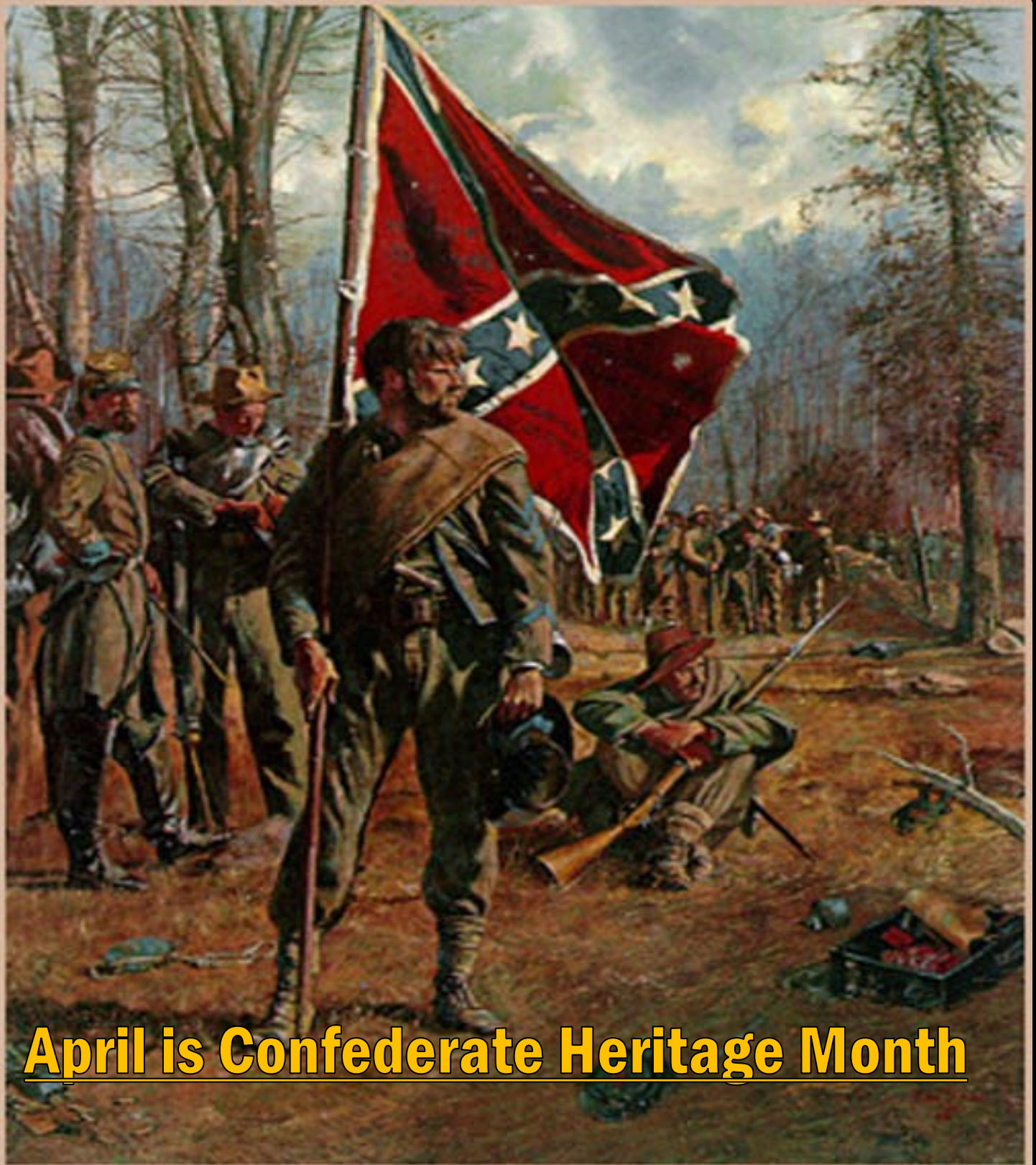


# *The Delta General*

Camp Website: [www.humphreys1625.com](http://www.humphreys1625.com)



**April is Confederate Heritage Month**

April - 2019, Volume 22, Issue 3

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



# The Delta General

Camp Website: [www.humphreys1625.com](http://www.humphreys1625.com)

## Commander's Report:

### Larry McCluney

My Fellow Compatriots,

I hope everyone is doing well and enjoying the beginnings of Spring. April is upon us and as we all know that is a busy time for all of us with Easter and Confederate Heritage month upon us. There will be a lot of activities this month around the state observing Confederate memorial days and I hope you will take advantage of these observances. As a result of so many observances, the Camp voted last month that our Camp memorial service will be Saturday, May 4 at 11:00 AM. Following the observance, there will be a Picnic on the grounds at the Greenville Cemetery and we will have our Camp meeting afterwards as well. Bring your yard chairs and plenty of food to share with everyone. This is an all out effort to not only remember our ancestors, but to enjoy each other's fellowship and increase our attendance at Camp meetings.

We miss all of our brothers and sisters of the Camp so please try to make an effort to renew old friendships with us .

Live the Charge,

Larry McCluney, Commander

## Adjutant's Report—Mach Meeting — Dan McCaskill

**6:00 pm:** The Meeting was called to order by Commander Larry McCluney at 6:00 pm. Camp Chaplain Earl McCown was called upon to open the Meeting with a word of prayer. This was followed by Color Sergeant Earl Allen leading everyone in the Pledge and salutes to our Flags followed by the reading of "The Charge" given to us by L/G Stephen D. Lee.

Larry welcomed everyone to the meeting. Visiting the Camp was Chris Merck from the Rankin Rough and Readies Camp in Brandon, Terry Arthur and his wife from the Calhoun Avengers Camp in Calhoun City and our old friend Bill Turney from Arkansas. While awaiting the evening meal, Larry received the Officer Reports. This was followed by the Blessing from Earl McCown and the evening meal.

**Program:** There was no program this evening with much Camp Business to attend.

**Officer Reports:** 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Commander: Zack Kiker, the speaker for our April 6<sup>th</sup> Camp Meeting will be John Echols; 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Commander: Jimmy Alford did not have a report; Adjutant: Dan McCaskill reported little has happened since the last Camp Meeting. The excess meat from the Lee-Jackson Banquet was sold and the Camp was \$ 50 short of breaking even. The account balance stands at \$ 1,250.46 which includes \$ 330 for Initiative 62; Ella Palmer OCR: The Ladies of the Chapter agreed to split the proceeds from their raffle with the Camp and presented Dan with a check for \$ 140. Thank You Ladies; Lt. C-I-C: Larry reported there will be a GEC Meeting on March 23<sup>rd</sup> at Elm Springs; there will be a marker dedication on March 30<sup>th</sup> at the Veterans Memorial Gardens in Rienzi, MS, March 30 - 31 there will be a Military Relic Show at Collierville, TN and the National SCV Confederate Memorial Service will be Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup> at Stone Mountain, GA. Also, Larry will be overseeing the making of 5 recruitment videos; Chris Merck gave a short presentation on the upcoming Division Reunion hosted by the Rankin Rough and Readies in Brandon, MS June 7 - 9 and invited everyone to come. With no other reports, Larry recessed the meeting for the evening meal.

**Camp Business:** The Annual Financial Report and Camp Budget Proposal were presented by Dan McCaskill. The financial position of the Camp improved by \$ 215.76 and the Proposed Budget totaled \$ 914.46. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Financial Report and Budget and after some discussion was approved. Second Item: Dan made a motion to move the 1 - 62 money to the Headstone Fund and use the money to purchase three upright marble Headstones at a price of \$ 1,251.90. The motion was seconded.



