. Although a rapid march was crucial, the hungry men of the Army of Northern Virginia needed supplies. While awaiting the arrival of troops from Richmond, delayed by flood conditions, Lee decided to halt the march and send wagons into the countryside to gather provisions. Local farmers had little to give and the wagons returned practically empty. The major result of this delay at Amelia was a lost day of marching which allowed the pursuing Federals time to catch up. Amelia proved to be the turning point of the campaign.

Leaving Amelia Court House on April 5, the columns of Lee's army had traveled only a few miles before they found Union cavalry and infantry squarely across their line of march through Jetersville and on toward Danville and Johnston's Army.

Rather than attack the entrenched federal position, Lee changed his plan. He would march his army west, around the Federals, and attempt to supply his troops at Farmville along the route of the South Side Railroad. The retreat of the Army of Northern Virginia was under constant Federal pressure and Lee hoped that he could put the rain swollen Appomattox River between his army and the Federals. Grant realizing the crucial nature of the "High Bridge" near Farmville had dispatched a bridge burning crew with hopes of beating Lee's army to the crossing. On April 6th, Confederate Cavalry under Generals Fitzhugh Lee and Thomas Rosser intercepted the Federal raiding party and in a fierce fight destroyed or captured nearly the whole party. The short but severe fight for High Bridge resulted in the last two combat deaths of general officers during the war.

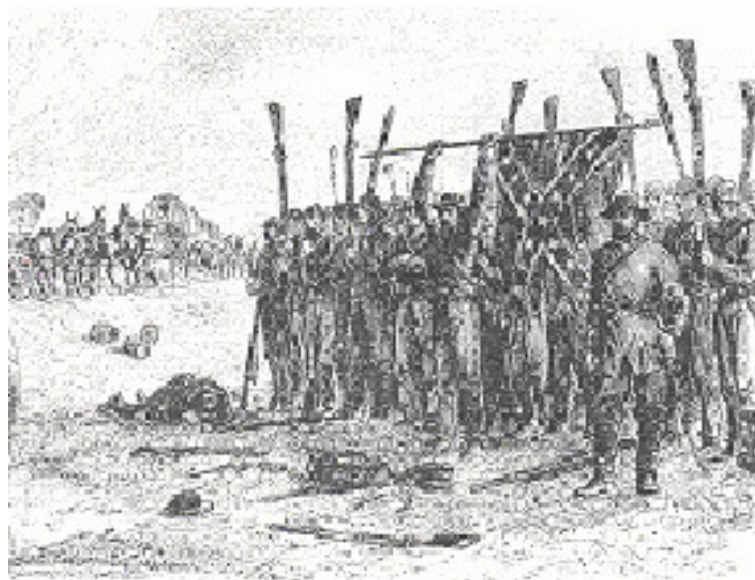
Union cavalry attacked the Confederate wagon train at Paineville destroying a large number of wagons. Tired from lack of sleep (Lee had ordered night marches to regain the day he lost) and hungry, the men began falling out of the column, or broke ranks searching for food. Mules and horses, also starving, collapsed under their loads.

As the retreating columns became more ragged, gaps developed in the line of march. At Sailor's Creek (a few miles east of Farmville), Union cavalry exploited such a gap to block two Confederate corps, under Lt. Generals Richard Anderson and Richard Ewell, until the much larger Union VI Corps arrived to crush them.

Watching the debacle from a nearby hill, Lee exclaimed, **"My God! Has the army been dissolved?"** Nearly 8,000 men and 8 generals were lost in one stroke, either killed, captured, or wounded. The remnants of the Army of Northern Virginia arrived in Farmville on April 7 where rations awaited them, but the Union forces followed so quickly that the Confederate cavalry had to make a stand in the streets of the town to allow their fellow troops to escape and most Confederates never received the much needed rations.

Blocked once again by Grant's army, Lee once more swung west hoping that he could be supplied farther down the rail line and then turn south. Just north of Farmville, Lee turned west onto the Richmond-Lynchburg Stage Road. The Union II and VI Corps followed. Unbeknownst to Lee, however, the Federal cavalry and the V, XXIV, and XXV Corps were moving along shorter roads south of the Appomattox River to cut him off. While in Farmville on April 7, Grant sent a letter to Lee asking for the surrender of his army. Lee, in the vicinity of Cumberland Church, received the letter and read it. He then handed it to one of his most trusted corps commanders Lt. General James Longstreet. Longstreet tersely replied, **"Not yet."** As Lee continued his march westward he knew the

Continued on page 9 . . .



The Capture of General Richard Ewell's Corps at Sailors Creek on April 6th, 1865. Taken from a drawing made at the time by Alfred Waud.

