



Joe Nokes, Commander

Camp Website: www.humphreys1625.com

The Delta General

August, 2012 Volume 15, Issue 7

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



Commander's Corner: Joe Nokes

Compatriots,

For our July meeting, we had an "indoor" picnic/social in honor of the birthday of General Nathan Bedford Forrest. We again had about 30 in attendance with plenty of food. Thanks to everyone who brought dishes. Thanks also to Henry McCabe for a last-minute, but very good, presentation on the defenses of Greenwood during the WBTS.

James Alford and Johnny Gaugh were officially sworn in, and this continues our rise in membership. Congratulations to James and Johnny. This brings to mind the point that we all need to continue working to find potential members who are in fact out there, many of whom are looking for people like us.

Let me take a moment to remind everyone that our August camp meeting will be a lunchtime picnic on Saturday August 4th. We will pilgrimage to Grand Gulf to the gravesite of our camp namesake General Benjamin G. Humphreys. At 11:00, we are meeting at Grand Gulf Military Park (where we have a pavilion reserved) and having our social/picnic. After the picnic, we will travel over to Wintergreen Cemetery to lay flowers and pay homage to our namesake General Humphreys as well as to General Van Dorn (also interred there). Dress is casual due to the heat. Bring a dish and come enjoy the fellowship of our camp at this very special occasion.

On August 7th, we are having another book signing at the Museum of the Mississippi Delta (formerly Cottonlandia) with Dr. Brandon Beck. We will again need to have people work the information table. Also, we need reenactors to dress as CS Marines and/or CS Navy.

Of course, the 2012 SCV National Reunion has now passed. We had a strong showing at the Reunion. Congratulations to Larry McCluney who was reelected as Executive Councilman for the Army of Tennessee and to Tom Strain who was reelected as the Army of Tennessee Commander. These two gentlemen will continue to lead the AOT in the right direction.

At the Reunion, Division Commander Alan Palmer presented information on the 2013 National Reunion scheduled for Vicksburg. There were many early registrations for next year's event; also, anyone wishing to, can now register early (at a discounted rate) for the reunion. The host hotels are already taking reservations. We need to be ready to support Commander Palmer and the Vicksburg camp whenever needed in the upcoming months as our ENTIRE state prepares for this momentous occasion.

In closing, I urge all of us to remember that the Sesquicentennial is in full swing. For most of us, this type of event is a once in a lifetime deal. We need to continue to put forth all the effort we can at as many events as we can. Remember, there are people out there looking for us; we need to be visible for them to locate.

As always, with respect,
Joe Nokes

Welcome New Camp Member

Welcome to our newest Camp member Chesley Roberts. Chesley is the descendant of Samuel Cloud, 3rd Great Grandfather. Samuel Cloud was a Private in Company B, 1st Cherokee Mounted Rifles.



Happy Birthday Brig/Gen Benjamin G. Humphreys

Benjamin Grubb Humphreys was born August 26, 1808 on his family's plantation, "Hermitage," in Claiborne County, Mississippi. He attended school in Kentucky and New Jersey, until his appointment to West Point in 1825. This class was filled with other notables such as Robert E. Lee, and Joseph E. Johnston. Entering the US Military Academy in 1825, he and a number of other cadets were dismissed after a Christmas Eve riot in 1826.

Humphreys returned to Mississippi to oversee the family plantation, where he began the study of law. He was a member of the Whig party, and served in both houses of the State Legislature. He opposed secession, but nevertheless raised a company, the *Sunflower Guards* which later became Company I of the 21st Regiment of

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Upcoming Events

August 4 - (Saturday) –
Camp Meeting/ Pilgrimage
to Grand Gulf Military State
Park – This will be a picnic
to honor General
Humphreys on his Birthday
(No Camp meeting on
Thursday August 2)

Adjutant's Report: Dan McCaskill

The Camp Meeting of July 5, 2012 was called to order by Commander Joe Nokes at 7:00 pm. The Meeting was opened with an invocation and blessing by Camp Chaplain Earl McCown. Commander Nokes welcomed all members and guests attending the Meeting. The Commander then invited all to partake in the evening which was in honor of the birth of Nathan Bedford Forrest. After the meal, Commander Nokes reconvened the Meeting. Color Sergeant Chris Lewis led the members and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag and salutes to the Flag of Mississippi and the Battle Flag of the Confederacy. After the salutes, Chris read "The Charge" to the Sons of Confederate Veterans given to us by General Stephen D. Lee to remind everyone why we do what we do.

The first order of business was the Commander inducting James Alford and Johnny Gaugh as members of the Camp. They brought our membership to 56. Joe then gave a recap of the State Reunion held in Brandon. Eleven of us from the Camp and Chapter attended the Reunion. Individual honors for the Camp were W. Alfred Burton was awarded the Division Graves Award and the Camp took the Division Scrapbook Award. Congratulations to Joe Nokes for a great job. Missy Stillman was elected the MS OCR Society President and Annette McCluney elected Vice-president.