Brig. General Benjamin G.  
Humphreys Camp #1625, SCV

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## Camp Commander

Larry McCluney

[confederate@suddenlink.net](mailto:confederate@suddenlink.net)

## Editor

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During discussion, the Camp would be short \$ 371 for the purchase which would be raised with contributions from Camp members. Dan agreed to advance the money so the stones could be ordered because of the long waiting period of 12 – 16 weeks. The motion passed. As of this writing, \$ 250 has been raised. Third Item: in an effort to raise money for the Camp Larry proposed to add to the Camp Website the following links: Amazon Smile, Kroger and PayPal. Anyone using the Amazon Smile and Kroger would yield 5% of all purchase back to the Camp. PayPal would be used for donations. Motions were made and seconded for all three and the motions passed. Fourth Item: it was proposed by Larry that the Camp purchase the SCV War Medal for Annette's nephew, 1<sup>st</sup> Sgt Ashley who's Company we sent the Care Packages. A motion was made by Charles Stillman and seconded by Earl McCown and passed. Fifth Item: it was proposed that this year we would combine our Camp Meeting with our Confederate Memorial Service. The date selected by the Camp is Saturday May 4<sup>th</sup> at the Greenville Cemetery starting at 11:00 am. Our speaker will be Camp Chaplain Earl McCown. Lunch and meeting will immediately follow the service. With no other business coming before the Camp, Larry entertained a motion to adjourn. A motion was made, duly seconded and passed. Larry turned the meeting over to the Ladies for their raffle. Terry Arthur and Chris Merck won the books and Richard Dillon attempted to capture the Yankee who again eluded capture.

Traveling grace was given by Earl McCown and the Meeting was closed with the singing of Dixie. Attendance for the evening was 16.

## **From the Chaplain's pen... Earl McCown**

Confederate generals' hope in God took solid form as they practiced works of charity for their fellow human beings. They knew that, as Christians, they were called on to believe, to hope and to practice works of charity. Jesus had called His disciples to show charity to all. We see this call in many Scriptures in the Holy Bible, such as:

Galatians 6:2, (KJV), "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ."

Matthew 20:28, (KJV), "Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many."

Mark 12:31 (KJV), "....Thou shall love thy neighbor as thyself..."

The generals were in a position where they could and often did show charity to their soldiers, to civilians, and to their enemies. A key component of Christian charity was the spreading of the Good News, and many high-ranking officers spread the Gospel among their men. The motives for performing this duty were both heavenly and earthly. On one hand, every believing Christian had a responsibility to his or her Master to spread the truth as he or she received it. These new believers were supposed to spread the Good News and were called to be more loving and giving than before their conversion. However, these heavenly benefits were not the only ones Confederate generals could expect to produce through the spreading of the Gospel in their regiments.

They also expected Christian converts to be harder working, more loyal, less likely to desert, and more willing to endure trials joyfully and patiently as their Master did when He suffered. Of course, they realized that only in the most fervent converts would all of the above mentioned changes occur, but they expected a degree of change in all who came to accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.

## **REMEMBERING**

Remembering is the act of becoming aware of a past event, someone from the past or knowledge from the past. As members of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, we were given The Charge by General Stephen D. Lee. Part of that Charge is "the defense of the Confederate soldier's good name, the guardianship of his history...". The first step in defending his good name is to know who he is and one way we know him is by marking his final resting place. Remember the old saying "Out of sight, out of mind"? By marking his grave site, he will never be forgotten.

For the past three years, the Camp has been working toward obtaining four Confederate Markers for Veterans buried in the Old Greenville Cemetery. The Camp raised money for one stone but waited for impending changes to VA rules before purchasing the stone. Our initial attempt to acquire the stones failed and Robert Edwards from Arkansas was able to get one stone. Subsequent attempts for the other three stones were denied by the VA because the exact burial sites were not known (an unknown requirement) and that we qualified only for a "Memorial Stone" which are reserved only for U.S. Veterans and Confederate Veterans were not considered U.S. Veterans by the VA.

This put us back to square one of purchasing the headstones. At the March Camp Meeting, a motion was passed to divert unused funds from the Initiative 62 Fund (which failed) to the Headstone Fund and purchase three upright marble headstones even though we would be \$ 371 short of the purchase price. Dan McCaskill pledged to advance the shortfall so the stones could be ordered and the Camp would commit to raise the needed money. We did this because of the projected 12 – 14 week backlog. At the end of the meeting, a contribution of \$ 100 was made by one member. An email was sent to raise the additional \$ 271 on or about March 4<sup>th</sup>.

To date, four additional members have made contributions to this cause. That is five (5) out of forty-two (42) members. For those who can't come to the Meetings or don't participate in any Camp events, this is the easiest way that you can meet The Charge to the Sons of Confederate Veterans. How hard is it to write a check, put a stamp on an envelope and drop it into the mail? Why can't you do this little thing to honor three Confederate Veterans? If you feel compelled to make a donation, you can mail it to me at the below address and please make your check payable to "SCV". If you have mailed a donation, thank you.

Remember, this organization is about honoring our Confederate Ancestors and the Cause for which they fought. It is not about self-glorification!

God Bless The South,

Dan A. McCaskill  
205 Cypress Street  
Leland, MS 38756

## Mississippi Division News

### **FOR 1st BRIGADE COMMANDER—Danny Toma**

First Brigade Members, After prayerful consideration I am asking for your support as a candidate for First Brigade Commander. I am a member in good standing of the University Greys and many of you know me from that association. However, my membership in the SCV pre-dates the foundation of Camp #1803, as I was a charter member and first Commander of the Grey's predecessor organization, the Jeremiah Saunders Gage Camp, named for the famous Co. A, 11th Mississippi soldier who penned a letter to his mother after being mortally wounded at Gettysburg. Thus, I have been a member of the SCV since 1984, entering under the record of my g-g-g-grandfather, Henry Jacob Fisher of Co. I, 27th Mississippi Infantry. Private Fisher was killed in 1864, and his final resting place is known but to God. I remember stories my great-great aunt Alma Anthony told me as a boy of his passing. You see, she heard the stories from her father, who was a young boy in Scott County, Mississippi when Private Fisher met his reward. As such, in word, if not in actual relationship, I am but one generation removed from the memory of the boys who fought for our beloved Southland, and I have always tried to do my part to see that their memory is cherished. Between 1992 and 2014, I worked for the U.S. Department of State across Europe and the Middle East, including an extended assignment at our Provincial Reconstruction Team in Basrah, Iraq during the war there. The Gage Camp unfortunately closed up in the meantime, so I transferred my membership down to the Jefferson Davis Camp in Jackson during that time and resumed my membership in Oxford after I retired back to Lafayette County in 2014. Since then, I have been active with the Greys, and have visited a number of other camps in the Division, delivering programs at several of them, as well as not being afraid to speak out in defense of our heritage and our sacred monuments. I have a good relationship with other heritage and lineage organizations as well, being a member in good standing of the Military Order of the Stars and Bars, the Sons of the American Revolution, the Order of First Families of Mississippi, the Mississippi Society of the War of 1812, and the Descendants of Mexican War Veterans. As the position of First Brigade Commander is now open and Stan Rhoda seeking the office of Division 1st Lt. Commander, it is time for me to seek to serve at the Division level. Stan has been a great example, as was his processor, Donald Wright. I understand the duties and will take them seriously. I promise to faithfully follow the by-laws and work tirelessly for Division cooperation among the camps and members should you see fit to select me as Brigade Commander. If not, I will continue to actively support the activities of the SCV as the camp level and anywhere else I may be of service.