Library of Congress Image

Appomattox Campaign continued. . .

desperate situation his army faced. If he could reach Appomattox Station before the Federal troops he could receive rations sent from Lynchburg and then make his way to Danville via Campbell Court House (Rustburg) and Pittsylvania County. If not, he would have no choice but to surrender.

On the afternoon of April 8, the Confederate columns halted a mile northeast of Appomattox Court House. That night, artillery fire could be heard from Appomattox Station, and the red glow to the west from Union campfires foretold that the end was near. Federal cavalry and the Army of the James, marching on shorter roads, had blocked the way south and west. Lee consulted with his generals and determined that one more attempt should be made to reach the railroad and escape.

At dawn on April 9, General John B. Gordon's Corps attacked the Union cavalry blocking the stage road, but after an initial success, Gordon sent word to Lee around 8:30 a.m. *"... my command has been fought to a frazzle, and unless Longstreet can unite in the movement, or prevent these forces from coming upon my rear, I cannot go forward."* Receiving the message, Lee replied, *"There is nothing left for me to do but to go and see General Grant, and I would rather die a thousand deaths."*

At Appomattox, Virginia, Confederate General Robert E. Lee surrenders his 28,000 troops to Union General Ulysses S. Grant, effectively ending the American Civil War. Forced to abandon the Confederate capital of Richmond, blocked from joining the surviving Confederate force in North Carolina, and harassed constantly by Union cavalry, Lee had no other option.

In retreating from the Union army's Appomattox Campaign, the Army of Northern Virginia had stumbled through the Virginia countryside stripped of food and supplies. At one point, Union cavalry forces under General Philip Sheridan had actually outrun Lee's army, blocking their retreat and taking 6,000 prisoners at Saylor's Creek. Desertions were mounting daily, and by April 8 the Confederates were surrounded with no possibility of escape. On April 9, Lee sent a message to Grant announcing his willingness to surrender. The two generals met in the parlor of the Wilmer McLean home at one o'clock in the afternoon.

Lee and Grant, both holding the highest rank in their respective armies, had known each other slightly during the Mexican War and exchanged awkward personal inquiries. Characteristically, Grant arrived in his muddy field uniform while Lee had turned out in full dress attire, complete with sash and sword. Lee asked for the terms, and Grant hurriedly wrote them out. All officers and men were to be pardoned, and they would be sent home with their private property—most important, the horses, which could be used for a late spring planting. Officers would keep their side arms, and Lee's starving men would be given Union rations.

Shushing a band that had begun to play in celebration, General Grant told his officers, "The war is over. The Rebels are our countrymen again." Although scattered resistance continued for several weeks, for all practical purposes the Civil War had come to an end.

Surrender of the Army of Tennessee

After nearly a week of negotiations, Joseph Johnston surrendered his army to William T. Sherman on April 26, 1865, at Bennett Place. Several days later, Confederates of the Army of the Tennessee, detachments from the Army of Northern Virginia on duty in North Carolina, and other units such as artisans and naval personnel posted in the state were offered their paroles by Union authorities.

At 8:00 on the morning of May 1, Brig. Gen. William Hartsuff, inspector-general of the Union Army of Georgia, opened his paroling office in Greensboro's Britton House Hotel. The first Confederate to receive a parole was Rear Adm. and Brig. Gen. Raphael Semmes, who had recently been given an army rank as his sailors were transferred to the [infantry](#) in April. By the afternoon, so many Confederates had received paroles that Hartsuff was running out of forms. He commissioned a local printer and Confederate veteran, James Albright, to print 15,000 more forms. Albright and his brother completed the work, receiving \$125 for their services.

By the end of May 2, paroles had been issued to over 32,000 men. Johnston's surrender affected the nearly 90,000 Confederates posted east of the Mississippi with the exception of those who surrendered with the Army of Northern Virginia. According to Johnston's final morning report, 16,000 men were present for duty with the [remnants](#) of the Army of Tennessee. In the days prior to the surrender, several thousand men had simply left for home once they determined the war had ended.

Having received their paroles, the Confederate troops performed their final [mustering](#) out ceremonies. The majority of the army did so at Greensboro, where they stacked their arms and equipment at the Guilford County Court House. Other detachments, mainly the North Carolina Junior Reserves and elements of the Army of Northern Virginia on detached service, mustered out at or near Bush Hill.