Camp Program: Henry McCabe gave an impromptu talk on activities surrounding the Siege of Ft. Pemberton. One interesting fact learned was the number and size of ships sunk to impede the Union navy. Henry also had some artifacts retrieved from the wrecks.

Announcements: The Nathan Bedford Forrest Memorial in Memphis will be held on Sunday, July 8th at Forrest Park starting at 2:00 pm. The National Reunion will be in Murfreesboro, TN July 11 - 15. Brandon Beck will be at Cottonlandia on August 7th for a book signing. For our Camp Meeting in August, we will renew our pilgrimage to Grand Gulf and Port Gibson in honor of Benjamin G. Humphreys on Saturday, August 4th. We plan to meet at Grand Gulf around 11:00 am. Labor Day weekend will be the Battle of Iuka Re-enactment. More information will be published when known.

Officer Reports: 1st Lt. Commander Larry McCluney announced next month's program will be the picnic at Grand Gulf Military Park in honor of the birth of Benjamin G. Humphreys. Larry was still working on a speaker for September and had booked Allen Doyle of the Forrest Camp in Memphis for October. Allen will talk about Forrest. 2nd Lt. Commander Junior Stillman was working on several prospective members. Adjutant Dan McCaskill reported that Chesley Roberts had submitted his application and paid his dues to join the SCV. This would bring Camp Membership to 57. Camp funds still stood at \$ 1,489 in the checking account. Dan reported that the Camp Executive Committee held a meeting prior to the Camp Meeting. It was decided to invest \$ 1,000 of the Camp funds in the 2013 Vicksburg Reunion. It is possible to receive up to 10 times in interest than what is received from the banks. Also, the Camp would create its own email address for use by the Camp and IHQ. Annual dues would be due and payable on August 1st. Annual dues for renewing members are \$ 50. Finally, the Camp had received enough funds to make contribution to the church through August. We need \$ 120 in donations to complete the year. Editor Larry McCluney inquired if anyone had trouble receiving the Delta General. Earl McCown reported that the Gen. Charles Clark Chapter of the MOS & B needed a few good men. AOT Councilman, Larry reported he was running for re-election and asked for the Camp's support.

Camp Business: The Camp members voted on business pertaining to the National Reunion. It was voted to support Paul Grambling for 1st Lt. Commander-in-Chief. It was voted to not support Constitutional Amendments # 1 & 2 and for Amendment # 3. It was also voted to support Amendment # 1 & 2 to the Standing Orders. With no other business coming before the Camp, it was voted to adjourn the Meeting. Commander Nokes thanked everyone for bringing the food for the picnic and for attending the meeting. The Meeting was dismissed with a word of prayer by Chaplain Earl McCown. Attendance for the evening was 26.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dan McCaskill, Adj.

Camp News:

Door Prizes, Capture the Yankee, Show and Tell, and August Meeting

To revitalize interest in camp meetings, Lt. Commander Larry McCluney has encouraged a door prize raffle that is conducted and carried out by the OCR. The OCR has also revived the Capture the Yankee as a fund raiser. There is a red chip for every member in the Camp in the pot and a white chip for every OCR member. One blue chip symbolizing the Yankee. Chances are \$.25 cents each and whomever captures the yankee gets half the pot. That yankee has yet to be captured The pot is now up to \$38.00 and growing. Come to the meetings and lets see if you can capture that elusive Yankee.

For our August Camp meeting, we will make a pilgrimage to Grand Gulf Military Park just outside of Port Gibson for a Saturday Picnic. Afterwards we will explore the park and travel to the Port Gibson Cemetery to lay flowers on Gen. Humphreys grave. This is a family affair so we want kids, wives, everyone involved. The date for the August meeting will be Saturday, August 4, at 11:00 AM. We will meet at the Pavilion on the hill as soon as you enter the park. There are ceiling fans their and a nice shade. Perfect for a picnic. Everyone will bring a dish and we will put it all together. Mark your calendars and make plans for this special weekend and enjoy the fellowship as we get the opportunity to honor two great men during July and August. Maybe we can even have a cake made for the August meeting to honor General Humphreys. The OCR would like everyone to bring a covered dish for a social and to remember the General. Please e-mail Annette McCluney what you plan to bring – confederate@suddenlink.net

National Convention at Vicksburg 2013

Commander Palmer reports that the website to get all registration forms for Vicksburg in 2013 is up and running. Also, the motels are taking reservations at the Quality Inn Suites NOW, and starting August 1 at the Host Hotel, the Hampton Inn and Suites. For more information go to <http://2013scvreunion.homestead.com/Index.html>

Camp Meetings for July and August, 2012

In May of 1962, the Grand Gulf Military Monument Park was officially opened, dedicated to preserving the memory of both the town and the battle in which occurred there. Located eight miles northwest of Port Gibson, Mississippi off Highway 61, this 400 acre landmark is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and includes Fort Cobun and Fort Wade, the Grand Gulf Cemetery, a museum, campgrounds, picnic areas, hiking trails, an observation tower, and several restored buildings dating back to Grand Gulf's heyday.