### **FOR 1st BRIGADE COUNCILMAN—James Johnson**

Compatriots,

I am announcing my intention to run and serve as 1st Brigade Councilman. I have been a member of the Mississippi Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans, 4 years as a member of the C. B. Vance Camp in Batesville, as a regular member, and then as a charter and founding member, and 1st Lieutenant Commander of the Tallahatchie Rifles. I sincerely appreciate the time and attention we received from our sister camps including Indianola, Oxford, Batesville, and DeSoto County in the first days of our formation. In particular, the 1st Brigade Councilman, at the time, Stan Rhoda and First Brigade Commander, Donald Wright, who selflessly took from their own time to coach and encourage us. There are many opportunities for new camp growth in North Central and North East Mississippi. I hope to be a part of that and "pay it forward", so to speak. I humbly ask for your support for this endeavor. I sense that the Division is on the cusp of many new faces and members, and leaders, and am excited to be a part of it. It is a great honor and privilege to be called to answer The Charge of Stephen Dill Lee. - jbrett68.jj@gmail.com

### **FOR DIVISION COMMANDER**

Mississippi Division Compatriots,

I humbly ask for your vote and support as I am now announcing my candidacy for Commander of the Mississippi Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans. The Lord has continued to bless me in my work for the Mississippi Division and National SCV. I feel it is my duty, to continue to serve you and to work with you as we continue to re-advance the Mississippi Division to our former glory.

At the request of my Camp Commander, my first SCV office was as a Camp Lt Commander at the age of 17. Since then, I have continued to serve in various capacities at the camp level.

In 2011, I became the youngest man (18) ever to be appointed to a Division office. I served the MS Division as Color Sergeant for 3 years. I upheld the duties of the office as explained in the Division Bylaws and made improvements to the Jeff Davis Legion and was recognized by several awards. This is when I first started traveling the Division from the Tennessee line to the Gulf Coast and had the pleasure of meeting so many of you.

In 2013, I became the youngest man (20) in MS Division history to be elected to Division office. It was my honor to serve the 4th Brigade as Executive Councilman. I now serve the SCV Army of Tennessee and its nine separate Divisions as Adjutant and have been for about 5 years. The amount of knowledge and experience I have absorbed in this office has been extraordinary and will certainly benefit the MS Division. It already has.

In 2016 Commander-in-Chief Tom Strain appointed me to his General Staff as National Deputy Chief of Heritage Promotions. Currently I serve as Deputy Chief-of-Staff to Commander in Chief Paul Gramling.

In 2017, you elected me as your first Lt. Commander of the Division. I have worked diligently to help move our Division forward by revitalizing our recruiting materials and establish a handbook that will get our new members active to retain them.

This past January, I became public affairs officer (Brevet Lt.) of the 1G Mechanized Cavalry.

We are at a pivotal time in our history. During this second period of reconstruction, men all over Mississippi have awakened and are starting to answer the call of our ancestors. Nationally, we are on the eve of a what can be a great push back to reclaim our Southern Heritage. The Mississippi Division should lead that charge and we will with the correct leadership. At every reunion, someone says "the youth is the future of the SCV." I have dedicated most of my life to our Heritage. My experience in this organization speaks for itself. I have a no surrender attitude when it comes to assaults on our noble heritage; Sir Winston Churchill described my view best when he said "Nations that went down fighting rose again, but those who surrendered tamely were finished."

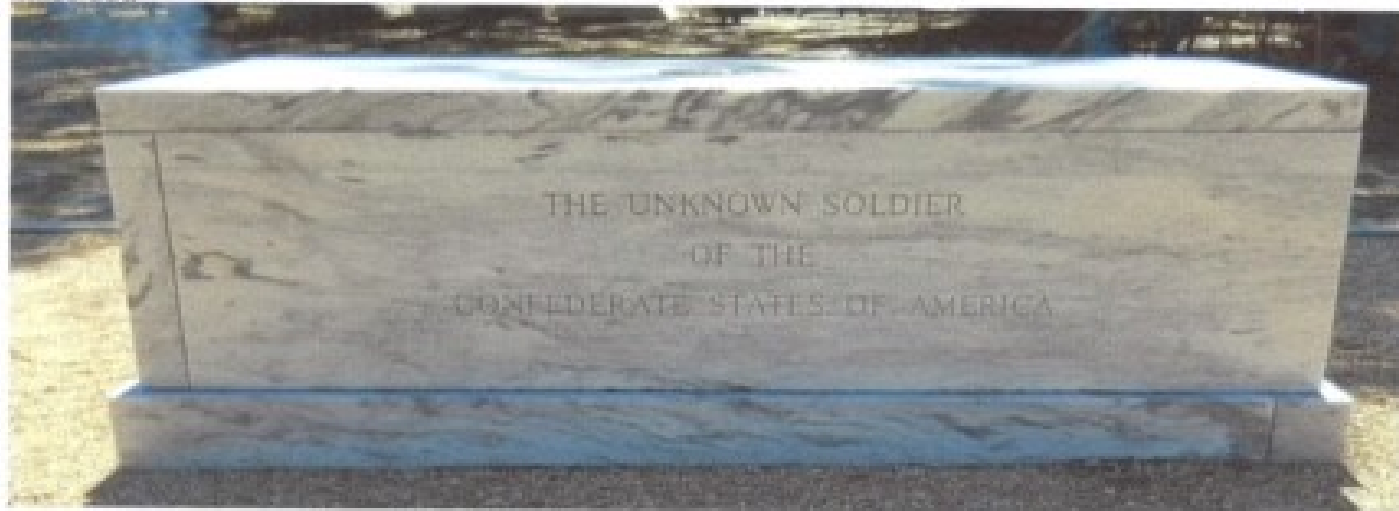
I look forward to seeing you all again over the coming weeks, and I hope to see you all at Brandon for the Division Reunion.

Forward the Colors,  
George Conor Bond

1st Lt. Commander Mississippi Division, SCV  
(<https://gcbmsdiv2019.webs.com/platform>)

## Bricks for Beauvoir and the Tomb of the Unknown Solider

Honor your confederate Ancestors by purchasing an Ancestral Memorial Brick for \$50.00 each in the Memorial sidewalk of the Confederate Cemetery at Beauvoir. The plans for the sidewalk are nearing completion, so if you want a brick put down for your ancestor you need to get your order in soon, so as not to miss out.



Each brick that you purchase will be engraved with your ancestors rank, name, unit and company. Memorial bricks will be laid, memorializing your ancestor, in a sidewalk from the UDC Arch to the Tomb of the Unknown Confederate Solider at Beauvoir.

Detach and send in the form below to the address listed to order your bricks.

### Ancestral Brick Order Form

Instructions: Use the lines as laid out no more than 15 spaces per line. You may use abbreviations when necessary. Please include your name and address, for confirmation letter. (See Sample Below)

Line 1: \_\_\_\_\_

(First and Last Name)

Line 2: \_\_\_\_\_

(Rank)

Line 3: \_\_\_\_\_

(Unit)

### ORDER YOUR ANCESTOR'S BRICK TODAY!

Make Checks out for \$50.00 per brick to:

Bricks for Beauvoir  
Mail to: Bricks for Beauvoir  
2244 Beach Blvd  
Biloxi, MS. 39531

OR

Visit our gift shop where you  
can pay by cash or credit!