Joseph Johnston's final speech to his troops asked them to "discharge the obligations of good and peaceful citizens at your homes as well as you have performed the duties of thorough soldiers in the field." Portions of the Confederate Treasury were evidently handed out among the troops. According to Maj. G. W. F. Harper of the 58th North Carolina, "At Greensboro, the [regiment](#) was paid in Mexican silver dollars—one dollar and fourteen cents to each officer and enlisted man present."

Having turned in their arms, received their paroles and final pay, the former Confederates returned home. For many of the members of the Army of Tennessee, getting home meant long, [arduous](#) journeys to Texas, Louisiana, and Arkansas. Texan Samuel Foster wrote, "After turning in our guns and getting our paroles, we fell relieved. No more picket duty, no more guard duty, no more fighting, no more war. It is all over, and we are going home. Home after an absence of four years from our families and our friends."



The Battle of Selma, AL

The Battle of Selma, which took place on April 2, 1865, was fought during the American Civil War (1861-1865). Selma, Dallas County, had become a major industrial and manufacturing center during the war and provided critical support to Confederate States of America infantry and naval forces. Situated on the banks of the Alabama River in a region far removed from the war's major theaters, the Selma Ordnance and Naval Foundry produced war materiel until the final weeks of the Selma Naval Foundry conflict. In March 1865, Union forces launched a large-scale cavalry incursion known as Wilson's Raid to destroy the Confederacy's remaining industrial centers in Alabama. The Battle of Selma decimated the city and was one of many Confederate setbacks in the spring of 1865 that ultimately resulted in the Confederacy's surrender.

The Selma Ordnance and Naval Foundry was a massive production facility that consisted of more than 100 buildings and employed as many as 10,000 workers at its peak. The facility manufactured cannons and other military items, including four iron-clad warships. It was second in size in the Confederacy only to the Tredegar Iron Works in Richmond, Virginia. Supply problems had hampered production throughout the war, and by 1865 Selma was one of the last remaining industrial centers left in Confederate control.

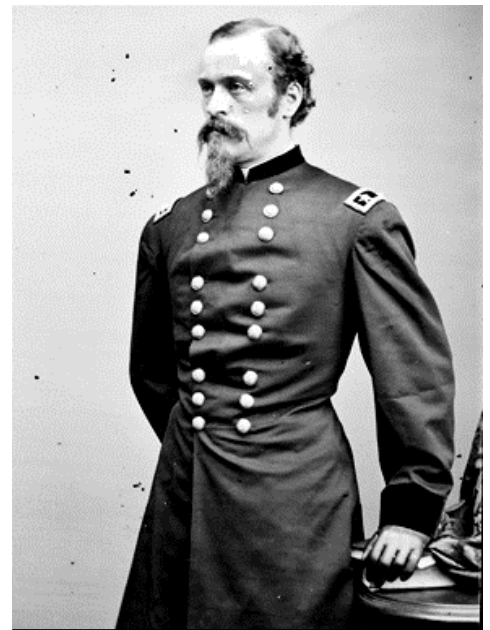
On March 22, 1865, Brig. Gen. James H. Wilson led approximately 13,480 Union cavalry in the Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi, on raid into northern Alabama to destroy the state's ability to support the Confederate war effort, aiming chiefly for Selma. The raiding party James H. Wilson included the Fourth U.S. Cavalry Regiment and Chicago Board of Trade

Battery, among others. Wilson's Raid was one of the most successful operations conducted during the war, as the remaining Confederate forces in the state, consisting of about 5,000 soldiers under the command of Lt. Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest, were too scattered across central Alabama and too ill-equipped to slow Wilson's advance. Forrest's forces primarily consisted of Brig. Gen. Phillip Dale Roddey's Alabama Brigade, Col. Robert McCullough's Missouri Regiment, Brig. Gen. Frank Armstrong's Mississippi Brigade, Col. Edward Crossland's Kentucky Brigade, and Brig. Gen. Daniel W. Adams' state reserves.