Park guests can step back in time and relive history as it was made. Beginning at the museum, you can trace the development of Grand Gulf through early photographs, maps, scale models, and authentic artifacts found in the area. Coaches and carriages bear silent witness to the days when Grand Gulf was bustling with people; while Union and Confederate uniforms, cannon balls, and muskets remain to tell of the fierce fighting that took place during the latter stage of the Civil War.

The old town of Grand Gulf has an interesting history and the museum displays items from the early days of the booming town. Also in the museum are items such as a Mastodon bone, Civil War artifacts, items used and paper artifacts from the early 1800's up to the 1950's. Day visitors & campers are surprised at this wonderful park and museum. In the near *future* come and visit the *past*, at Grand Gulf.

The museum and grounds fee is only \$3.00 for those that are under 60 years young, \$2.00 for those that are over 60 years young, and \$1.00 for students K-12th grade.

Grand Gulf Military Monument Park is located 10 miles from the Natchez Trace Parkway. Exit Natchez Trace Parkway onto Mississippi Highway 18 (milepost 41) and drive into Port Gibson. From the courthouse area in Port Gibson take Anthony Street out of town heading northwest. Anthony Street becomes Oil Mill Road. Oil Mill Road deadends into Grand Gulf Road. Turn left on Grand Gulf Road and follow the road to the park.



Pictures From National Convention



Top Left – Mississippi Delegation at the Grand Ball
Top Right – Commander Joe Nokes and Patty Nokes
Bottom Right – Patty Nokes, Alana Palmer, and Annette McCluney



Our Camp and local OCR Chapter was very well represented at National Convention in Murfreesboro, TN. Camp members included Dan and Nathan McCaskill, Larry McCluney, Joe Nokes, and Alan Palmer. OCR members included Annette McCluney, Missy Stillman, Ann McCaskill, and Patty Nokes. Larry McCluney was re-elected as Army of Tennessee Councilman and received the Commander's Commendation Medal. Nathan McCaskill was made an Aide-de-Camp with the rank of Ensign by the Commander-in-Chief.

Next year's National Reunion will be held in Vicksburg, MS and Mississippians need to turn out in record numbers.

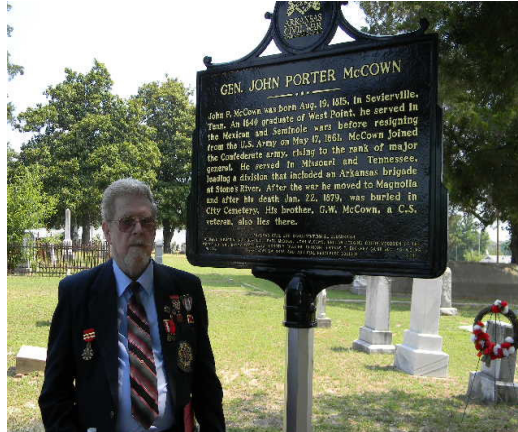


Book Signing August 7 at the Museum of the MS Delta

The Museum of the Mississippi Delta presents a lecture and book signing on Tuesday night, August 7, at 6:30 PM on the CSS Arkansas by Dr. Brandon Beck. This is the second in a series of book signings dealing with the Sesquicentennial. The address is 1608 Hwy 82 W | Greenwood, MS 38930 | (662) 453-0925 www.museumofthemississippidelta.com | Like us on Facebook

Camp Member Attends Marker Dedication to his Ancestor

June 30, 2012 Magnolia, Arkansas.
Dedication of Sesquicentennial Marker
of Major General John Porter McCown
(the highest ranking Confederate Officer
buried in the State of Arkansas) the
ancestor of Camp member Earl
McCown.



Division News:

CSA Marker Dedication Service - Verona, MS

The Lt. John Sallis Camp 1776 has been asked to conduct a CSA Grave Marker dedication service on Sunday, August 12, 2012 beginning at 2:30 PM at the Verona City Cemetery in Verona, MS.

The soldier being honored is Pvt. Tilman A. Webb from the Jones 1st Arkansas Battalion, C.S.A who died in Verona on August 12, 1862. Hence, the significance of the family's request to perform this service on the 150th anniversary of Pvt. Webb's death.