Example:

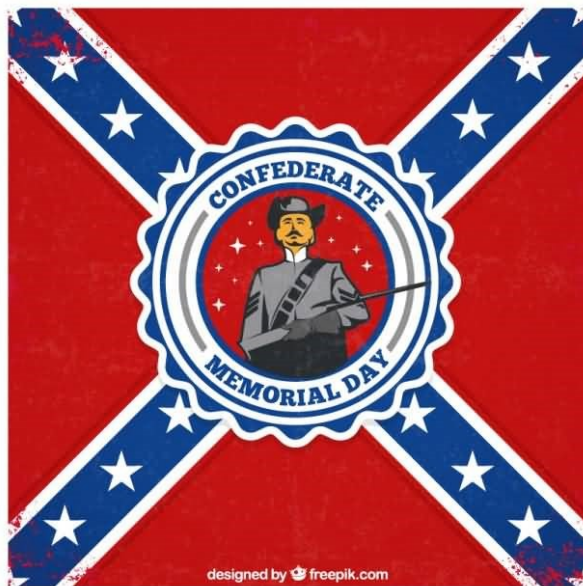
Pvt. JAMES W.  
McGluney  
6th MS CAV, CO. F



## **FOR DIVISION 1ST LT. COMMANDER—Stan Rhoda**

Members of the Mississippi Division SCV:

I, Stanley Wyatt Rhoda, would like to announce my candidacy for the position of 1st Lt. Commander of the Mississippi Division and ask for your support in this endeavor. Many years ago, I joined the Desoto County Camp, Pvt. Samuel A. Hughey Camp #1452, once known as the Ward Camp. I have served as the Sergeant of Arms for several years within the camp. I worked on getting signatures for both petitions (I-58 and I-62) to Save Our State Flag! I have helped with recruiting at re-enactments, festivals and worked with fellow compatriots hosting our Division Reunion! I have participated and scheduled cemetery cleanups. It is our duty above all things to honor them and their memory. I begin my service at the Division level as Brigade Councilman and served for 2 years. I was able to watch a future Brigade Commander of the Year, Donald Wright, perform and when he retired, I ran for the open seat and I am currently now serving as Brigade Commander. I am also a member of the Mechanized Cavalry and have been promoted up thru the ranks as a private, corporal and now sergeant for the NW Squad. I wear our Stainless Banner and our colors proudly! I have been on the front lines protecting our Heritage! I have traveled to out of state events honoring our Confederate ancestors. There will never be a question of my dedication to our Cause. The Mechanized Cavalry has added a whole new platform for friendships and working together toward answering The Charge. I am keenly interested in the positive direction of the Division now and into the future. I would not leave the Brigade office to pursue a Statewide post had I not had assurance that serious and credible candidates committed to The Charge and faithful execution of the By-laws were coming forward at the First Brigade level. I see now that they have. The Charge has not gotten easier to execute in recent years, but I firmly believe that whatever obstacles we face, if we face them together in unity, our ability to overcome them is much greater. I promise to promote unity at every turn. I hope you all can make the Reunion this year in Brandon. Camp 265, The Rankin Rough and Readies, have taken great care to make the event affordable and fun for the whole family. See you there.



Your Obedient Servant,  
Stanley W. Rhoda 1st Brigade Commander  
SGT. NW Squad SCVMC 1G scv1st.brig.cmdr@gmail.com

## **Mississippi Division Reunion News**

Mississippi Sons of Confederate Veterans,

Greetings from SCV Camp #265 in Brandon, MS. We are hosting the state/division SCV Reunion in Brandon, Mississippi this year on June 7th and 8th of 2019 and wanted to personally invite each and every one of you and your families to attend.

Our first thought was: "How can we convince our fellow SCV members around the state to come to the Division Reunion if they've never been or have not planned on coming?" Well let me tell you what we brain stormed. We will be hosting a Civil War Relic Show in conjunction with our reunion! Isn't that a great idea?! We will have vendors for men and women, MS authors, MS artists, musicians, a live band (from MS) playing period music, a cannon display outside, a civil war surgeon with all the tools of the trade inside, and much, much more! The Relic Show will open at 9:00am on Saturday morning and close at 5:00pm Saturday evening. Please come early, visit, and support the vendors that are here for you. Registration is from 3pm - 7pm on Friday afternoon and from 6am-9am Saturday morning. By the way, the relic show will be open to the public so they can see what the SCV is all about. Your attendance will be very impressive to the public and the vendors at the show. Men and women are welcome to wear their period clothes. At 6pm on Friday afternoon we will have a president's reception for all the vendors, members, and families. At the reception we will be serving a large birthday cake along with dinner to celebrate Jefferson Davis' 211th Birthday. Hopefully feeding everyone will ease the financial strain of coming to the reunion. At 7pm we will have a short musical performance. We will end the night by everyone singing "Dixie". Dress for the business meeting is business, business casual or period dress. Everyone who wants to dress out is welcome to be a part of the color guard. This would make for an impressive picture for the Confederate Veteran magazine!

Opening ceremonies for the business session will be from 8am to 9am. The business session will run from 9:00am - 1:00pm with our memorial service at 1:00pm through 1:30pm. Sorry, but the business session is for division members in good standing only. After the business session we need a group picture of all members! After the group picture will be a good time for fellowship time and an opportunity to get dressed for the banquet starting at 6:30pm. At 6:30pm dinner will be served buffet style with some of the best food you will ever lay your lips on. Let me put it this way, the last National Reunion I went to, I paid \$30.00 for lunch and got a turkey wrap! I assure you there will be no turkey wraps on our buffet!! The menu will be: baked chicken and prime rib with all the trimmings.

At 7:30pm, Mr. Walt Grayson will be our speaker. He is a great speaker! The wives will enjoy him just as much as you do. At 8:00pm awards will be given out and at 8:30pm door prize winners will be announced! At 9:00pm we will end by the members singing "Dixie" and afterwards we will have a special treat along with the announcement of the winner of the AR15.

Let's look at finances. When you come to the reunion, dinner will be provided on Friday night for FREE, there will be FREE coffee and donuts Saturday morning, hotel rates are from \$89.00 a night, and registration is \$45.00. The banquet is \$25.00/person, and in theory, the convention ends early enough for you to drive home Saturday night and not spend the extra money on the hotel. That's two days of entertainment around some of the best people you will ever meet for approximately \$70.00 for one person within driving distance; \$165.00 with a one night hotel stay; \$190.00 with a one night hotel stay with your spouse. Now that's affordable!

## **2019 SCV MS Division Reunion Registration Form**

124th Reunion – Mississippi Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans 25th Reunion  
Mississippi Society, Order of Confederate Rose Brandon, Mississippi – June 7th & 8th, 2019  
Hosted By The Rankin Rough And Ready's Camp #265 And Mary Ann Forrest Chapter #23, MSOCR  
All Events Will be Held at The Brandon City Hall: 1000 Municipal Drive, Brandon, MS 39042

SCV Member Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title / SCV Camp Name & Number \_\_\_\_\_

OCR Member Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title / OCR Chapter Name & Number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse/

Guest Name(s)-For Badges \_\_\_\_\_

All registered SCV members will receive a name badge, a convention medal, a program, and a bag of goodies (quantity limited to 150). Registration at the door will receive the same as long as supplies last. OCR registrants will have a Tea in lieu of a medal. If you wish to get a medal, please pay SCV price this will automatically qualify you for the AR15 being given away Saturday night at the banquet! (Contingent upon meeting all applicable laws and regulations in the state of Mississippi)

### **REGISTRATION AMOUNTS**

SCV before May 15, 2019 \$45.00 After May 15, 2019 \$50.00 QTY \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

OCR before May 15, 2019 \$20.00 After May 15, 2019 \$25.00 QTY \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Ancestor Memorial: EACH MEMORIAL IS \$10.00 QTY \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please print or type each memorial on a separate page & submit before April 25th, 2019

Program Ads: \$100.00 - full page; \$50.00 - half page; \$35.00 - quarter page; \$25.00 - business card size (Please email ad information on a separate page before April 25th, 2019) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Awards Banquet: \$25.00 per adult plate QTY \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\$10.00 per child plate (15 and under) QTY \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(No Meal Registration after May 25, 2019)

Total Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please Make Checks Payable to SCV Camp #265 & Mail to: Tim Cupit, 317 Lake Heather Rd, Brandon, MS 39047

Contact Information: SCV Contact: Tim Cupit: 769-234-2966 or [timcupit@comcast.net](mailto:timcupit@comcast.net) | OCR Contact: Brandi Gray: 601-896-8652 or [maryannforrestocr@yahoo.com](mailto:maryannforrestocr@yahoo.com)

Host Hotel Info: La Quinta at 215 Dande Rd, Brandon, MS. SCV Rate - \$89.00 plus tax Phone: 601-591-1045. Ramada Inn at 341 Airport Rd. Pearl, MS SCV Rate - \$89.00 double plus tax Phone: 601-933-1122 \*\*All Reservations must be made by April 30, 2019\*\*

Registration will be at City Hall between 4pm & 7pm Friday and between 6am & 9am Saturday.