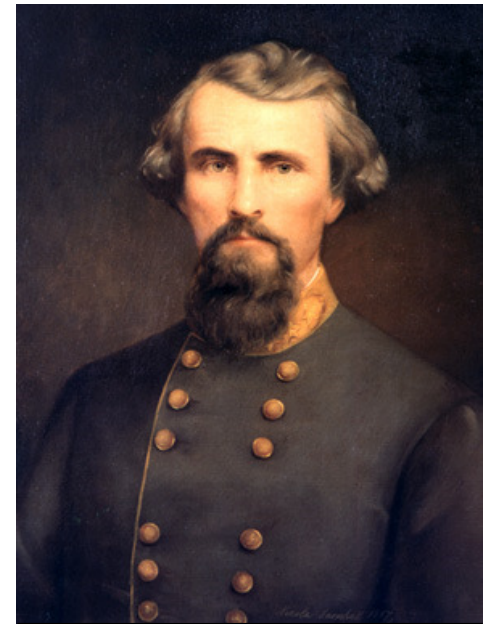
After a week spent destroying other industrial sites throughout central Alabama, Wilson's forces arrived on the outskirts of Selma on April 1. When Forrest's attempt to halt Wilson's cavalymen at Ebenezer Church failed and he was wounded, the remaining Confederates were forced to retreat to Selma's well-prepared defenses. These defenses consisted of one three-mile line of entrenchments and defensive and artillery positions encircling the city and anchored on the Alabama River on each side of the city. These initial defenses had been prepared months in advance, but an inner line of defenses remained unfinished. Union forces, however, had captured a Confederate courier with dispatches detailing the deployment of Forrest's widely scattered forces and had welcomed into camp a civil engineer from England who had helped design the defenses and had recently defected to the Union, thus providing Wilson with sketches of Selma's earthworks.

On the morning of April 2, Forrest could muster no more than 4,000 soldiers (accounts vary), many of whom were old men and boys who lacked military experience, to garrison Selma's defenses. Soldiers stationed along the front positions were separated from their nearest comrade in arms by a distance of several yards, as Selma's defenses had been designed to be manned by 20,000 soldiers. Forrest knew that the city could not be defended and advised Lt. Gen. Richard Taylor, the ranking Confederate officer in the region, to evacuate the city; Taylor would Nathan Bedford Forrest leave on the last train out of Selma. While Taylor began the evacuation, Wilson divided his command into three columns and arrived outside of Selma's defenses that afternoon. Later, one Union column came under attack in their rear supply train by Forrest's troops and, aiming to avoid a disruption of the larger attack plan, launched a frontal assault upon the Confederate works, hastening the launch of the general attack. Union soldiers armed with seven-shot Spencer repeating carbines overpowered the Confederate resistance, which was armed mostly with muskets and had little ammunition. The poorly supplied and trained defenders then fought hand to hand against the Union lines as they breached the city's outer defenses in less than 30 minutes of fighting. Groups of retreating defenders, led by Forrest, occupied the city's inner defense lines and briefly slowed the Union advance, only to be swept aside by a series of Union cavalry charges. Wilson led one of the charges and was briefly dismounted when his own horse was wounded in the melee. After setting fire to more than 25,000 bales of cotton and protected only by darkness, hundreds of Confederates, including Forrest, fled the city, while others swam across the Alabama River to escape capture. The overwhelming majority of the Confederate's 2,700 wounded were captured by Union cavalymen, as were perhaps 30 or so field guns among the defenses. The precise number of Confederate dead is unknown because of poor recordkeeping in the Confederate army during the final weeks of the war; the Union suffered 359 casualties.

After the battle, Wilson's troops completely destroyed all of the city's manufacturing facilities and equipment, including the arsenal, the ordnance center, the gunpowder works, the nitre works, and 11 ironworks and foundries. In the arsenal alone, 15 siege guns, 10 heavy carriages, 10 field pieces, 10 caissons, 63,000 rounds of artillery ammunition, three million feet of lumber, and 10,000 bushels of coal were destroyed. Although Wilson had issued orders against looting of personal property, instances, some perhaps exaggerated, did occur, but he soon restored order under his command. Much of the city was burned as well. Little remains today of Selma's Confederate defenses and wartime industries other than a few exhibits at the Old Depot Museum and some earthworks near the Alabama River.



General J.H. Wilson



General Nathan Bedford Forrest

The Delta General
Larry McCluney, Editor
1412 North Park Dr
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Celebrate the Sesquicentennial with a visit to the home of our founder!



The Stephen D. Lee Home & Museum
316 7th Street North, Columbus, Mississippi

There probably is not one member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans who has not heard of Lieutenant General Stephen Dill Lee. However, there are probably very few that realize that he, like four other Confederate Generals, adopted Columbus, Mississippi as his home nor that his final resting place is Friendship Cemetery in Columbus.

Many personal items of S.D. Lee are in the museum as well as furnishings and decorative items given by his family. One room houses a wonderful collection of original Civil War artifacts including Robert E. Lee's spurs, a flag thought to be of the 43rd Mississippi Regt. and a drum from the 42nd Alabama Regiment. A larger-than-life portrait of N.B. Forrest is also in the museum.

It was the first property in Lowndes County to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is a Mississippi Landmark. The Lee Foundation maintains the house solely with revenue from event rentals and tours as well as from donations.

SCV members may tour at no charge.
Open Fridays 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. or by appointment, call 662-435-2368.