Your attendance and participation would be greatly appreciated. Dr. Michael D. Warren, Chaplin and Past Commander of Camp 1776, will be the keynote speaker. Let's "Rally the Troops" by encouraging all of your family, friends, and fellow SCV Camp members to come out and pay homage to the memory of one of our unsung Southern Heroes.

With Kindest Southern Regards,
Kelly Martin (Lt. John Sallis Camp 1776 - PH: 662-891-2528)

Ramblings from Jim Huffman of the Gainesville Volunteers Camp

Compatriots:

As an English teacher, it behooves me (though I may be using "behooves" incorrectly!) to remind all of my beloved Compatriots about the difference in the meaning of the words "ancestors" and "descendants." ["Descendant" vs "descendent" is a whole 'nother smoke!] And, let me be perfectly clear, that this clarification is in no way directed at my very good friend, Hon. Mike Webb, who posted today about our all needing to attend Fall Muster, rather than the reenactment scheduled for the same day at Raymond. (Kudos for your statement, with which I heartily concur and intend to abide by, Mike!) [And, yes, you can end a sentence with a preposition, because English is a Germanic language, in which verbs with separable prefixes (usually prepositions) -- like "by" in the last sentence -- usually "throw" the separated prefix (i.e., preposition) to the end of the sentence! Some smartass Latin professors around the year 1600 or so, in England, decided "all by their lonesome" that, no, English is a Latin language (which is it not), and, so, it was incorrect to "throw" the prepositions to the end of the sentence. They're dead, so forget them and their silly and incorrect rules!]

Many Compatriots use the word "ancestor" in referring to themselves; what they actually mean is "descendant." "Ancestors" are those who have gone before us. We "descendants" descend, or spring, from those ancestors. For example, my ancestor, Capt. Henry James Gully, was a member of the 1st MS Infantry. I, his descendant, am a resident of Picayune. My ancestors fought in the War for Southern Independence. Their descendants -- my family -- are proud of the service those ancestors gave to the South.

So, when we speak of our "ancestors," we are speaking of those wonderful heroes who rode with Forrest, marched with Stonewall, etc. When we speak of "descendants," we are speaking of the offspring of those noble Confederate patriots: their children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, etc.

I just wanted to mention this difference because many of us use "ancestor" when we really mean "descendant."
Thanks, and, again, I intend no mean spiritedness with this clarification. And, like Bill Hinson, said, "I stand with Mike Webb!" (That's some pretty darn good company to be standing in!***)

-- Jim Huffman, sometime English teacher, Picayune High School

***Again, note the CORRECT use of a preposition at the end of an ENGLISH sentence!!! PS: "Descendant" is a noun that almost always means a person, but can be an animal descended from a certain sire, etc. "Descendent" is an adjective, meaning "pointing or going in a downward direction," as in "The airplane was in a descendent attitude." (Fun things to know and share! See why I went into English? No? I didn't think so!)

Beauvoir's New Director is a Davis Descendant (Sun-Herald News)

BILOXI -- The only key to the front door of Beauvoir was handed to Jefferson Davis' great-great grandson Bertram Hayes-Davis on Wednesday as he officially became the executive director of The Jefferson Davis Home and Presidential Library. Former acting director Richard Forte Sr. will continue as chairman of the combined boards of directors and trustees. Forte said after he presented the key to Davis' grandson, "As a historian, how much closer can you get to history than that?"

Hayes-Davis has the same blue eyes and looks much like his grandfather, who lived at Beauvoir the last 12 years of his life. This is the first time since Davis' widow, Varina Davis, left Beauvoir in 1891 that a Davis is back at the property full time. It just might be the only presidential library where a descendant works at the site. His family's goal is to bring Beauvoir back to the national institution it was before Hurricane Katrina, the new director said. He has served as president of the Davis Family Association since 1976 and is committed to making people aware that Davis, as he calls his great-great grandfather, was a West Point graduate, U.S. secretary of war, senator and a regent at the Smithsonian Institution in addition to being the president of the Confederacy.

Hayes-Davis has a master's degree in geology and experience in communications, fundraising, grants and marketing. Most recently he was head of oil and gas management for JP Morgan in Dallas. He also was involved in community organizations in Colorado, where he was born and lived most of his life.

He remembers visiting Beauvoir from the time he was about 5 years old. "It's absolutely wonderful to have him here," history buff Andrea Daroca of California said Wednesday when she and her husband, Frank, returned to Beauvoir for the first time in 40 years. She told Hayes-Davis their first thought when they heard about Hurricane Katrina was whether Davis' house survived the storm. Everyone who comes to Beauvoir has a story, said Hayes-Davis, and the one he hears the most is from people who have lived in South Mississippi for decades and are making their first visit to the property. He hopes to engage the community in the activities at Beauvoir, and he and his wife, Carol, will meet the community today at 5:30 p.m. during a reception at the Biloxi Visitors Center on U.S. 90. Their initial focus will be to create events that will bring people and prominence to the property. After the library opens this fall, they plan to invite noted authors and scholars from around the country to Beauvoir to discuss the Constitution, religion, states' rights and other topics about which Davis was passionate. They also plan to incorporate technology in the museum displays to engage all ages.