We here in Brandon are proud to be members of the Mississippi Division Sons of Confederate Veterans and are not ashamed of it. We will not be having this convention in a barn in the middle of the woods hiding from view. We are having this convention at City Hall in downtown Brandon; the largest room we could find. We have a letter from the Mayor, the Rankin County Chamber of Commerce, and the Rankin County Board of Supervisors welcoming the Sons of Confederate Veterans to Brandon and Rankin County for our 124th annual reunion.

The task of putting all this together for the entire state has been no walk in the park. We will try to personally visit each camp in the state to invite you to the convention but there will probably be more to do than time and money will allow. On top of that, as each one of you know, everything done for the SCV is done after working, church activities, school, kids, health issues, and without pay.

In closing, I want you to know we are doing this because we are proud of our history in this great country, we are proud of our brave ancestors, and we are proud to be Sons of Confederate Veterans. Please mark your calendars for June 7th and 8th 2019, request vacation days at work, put off the family reunion for one year, whatever you have to do to come and support the vendors that will be here for you, meet your fellow SCV members from around the state, enjoy some good ole southern hospitality, and let's show everyone that old times here are not forgotten! May God bless you and your families.

Sincerely,

Tim Cupit

PS: Hotel reservations must be made by May 30th, 2019 to get the SCV rate. Contact info is on the registration form.

Registration forms must be received by May 25th, 2019. We will register you at the door but, it comes with the obvious consequences; name tags hand written, no goodie bag, etc.

Remember to bring your scrapbook! They will be judged on Saturday after the business meeting. Your scrapbook will be good ways to let the other camps in the division see what you have done over the past year and may also give other camps ideas for activities in their communities.

Activities in the community for nonmembers or people who do not want to attend the relic show: The Bass Pro Shop, Braves Stadium, AG Museum, Children's Museum, Wildlife and Science Museum, Shopping at The Dogwood Promenade, Antique Stores, and much more! The reunion, relic show, and registration will be at City Hall. (Address will be on the registration form)

## **Flashback—ORIGINAL BURIAL OF UNKNOWN CONFEDERATE SOLDIER AT BEAUVOIR**

At 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1, 1979, Rick Forte of Hattiesburg made the discovery of his life.

Relic hunting with a metal detector in the vicinity of Vicksburg, he found parts of a Confederate soldier's cartridge box and canteen. Then, nearby, he found what remained of the soldier's body 117 years after he was killed in the Vicksburg campaign of the Civil War.

At 3 p.m. Saturday, April 19, 1980, the remains of that soldier will be given what he never had- a "proper burial," at Beauvoir, the Jefferson Davis and Confederacy shrine in Biloxi. He will then be known as The Unknown Soldier of the Confederate States of America and will represent the estimated 50,000 unidentified Rebel soldiers and sailors buried throughout the nation on the battlefields where they fell.

"It really moved me," Forte said about finding the remains. "I felt sad."

When he found the first bone, he said, he hoped it wouldn't be human. But, after he found part of the skull, part of the jaw and the thigh bones, and the residue of other bones, he knew it was human. Then, he said, he thought to himself that he wanted this soldier to have a proper burial instead of being left in a shallow grave without a casket.

He and his companions, who were nearby but didn't make the actual discovery, -his son, Ricky; Mike Phillips of Hattiesburg, a student at USM; and Ben Akselson of Beaumont, Tex., a friend of Mike's- then found a container and exhumed all that they could of the remains. They also found some of the buttons and a snap from his uniform and some of his ammunition.

They hurried back to Hattiesburg, eager to tell someone about the find. One of the first people to whom they showed the remains was Mike's father, Dr. Tom Rhea Phillips, a local dentist.

Both Rick and Dr. Phillips are members of the local chapter of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. (In fact, Rick was instrumental in organizing the chapter.) When they determined from the dental work and the items found with the remains that what they had was a Confederate Soldier, Rick contacted the organization's national leaders. Although thousands of unidentified Confederate soldiers are buried throughout the nation, none of them had ever been designated the unknown Confederate soldier. The Sons, which, Rick said, tries to identify the graves of Confederate soldiers and preserve the history of the Confederacy, decided it was time they built an official tomb for the unknown Confederate soldier in the Beauvoir Confederate Veterans Cemetery. (The Sons own Beauvoir.)

Because he will represent all unknown Confederate soldiers, not one particular state or unit, no attempt will be made to identify him, except as a 17-year-old Rebel soldier who died in the Vicksburg campaign.

Also, the spot where he was discovered will not be revealed, Rick said, because it is on private property. He will not even identify the particular battle or skirmish in which the soldier fell because either he, the Sons or the property owners want to attract a lot of people to the area...





# 18th Annual National Confederate Memorial Day Service

Service will be held on the Memorial Plaza  
in front of the Carvings at Stone Mountain  
Confederate Memorial State Park  
Saturday, April 6, 2019 at 12:00 noon

★ **Keynote Speaker—CIC Paul C. Gramling** ★

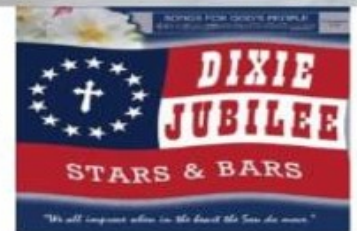


*Sponsored by: Georgia Division,  
Sons of Confederate Veterans*



## MEMORIAL SERVICE AGENDA:

- At 12:00 noon Dixie Jubilee will start playing some of the best Southern Bluegrass Gospel in the South. Perfect Time to have a picnic dinner and enjoy the music. They will continue to play after the Memorial Service.
- At 1:00 pm. the memorial service begins, keynote speaker SCV National's CIC Paul Gramling. Cannon and Honor Guard Statue immediately following.



National Confederate Memorial Day Service at Stone Mountain Park in front of the world's largest monument to the Confederate soldier. We need to show the public and our politicians we will not let the memory of these Confederate heroes be forgotten. Be sure to bring the family & friends and enjoy a picnic lunch after the service.

## Cannon Bounty Offered & Need Honor Guard Reenactors

If you have an artillery piece or serve on a crew of a gun, we need your cannon, we are offering a Cannon Bounty of \$200. If you are a reenactor and would like to serve in the Honor Guard we would be honored to have you participate. Contact information below, WE NEED YOUR HELP.

Contact: David Denard 404/372-3420, [denardodian@bellsouth.net](mailto:denardodian@bellsouth.net)  
or Dave Floyd, 770/979-2637, [dlfrieb@msn.com](mailto:dlfrieb@msn.com)



**SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS**

# Help Save General Forrest



The Memphis City Council has passed a resolution to remove the Forrest Equestrian Statue from Forrest Park and to dig up the graves of General Forrest and his wife MaryAnn from beneath the statue.

The SCV and the Forrest family descendants must raise money to fight the city  
in this second attack on General Forrest. We need your help.

## Help us to save the graves and monument of General Forrest

Can you, or your camp or Division donate \$100, \$500 or \$1000 to the defense ?