"We're going to make this a destination, not only for the Gulf Coast, but the South and maybe even national," he said. Two more replica cottages will be built to house a banquet hall and a catering kitchen and they have plans for a spectacular Christmas. Beauvoir has a \$500,000 grant to recreate Varina's large rose garden and vegetable garden in the original spot behind the house beginning this fall. And they have Varina's own drawings and descriptions of the landscape in letters to her daughter. The Mississippi Department of Archives and History is overseeing the project. Along with views of the water and the pelicans from the front porch of Beauvoir the Hayes-Davises see 52 acres of opportunity stretching behind the buildings at Beauvoir.

"I don't know if there's anything else like this anywhere," said Carol. "Who knew we'd have a key to this house?"



TIM ISBELL/SUN HERALD Richard Forte hands the keys to Beauvoir to Bertram Hayes-Davis and Carol Hayes-Davis Wednesday morning in Biloxi.

MOVIE OPPORTUNITY TO COME

Who loves the old westerns, with John Wayne, Gabby Hayes, Gregory Peck, Randolph Scott, and other character actors of that time period? Well, it is our time for a resurgence of those western classic films. "They Wore Blue and Gray" is a screenplay that actor/screenwriter Gerry Glenn Jones wrote using the rustic theme of the old west with no crude language and nudity (family-friendly). Though the film does contain violence, good will prevail over evil and when mixed together, all that can be...will be expected.

The plot of the film revolves around two cousins who as young men attended West Point together. At the time they received their commissions, war broke out. One cousin left the Union and joined the Confederate cause, while the other, stayed with the Union. They are later re-united when they return to their homes in Mississippi, where they, not only have to deal with a land hungry carpetbagger, who doesn't mind having people killed, but also, the wrath and hatred of their neighbors.

This film has a very unique twist at the end, that will leave movie goers saying, "I didn't expect that!" It will have great music, and superbly, acted - scenes. They Wore Blue and Grey will have a strong cast of the best actors in the South, and the artwork will be great! Set adviser for historical correctness will be Gary L. Benton (W.R. Benton) <http://www.wrbenton.net/>

Some re-enactment units will be asked to set camp up like a normal re-enactment, stay overnight and act (possible speaking parts) or as background crowd, may be asked to double as town people and 1800's western look with clothing and horse gear may be needed. If in North MS., if you come from down the state you need to be able to get yourself up there and stay, depending on the crew. **Updates will come as necessary. Don Green can mass communicate to you guys and gals.** Best thing to do is subscribe to the mailing list of the MS. Film Office and that way you will get information as you need it. <http://www.visitmississippi.org/film/mississippi-filmoffice.aspx> Questions need to be directed to Gerry Glenn - <http://www.actorgerryglennjones.com>

SOUTHERN HERITAGE CONFERENCE

SPONSORED BY THE JONES COUNTY ROSIN HEELS, SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

Friday, August 10 7 PM, Saturday, August 11 9 AM-7 PM

BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH ADMISSION \$10 INDIVIDUALS, \$15 FAMILY

Teachers, Pastors, Elected Officials admitted free-They'll Like It Or They Need It

SATURDAY MEALS each \$10 Noon Dinner*5:30 PM \$15 Supper MUST BE RESERVED BY AUGUST 7

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CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE INCLUDES CONFEDERATE CEILIDH & IRISH DANCE AT THEY 7:30 PM

Fiddler, Irish Band Emerald Accent (emeraldaccent.com) Irish Dance Instruction Provided Period Dance Instruction by Pat and Andy Salassi

Speakers:

John Eidsmoe: Strict Constructionist, Constitutional Law Professor, Author of CHRISTIANITY And The CONSTITUTION (student research assistant was CONGRESSWOMAN MICHELLE BACHMAN)

Dr John Killian: Pastor and Theology Professor, New Orleans Baptist Seminary, Multiple Winner of MOSB Oratory Contest, Christian Conservative Leader and Frequent Speaker at TEA PARTY events in Alabama

Ryan Walters: Author of GROVER CLEVELAND, THE LAST JEFFERSONIAN, Popular Speaker, Prominent Conservative, USM Doctoral Candidate

Doors Open One Hour Before Each Session

If you want to know the TRUTH about Southern and American History that you weren't taught in school, the TRUTH about what your TAXES have paid for, the TRUTH about the rest of the story that THOSE PEOPLE don't want you to know, you HAVE TO ATTEND!!!!

**FOR MEAL & ADMISSION RESERVATIONS 601-649-1867 DAY 601-428-5570 NIGHT
csaford@hotmail.com georgejaynes1953@yahoo.com**

National SCV News:



The Sesquicentennial (150th Anniversary) of the Cause for Southern Independence is upon us! The Sons of Confederate Veterans has established a unique way you can show support for our efforts and build a legacy for the future. It is the SCV Sesquicentennial Society! By joining this prestigious group you will help in supporting two projects very important to the future.

First- the General Executive Council made the commitment in October of 2008

to start the process to erect a new building on our property at Historic Elm Springs. One of the uses of this new building is to give us office space and return Elm Springs to its original grandeur. However the main function is to house The Confederate Museum. We are planning a museum that will tell the truth about what motivated the Southern people to struggle for many years to form a new nation. It will give an accurate portrayal of the Confederate soldier, something that is lacking in most museum and in the media. 75 % of the money received through this effort goes to that building fund.

Second-we need to leave a legacy for our Compatriots who will be the members and leaders of the SCV when the Bicentennial of the Cause for Southern Independence arrives 50 years from now. One can only guess at the obstacles they will have to face in putting forth an accurate commemoration. 25% of the money will go into a fund to be used by the SCV at that point in time.

Here is how you can take part. To join it is a minimum payment of \$200. (You can give more if you wish!) You will receive a handsome SCV Sesquicentennial Society Medal and Certificate. This program will end at the close of the Sesquicentennial. You may pay all at once or you can make non-refundable installments of \$50 (you will receive the medal and certificate when paid in full).

Send a check to:

Sons of Confederate Veterans
c/o Sesquicentennial Society
P.O. Box 59
Columbia, TN 38402

Or you can call 1-800-MY-DIXIE to pay by credit card. You may also use the on-line donation page at <https://scv.secure-sites.us/donation.php> At this time the on-line page does not have a \$200 option. You can select \$250 (donating an extra \$50) or you can donate \$100 twice. If you choose to pay by installment there is \$50 option. Be sure to put Sesquicentennial Society in the box marked purpose of payment.

We hope that all Compatriots will take advantage of this opportunity to make a stand for the future. You can proudly wear your medal and display your certificate as a symbols of your commitment to teaching the true history of the South to future generations.

Brig/General Benjamin G. Humphreys continued from page 1 . . .

Mississippi Infantry. Humphreys was elected Colonel of the regiment upon its organization in Virginia from various independent companies which had arrived on their own. As part of Brig. Gen. William Barksdale's brigade, he led the 21st Mississippi in the Seven Days', Antietam, Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville Campaigns. On July 2, 1863, General William Barksdale, commander of the First Mississippi Brigade of which the 21st Regiment was a part, was killed in the gallant charge which broke the Union line at the Peach Orchard at Gettysburg. Colonel Humphreys, the only field officer of the brigade who had not been killed or wounded, assumed command of the Brigade. Promoted to brigadier general as of August 12, 1863, he took his regiment west, fighting at Chickamauga and Knoxville. Humphreys participated in the battles of the Wilderness, Spotsylvania and Cold Harbor. In August of 1864, Humphreys and his troops were sent to the Shenandoah Valley to reinforce the II Corps, under Lt. Gen. Jubal A. Early. General Humphreys continued to lead his men until the battle of Berryville in September 1864, where he was severely wounded and disabled for the remainder of the war.

General Humphreys was Mississippi's first elected Governor after the war. He was inaugurated October 16, 1865, after receiving a pardon from President Andrew Johnson. Although Governor Humphreys was a moderate of conciliatory spirit, his opposition to Radical Reconstruction resulted in his forcible ejection from office June 15, 1868. Humphreys and his family refused to leave the Governor's Mansion in Jackson, Mississippi, but were eventually marched out at bayonet point. Humphreys entered the insurance business in Jackson, and Vicksburg, but ultimately returned to his plantation in Leflore County, Mississippi, where he died December 20, 1882. He was buried in Port Gibson.

"It is my philosophy that though the South lost all but honor to save that honor, it was better to have fought and lost than not to fight at all."

B.G. Humphreys, "Autobiography"

Sesquicentennial Article:

The Second Battle of Manassas/ The Kentucky Campaign of 1862

After the Union defeat at Manassas in July 1861, Gen. George B. McClellan took command of the Federal forces in and around Washington and organized them into a formidable fighting machine- the Army of the Potomac. In March 1862, leaving a strong force to cover the capital, McClellan shifted his army by water to Fort Monroe on the tip of the York-James peninsular, only 100 miles southeast of Richmond. Early in April he advanced toward the Confederate capital.

Anticipating such a move, the Southerners abandoned the Manassas area and marched to meet the Federals. By the end of May, McClellan's troops were within sight of Richmond. Here Gen. Joseph E. Johnston's Confederate army assailed the Federals in the bloody but inconclusive Battle of Seven Pines. Johnston was wounded, and President Davis placed Gen. Robert E. Lee in command. Seizing the offensive, Lee sent his force (now called the Army of Northern Virginia) across the Chickahominy River and, in a series of savage battles, pushed McClellan back from the edge of Richmond to a position on the James River.