Please sign me up as a supporter. No membership fee.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Contribute through PayPal at our ally at : [www.citizenstosaveourparks.org](http://www.citizenstosaveourparks.org)

Please donate to our cause: Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_ check number \_\_\_\_\_

### Forrest Park Defense Fund

PO Box 241875, Memphis, TN 38124

# The Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN CONFEDERATE SOLDIER

By Charles L. Sullivan Secretary, Beauvoir Board of Trustees

At 11:00 Saturday, February 16, 2019, more than 20 members of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows (IOOF) gathered in Beauvoir Memorial Cemetery in Biloxi, Mississippi, to present the Grand Decoration of Chivalry to the Unknown Soldier of the Confederacy. IOOF Sovereign Grand Master Douglas Pittman, who heads the 600,000-member group, journeyed from his home in Colorado to preside over this momentous occasion.

Odd Fellows lodges first developed in England in 1730 as benevolent and fraternal organizations of working men who banded together to contribute to a common fund designed to aid needy members in paying sickness and burial expenses. Because such mutual aid societies were "peculiar" or "odd" at the time, those engaging in such activities were dubbed derisively "Odd Fellows" and they promptly adopted the name. In ensuing years, the aims of the organization expanded to provide a framework for personal and social development based on faith, love, and truth and thoroughly grounded in the core belief in the brotherhood of man.

Odd Fellowship in America traces its origin to Baltimore, Maryland, on April 26, 1819. Shattered by the American Civil War (1861-1865), Odd Fellowship rose again in Baltimore a mere five months after the close of hostilities. The resurrection of the society in September 1865 marked the first fraternization of the blue and the gray. Thereafter Northern members aided their Southern brothers in rebuilding their desolate land. It is this shared history of brotherhood that has led the Odd Fellows to the Tomb of the Unknown Confederate Soldier.



Former Chairman of the Combined Boards of Beauvoir, Richard V. Forte, Sr., was on hand in the cemetery to tell of his discovery of the remains of the 16-year-old Southern soldier in 1979 in a wooded area contested by the two armies during the Vicksburg Campaign in Spring 1863. The fact that the bullet pouch, canteen, and other accoutrements were still with the body proved that he had been killed in action. Whether his shallow grave was the result of quick burial by shell fire or by his comrades-in-arms is not known and neither is his identity. Because every Confederate state sent soldiers to the Vicksburg Campaign, he could have hailed from any state and was, therefore, deemed the Unknown Soldier of the Confederacy.

On April 19, 1980, his remains were reinterred in a cypress coffin in front of the Beauvoir Memorial Cemetery. On June 6, 1981, the coffin was placed in a marble sarcophagus erected on the site of the grave. The Unknown Confederate Soldier is honored every year in Confederate Memorial Day services, and the tomb is a place of pilgrimage throughout the year. In February 2017 approximately 20 men and women dressed in the splendid uniforms of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows first came to Beauvoir and conducted the solemn ceremony that they have named "The Pilgrimage to the Tomb."

The first such pilgrimage of the fraternal order was directed to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery in Washington, D. C. on June 17, 1934. Authorized by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, (himself a member of the IOOF) the Odd Fellows is the only fraternal order permitted to conduct this pilgrimage which is held annually. On July 7, 1940, the fraternity bestowed the Grand Decoration of Chivalry upon the Unknown Soldier at Arlington, and on May 3, 1959, the Sovereign Grand Master presented two more Grand Decoration of Chivalry jewels to the U. S. Army—one for the Unknown Soldier of World War II and the other for the Unknown Soldier of the Korean Conflict. These jewels have been placed in the Hall of Trophies in the Department of the Army. Now one of these jewels will grace the trophy case in the Jefferson Davis Presidential Library in a display adjacent to the Grand Decoration of Chivalry presented to Jefferson Davis in 2010.





## **MEGA FLAG RAISING APRIL 7, 2019**

I encourage all who can to come to the dedication on April 7th at 2:00 pm. Remember it is in a pasture so bring a lawn chair. I know you will enjoy the event. Parking will be \$5.00 a car and \$2.00 a motorcycle. Let's make this the first of many MEGA Flag raising/ dedications around the state. If you fly a flag at home or work consider flying our MS Flag of 1894. The most recognized state flag of the 50 state flags. If you need a state flag contact me and I will see that you get one.

Joseph Abbott

## **WITH CONFEDERATE STATUE DEBATE BREWING, ONE GROUP WANTS TO BUILD MORE STATUES**

By Hugh Keeton | March 12, 2019 at 9:43 PM CDT - Updated March 13 at 7:08 AM BILOXI, MS (WLOX) -

While the effort to take down Confederate statues continues, most recently at Ole Miss, one group is working to put more statues up. The Sons of Confederate Veterans met Tuesday at Beauvoir in Biloxi. Leaders of the group say the Confederate monuments are meant to pay tribute to thousands of Confederate veterans who died during the Civil War, many buried in unmarked graves. "It's just like any other war memorial, World War I and World War II. To me, those are equal monuments because they're both American veteran monuments," said Sons of Confederate Veterans member Conor Bond. Larry McCluney was a guest speaker at the meeting. He said building new monuments is a way of preserving history and insuring those veterans will be remembered. "What the goal here is to create monuments and put them on private land, so they will be protected that way," McCluney said. "Our organization has a charge to protect those markers and monuments for future generations to learn from it." Nationally the Sons of Confederate Veterans are looking for private land donations for new monuments and markers to be built on.

## **SCV MECHANIZED CAVALRY MISSISSIPPI GREAT NEWS:**

Captain Steven Gunner Rutherford has recently undergone surgery for the removal of a cancerous kidney. He reports he is already out of the hospital, feeling well enough to get on the computer to contact members and he is even making plans to attend the Confederate Memorial Service at Stone Mountain, Georgia on April 6, 2019. Let's keep Captain Rutherford and his family in our thoughts and prayers.

## **CAPTAINS REPORT FROM WINTER OFFICERS CALL 2019**

We were welcomed by General Kevin Stone, led in an opening prayer by National Chaplain Chip Cole. We had Roll Call and Officer Reports by each Battalion Major and Company Captains. The Mechanized Cavalry has 3424 National members, 328 new members since OC 2018 and 200 new members since the annual 2018. Commander in Chief Paul Grambling addressed the members about joining the Confederate Legion and the Make Dixie Great Again campaign. He spoke about the webpage and information for the Southern Victory Campaign. He also said that he was declaring the event at Stone Mountain on April 6th a NATIONAL EVENT!!!! We should have thousands of people at Stone Mountain this year. He spoke about going on the offense for our heritage and history, instead of always being on the defense. Sgt. Major Slim John Pickens talked about conduct regarding Mechanized Cavalry business on Social media, Cadet Cavalry and States Rights. He also spoke about our communication as we grow. Everyone should be learning and using the TapaTalk app. as it is more private than Facebook. Kevin Stone was elected to another term as General and Tim Hawkins was elected as Colonel again. Future annual states are as follows... 2020 Virginia 2021 Tennessee 2022 Maryland 2023 Kentucky 2024 Mississippi 2025 Florida Closing Prayer was led by Chaplain Chip Cole then a motion was made to adjourn the meeting. We all sang DIXIE led by Chief of Staff Rolo Beeler. I want to say on a personal note that it was a huge Honor for myself to sit and the Big Table and be the representative for 1st Battalion Company G. THANK YOU all for the confidence that yall have in me!!!! Captain Kevin "Grasshopper" Nelms SCVMC1G

## **Confederate History Month**

Confederate History Month is a month designated by seven state governments in the Southern United States for the purpose of recognizing and honoring the history of the Confederate States of America. April has traditionally been chosen, as Confederate Memorial Day falls during that month in many of these states. The designation of a month as Confederate History Month began in 1994.

Although Confederate Memorial Day is a holiday in most Southern states, the tradition of having a Confederate History Month is not uniform. State governments that have regularly declared Confederate History Month are as follows:

Alabama

Florida(since 2007)

Georgia (by proclamation since 1995,<sup>[2]</sup> by legislative authority since 2009)

Louisiana

Mississippi

Texas (since 1999)

Virginia (1994–2002, 2010)

Confederate History Month and related celebrations have been controversial due to the contentious place of slavery in the history of the United States. When Virginia Governor Bob McDonnell issued a proclamation resurrecting Confederate History Month in 2010, controversy arose due to the proclamation's omission of slavery. McDonnell later announced, "The proclamation issued by this Office designating April as Confederate History Month contained a major omission. The failure to include any reference to slavery was a mistake, and for that I apologize to any fellow Virginian who has been offended or disappointed. The abomination of slavery divided our nation, deprived people of their God-given inalienable rights, and led to the Civil War. Slavery was an evil, vicious and inhumane practice which degraded human beings to property, and it has left a stain on the soul of this state and nation." McDonnell has indicated that he will not issue a proclamation in future years. In 2007, the Virginia General Assembly approved a formal statement of "profound regret" for the Commonwealth's history of slavery.

On April 11, 2010, Mississippi Governor [Haley Barbour](#) defended McDonnell on CNN's [State of the Union](#), calling the controversy raised by McDonnell's proclamation "just a nit". "It's trying to make a big deal out of something that doesn't matter for diddly," Barbour said.<sup>[9]</sup> Unlike the Virginia proclamation, the 2010 Alabama proclamation noted, "our recognition of Confederate history also recognizes that slavery was one of the causes of the war, an issue in the war, was ended by the war and slavery is hereby condemned."<sup>[10]</sup>



Confederate Memorial Day (called Confederate Heroes Day in Texas, and Confederate Decoration Day in Tennessee) is a holiday observed in several Southern states on various dates since the end of the American Civil War to remember the estimated 258,000 Confederate soldiers and sailors who died fighting against the Union.

The holiday is observed in late April in many states to recall the surrender of the last major Confederate field army at Bennett Place on April 26, 1865.<sup>[2]</sup> The holiday is widely but unofficially observed in some Southern states, although it is an official state holiday in South Carolina, Mississippi, and Alabama.

In the spring of 1866 the Ladies Memorial Association of Columbus, Georgia, passed a resolution to set aside one day annually to memorialize the Confederate war dead. Mary Ann Williams, the association secretary, was directed to pen a letter inviting ladies associations in every former Confederate state to join them in the observance. Their invitation was written in March 1866 and sent to all of the principal cities in the former Confederacy, including Atlanta, Macon; Montgomery; Memphis; Richmond; St. Louis; Alexandria; Columbia; and New Orleans, as well as smaller towns like Staunton, Virginia; Anderson, South Carolina; and Wilmington, North Carolina. The actual date for the holiday was selected by Elizabeth Rutherford Ellis. She chose April 26, the first anniversary of Confederate General Johnston's surrender to Union Major General Sherman at Bennett Place. For many in the Confederacy, that date in 1865 marked the end of the Civil War.

In their book, *The Genesis of the Memorial Day Holiday in America*, Bellware and Gardiner assert that the national Memorial Day holiday is a direct offshoot of the observance begun by the Ladies Memorial Association of Columbus, Georgia in 1866. In a few places, most notably Columbus, Mississippi and Macon, Georgia, Union graves were decorated during the first observance. The day was even referred to as Memorial Day by *The Baltimore Sun* on May 8, 1866 after the ladies organization that started it. The name Confederate Memorial Day was not used until the Northern observance was initiated in 1868.

While initially cool to the idea of a Northern version of the holiday, General John A. Logan was eventually won over as evidenced by his General Order No. 11 of May 5, 1868 wherein he commanded the posts of Grand Army of the Republic to likewise strew flowers on the graves of Union soldiers. The Grand Army of the Republic eventually adopted the name Memorial Day at their national encampment in 1882.

Many theories have been offered as to how Logan became aware of the former Confederate tradition he imitated in 1868. In her autobiography, his wife claims she told him about it after a trip to Virginia in the spring of that year.<sup>[18]</sup> His secretary and his adjutant also claim they told him about it. John Murray of Waterloo, New York, claims it was he who inspired Logan in 1868. Bellware and Gardiner, however, offer proof that Logan was aware of the Southern tributes long before any of them had a chance to mention it to him.<sup>[19]</sup> In a speech to veterans in Salem, Illinois, on July 4, 1866, Logan referred to the various dates of observance adopted in the South for the practice saying "...traitors in the South have their gatherings day after day, to strew garlands of flowers upon the graves of Rebel soldiers..."

The first official celebration as a public holiday occurred in 1874, following a proclamation by the Georgia legislature. By 1916, ten states celebrated it, on June 3, the birthday of CSA President Jefferson Davis. Other states chose late April dates, or May 10, commemorating Davis' capture.







## The Carvings at Stone Mountain

The largest high relief sculpture in the world, the Confederate Memorial Carving, depicts three Confederate figures of the Civil War, President Jefferson Davis and Generals Robert E. Lee and Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson. The entire carved surface measures three-acres, larger than a football field and Mount Rushmore. The carving of the three men towers 400 feet above the ground, measures 90 by 190 feet, and is recessed 42 feet into the mountain. The deepest point of the carving is at Lee's elbow, which is 12 feet to the mountain's surface.

In 1912 the carving existed only in the imagination of Mrs. C. Helen Plane, charter member of the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC). The Venable family, owners of the mountain, deeded the north face of the mountain to the UDC in 1916. The UDC was given 12 years to complete a sizable Civil War monument.

Three sculptors worked on the carving during its creation. Gutzon Borglum was hired in 1915 as the carving consultant, and in 1916 he was appointed carving sculptor by the Stone Mountain Monumental Association. Borglum envisioned a carving with seven central figures accompanied by "an army of thousands." He was not able to begin work on the carving until 1923 due to funding problems and World War I.

After blasting away large portions of the mountain with dynamite, Borglum was able to complete the head of Lee on January 19, 1924. In 1925 a dispute arose between Borglum and the managing association. As a result of the conflict, Borglum left, taking all of his sketches and models with him. Borglum went on to carve the famous Mount Rushmore sculpture in South Dakota.

Augustus Lukeman, the second sculptor, resumed work on the project in 1925. Lukeman's carving included the three central figures of the Confederacy on horseback. He removed Borglum's work from the mountain and diligently worked with pneumatic drills, but by 1928 (the original deadline) only Lee's head was complete and funds were depleted. The Venable family reclaimed their property, and the massive granite mountain remained untouched for 36 years.

In 1958 the state of Georgia purchased the mountain and the surrounding land. The Georgia General Assembly created the Stone Mountain Memorial Association. In 1960 the Stone Mountain Confederate Memorial Advisory Committee was comprised of six internationally known figures in the world of art. A competition was held, and nine world-renowned sculptors submitted designs for a new sculpture.

In 1963, based upon recommendations by the Advisory Committee, the Stone Mountain Memorial Association chose Walker Kirkland Hancock of Gloucester, Massachusetts to complete the carving. Work resumed in 1964, and a new technique utilizing thermo-jet torches was used to carve away the granite. Chief carver Roy Faulkner, a marine veteran with a talent for using the new thermo-jet torch, was able to remove tons of stone in one day. For over eight years Park guests could see and hear the workmen and their jet torches.