At the same time, the scattered Federal forces in northern Virginia were organized into the Army of Virginia under the command of Gen. John Pope, who arrived with a reputation freshly won in the war's western theater. Gambling that McClellan would cause no further trouble around Richmond, Lee sent Stonewall Jackson's corps northward to "suppress" Pope. Jackson clashed indecisively with part of Pope's troops at Cedar Mountain on August 9. Meanwhile, learning that the Army of the Potomac was withdrawing by water to join Pope, Lee marched with Gen. James Longstreet's corps to bolster Jackson. On the Rapidan, Pope successfully blocked Lee's attempts to gain the tactical advantage, and then withdrew his men north of the Rappahannock River. Lee knew that if he was to defeat Pope he would have to strike before McClellan's army arrived in northern Virginia. On August 25 Lee boldly started Jackson's corps on a march of over 50 miles, around the Union right flank to strike at Pope's rear.

Two days later, Jackson's veterans seized Pope's supply depot at Manassas Junction. After a day of wild feasting, Jackson burned the Federal supplies and moved to a position in the woods at Groveton near the old Manassas battlefield.

Pope, stung by the attack on his supply base, abandoned the line of the Rappahannock and headed towards Manassas to "bag" Jackson. At the same time, Lee was moving northward with Longstreet's corps to reunite his army. On the afternoon of August 28, to prevent the Federal commander's efforts to concentrate at Centreville and bring Pope to battle, Jackson ordered his troops to attack a Union column as it marched past on the Warrenton Turnpike. This savage fight at Brawner's Farm lasted until dark.

Convinced that Jackson was isolated, Pope ordered his columns to converge on Groveton. He was sure that he could destroy Jackson before Lee and Longstreet could intervene. On the 29th Pope's army found Jackson's men posted along an unfinished railroad grade, north of the turnpike. All afternoon, in a series of uncoordinated attacks, Pope hurled his men against the Confederate position. In several places the northerners momentarily breached Jackson's line, but each time were forced back. During the afternoon, Longstreet's troops arrived on the battlefield and, unknown to Pope, deployed on Jackson's right, overlapping the exposed Union left. Lee urged Longstreet to attack, but "Old Pete" demurred. The time was just not right, he said.

The morning of August 30 passed quietly. Just before noon, erroneously concluding the Confederates were retreating, Pope ordered his army forward in "pursuit". The pursuit, however, was short-lived. Pope found that Lee had gone nowhere. Amazingly, Pope ordered yet another attack against Jackson's line. Fitz-John Porter's corps, along with part of McDowell's, struck Starke's division at the unfinished railroad's "Deep Cut." The southerners held firm, and Porter's column was hurled back in a bloody repulse.

Seeing the Union lines in disarray, Longstreet pushed his massive columns forward and staggered the Union left. Pope's army was faced with annihilation. Only a heroic stand by northern troops, first on Chinn Ridge and then once again on Henry Hill, bought time for Pope's hard-pressed Union forces. Finally, under cover of darkness the defeated Union army withdrew across Bull Run towards the defenses of Washington. Lee's bold and brilliant Second Manassas campaign opened the way for the south's first invasion of the north, and a bid for foreign intervention.

Order of Confederate Rose News

The Order of Confederate Rose held their Annual National Reunion July 12-13 in Murfreesboro, TN. Members that attended were Missy Stillman, Annette McCluney, Ann McCaskill, and Patty Nokes. As a reminder to the members of the Ella Palmer Chapter, our annual membership dues are to be paid by August 31. We have a grace period till January 1. Renewals are \$20.00 and can be paid to Annette McCluney at the meetings or by mail:

Annette McCluney
1412 North Park Dr
Greenwood, MS 38930

Make Checks out to: Ella Palmer Chapter #9, OCR



It is my hopes that all our members will renew their membership because we have many new potential members interested in joining. We now have a new society website – www.msocr.weebly.com check it out to keep updated on MS Society news. Hope to see you on Saturday, August 4th as we will join the men at Grand Gulf Military Park as our regular meeting. Please forward to me what you will be bringing for the Picnic by e-mail (a_mccluney@yahoo.com) or call me at 662-453-7212.