The figures were completed with the detail of a fine painting. Eyebrows, fingers, buckles and even strands of hair were fine-carved with a small thermo-jet torch.

The carving is actually much larger than it appears from Stone Mountain Park's attractions. Workers could easily stand on a horse's ear or inside a horse's mouth to escape a sudden rain shower. A dedication ceremony for the Confederate Memorial Carving was held on May 9, 1970. Finishing touches to the masterpiece were completed in 1972.





## April 12, 1861; Remembering the First Shot

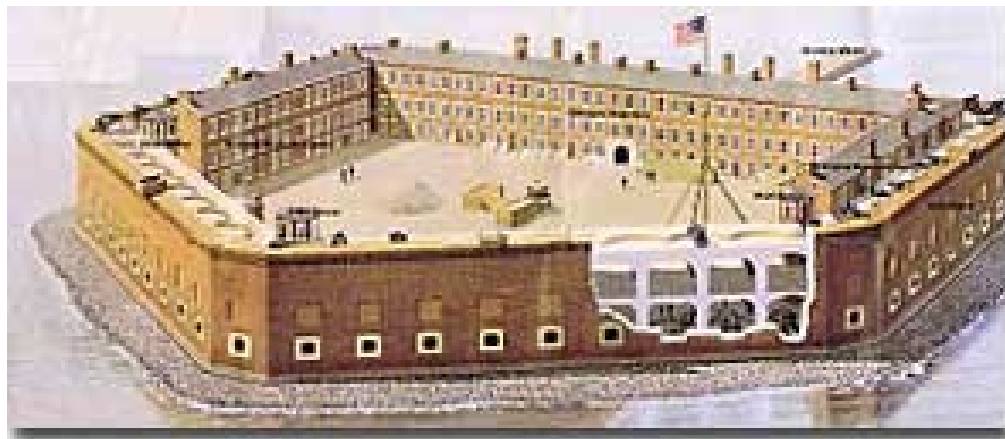
On December 26, 1860, six days after South Carolina seceded from the Union, U.S. Army Major Robert Anderson abandoned the indefensible Fort Moultrie, spiking its large guns, burning its gun carriages, and taking its smaller cannon with him to be trained on the city. He secretly relocated companies E and H (127 men, 13 of them musicians) of the 1st U.S. Artillery to Fort Sumter on his own initiative, without orders from his superiors. He thought that providing a stronger defense would delay an attack by South Carolina militia. The fort was not yet complete at the time and fewer than half of the cannons that should have been available were in place, due to military downsizing by President James Buchanan.

In a letter delivered January 31, 1861, South Carolina Governor Pickens demanded of President Buchanan that he surrender Fort Sumter because "I regard that possession is not consistent with the dignity or safety of the State of South Carolina." Over the next few months repeated calls for evacuation of Fort Sumter from the government of South Carolina and then from Confederate Brigadier General P. G. T. Beauregard were ignored. Union attempts to resupply and reinforce the garrison were repulsed on January 9, 1861 when the first shots of the war, fired by cadets from the Citadel, prevented the steamer *Star of the West*, hired to transport troops and supplies to Fort Sumter, from completing the task. After realizing that Anderson's command would run out of food by April 15, 1861, President Lincoln ordered a fleet of ships, under the command of Gustavus V. Fox, to attempt entry into Charleston Harbor and supply Fort Sumter. The ships assigned were the steam sloop-of-war USS *Pawnee* and USS *Powhatan*, transporting motorized launches and about 300 sailors (secretly removed from the Charleston fleet to join in the forced reinforcement of Fort Pickens, Pensacola, FL), armed screw steamer USS *Pocahontas*, Revenue Cutter USRC *Harriet Lane*, steamer *Baltic* transporting about 200 troops, composed of companies C and D of the 2nd U.S. Artillery, and three hired tugboats with added protection against small arms fire to be used to tow troop and supply barges directly to Fort Sumter. By April 6, 1861, the first ships began to set sail for their rendezvous off the Charleston Bar. The first to arrive was *Harriet Lane*, the evening of April 11, 1861.

On Thursday, April 11, 1861, Beauregard sent three aides, Colonel James Chesnut, Jr., Captain Stephen D. Lee, and Lieutenant A. R. Chisolm to demand the surrender of the fort. Anderson declined, and the aides returned to report to Beauregard. After Beauregard had consulted the Confederate Secretary of War, Leroy Walker, he sent the aides back to the fort and authorized Chesnut to decide whether the fort should be taken by force. The aides waited for hours while Anderson considered his alternatives and played for time. At about 3:00 a.m., when Anderson finally announced his conditions, Colonel Chesnut, after conferring with the other aides, decided that they were "manifestly futile and not within the scope of the instructions verbally given to us." The aides then left the fort and proceeded to the nearby Fort Johnson. There, Chesnut ordered the fort to open fire on Fort Sumter.

On Friday, April 12, 1861, at 4:30 a.m., Confederate batteries opened fire, firing for 34 straight hours, on the fort. Edmund Ruffin, noted Virginian agronomist and secessionist, claimed that he fired the first shot on Fort Sumter. His story has been widely believed, but Lieutenant Henry S. Farley, commanding a battery of two 10 inch siege mortars on James Island fired the first shot at 4:30 a.m. No attempt

was made to return the fire for more than two hours. The fort's supply of ammunition was not suited for the task; also, there were no fuses for their explosive shells, which means that they could not explode. Only solid iron balls could be used against the Rebel batteries. At about 7:00 a.m., Captain Abner Doubleday, the fort's second in command, was given the honor of firing the Union's first shot, in defense of the fort. He missed, in part because Major Anderson did not use the guns mounted on the highest tier, the barbette tier (where the guns could engage the Confederate batteries better), where the gunners would be more exposed to Confederate fire. The firing continued all day. The Union fired slowly to conserve ammunition. At night, the fire from the fort stopped, but the Confederates still lobbed an occasional shell into Sumter. On Saturday, April 13, the fort was surrendered and evacuated. During the attack, the Union colors fell. Lt. Norman J. Hall risked life and limb to put them back up, burning off his eyebrows permanently. A Confederate soldier bled to death having been wounded by a misfiring cannon. One Union soldier died and another was mortally wounded during the 47th shot of a 100 shot salute, allowed by the Confederacy. Afterward, the salute was shortened to 50 shots. Accounts, such as in the famous diary of Mary Chesnut, describe Charleston residents along what is now known as The Battery, sitting on balconies and drinking salutes to the start of the hostilities. The Fort Sumter Flag became a popular patriotic symbol after Major Anderson returned North with it. The flag is still displayed in the fort's museum. A supply ship *Star of the West* took all the garrison members to New York City. There they were welcomed and honored with a parade on Broadway.



Confederate forces shelled Fort Sumter for three and a half days before Northern commander Major Robert Anderson surrendered. This image depicts Fort Sumter as it appeared in 1861.



**The bombardment of Fort Sumter.** Confederate forces in South Carolina demanded the surrender of the U.S. Army garrison at Fort Sumter in Charleston harbor on April 12, 1861. When the commander, Major Robert Anderson, refused to comply with their demands, the Southerners opened artillery fire upon the island fort. With his food supplies exhausted and Fort Sumter in flames, Anderson finally surrendered on April 13. The bombardment of Fort Sumter signaled the beginning of the Civil War.



On April 9, 1865, Lee surrendered to Grant at Appomattox.  
The Civil War was over.



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## Charge to the Sons of Confederate Veterans

"To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will commit the vindication of the cause for which we fought. To your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate soldier's good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles which he loved and which you love also, and those ideals which made him glorious and which you also cherish."

LT. GENERAL STEPHEN DILL LEE, COMMANDER GENERAL,  
UNITED CONFEDERATE VETERANS, NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, APRIL 25, 1906.