MOS&B News:

Wounded At Drewry's Bluff – First Lieutenant

Joseph B. Whitt

By Colonel Greg Eanes, USAF (Ret), Col Thomas H. Williamson Chapter #249, Virginia Society, MOS&B

First Lieutenant Joseph Bently Whitt (1) was the son of Abijah and Nancy Compton Whitt (2) of Montgomery County, Virginia. Born in 1832, he first enlisted in Confederate service as the First Corporal of Company K, 24th Virginia Infantry. Whitt enlisted for 12 months and mustered into service with Company K on 30 May 1861 in Lynchburg, Va. On 13 February of 1862, he re-enlisted to extend his service for two years and received a \$50 bounty. On 10 May 1862 he was appointed 2nd Lieutenant of Co. K and by 31 April 1863 he was listed as a 1st Lieutenant. (3)



Figure 1-WHITT FAMILY - This pre-war photo shows Joseph B. Whitt (standing on right) and Elvira Susan Haley (1841-1909) and (sitting) Whitt's parents, Nancy Compton Whitt (1803-1888) and Abijah Whitt (1791-1858). They resided in Montgomery County, Virginia. (Image from family file on Ancestry.com)

Second Lieutenant Whitt found himself in command of the company by October of 1862. Though the reasons are unclear, it appears the more senior company officers may have been on detached duty or on leave. In March and April of 1864, as a 1st Lieutenant, Whitt is again commanding the company. He appears to have served in all the major battles of the regiment until severely wounded in action at the 16 May 1864 battle of Drewry's Bluff. There is no record of capture, surrender or parole. He appears on a list of casualties in Pickett's Division in the engagements before Fredericksburg from 13 to 15 December 1862. His pension application states he was wounded on 12 December 1862 (likely the 13th) by a shell burst that fractured the thumb in the left hand. The wound caused complications in later life but did not keep him from continuing to serve in the Army. His second and most severe wounding took place on 16 May 1864 at the Battle of Drewry's Bluff. In support of Grant's Overland Campaign, the Union Army of the Peninsula under Gen. Butler landed between Petersburg and Richmond to attempt to take Richmond. Confederate General P.G.T. Beauregard effected a blocking action that bottled up Butler's forces. The 24th Va Infantry was part of that effort.

At Drewry's Bluff Whitt was wounded in the left thigh and back. Evacuated from the battlefield, Whitt was sent to General Hospital No. 4 in Richmond gaining admission on 16 May. His pension indicates he was wounded twice at Drewry's Bluff with bullets entering the left shoulder, passing through the neck, cutting part of the neck bone and exiting out the back. A second bullet passed through the left posterior. A postwar disability application medical record provides a little more detail. The doctor reported "a bullet entering the bicep muscle in the left arm and emerging at a point over the first dorsal vertebrae." [This is roughly the top of the spinal column.] The doctor notes a second wound from a "bullet entering behind the external carotid [carotid] artery [a major artery of the head and neck], wounding the mastoid muscle [very bottom, back of skull] and emerging from a point immediately over the second cervical vertebra" or the axis of the spine. This is the point where the first cervical vertebra carries the head and allows rotation of the head. By 25 May he was

stabilized for movement to the General Hospital. While in the hospital he applied for new clothes by letter to the Assistant Quartermaster. Whitt wrote:

"I have the honor to make a brief statement of my present needy condition. Kemper's Brigade (the one to which I belong) left Tarboro, N.C. on the 15th of April to assist in the reduction of Plymouth. But before leaving, orders came from Brig [ade] Head Qtrs for officers & men to leave

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MOS&B Continued . . .

their heavy baggage in camp un-der guard. After the fall of Plymouth, the army went from there to Newbern & from Newborn to Virginia. Consequently we have failed as yet to recover our baggage. The brigade Q.M. failing to get transportation for it. After I was wounded (May 16th) my jacket, vest & shirt was cut off of me and thrown away. My pants & draw-ers were hanging in tatters when I came to this place. So I am left with only hospi-tal clothes.

Col, I desire very much to know if it is in your power to issue me a suit of govern-ment clothes. If it is I will be under many obligations to you as I am subjected to a great deal of inconvenience, not having any money nor cannot draw but one month's wages under present orders.

I stand in great need of the following articles, viz, 1 jacket, 1 shirt, pr pants, 1 pr drawers & pr of socks." (4)

Whitt was issued his new clothes. On 13 June 1864 he was granted a 60-day furlough and convalescent leave. He is listed on muster rolls of the period as being absent as a result of his wounds. There is no record of Whitt being medically discharged or of his returning to duty. The severity of the wounds suggest returning to duty was never an option and he likely was still recuperating at home when the war ended.

Whitt married Elvira Susan Haley (5) on 26 November 1873 in Pulaski County, Virginia and remained there in the community of Highwassie to farm. They had six children: Edna Smithson Whitt (1876-1955); George Clinton Whitt (1879-1968); Mary Bentley Whitt (1881-1962); Carrie L. Whitt (1882-1929); Mildred Lelia Whitt (1882-1931) and Permelia Whitt (1884-1905). Whitt applied for a Confederate Disability Pension in 1879 and a regular Confederate Pension on 2 April 1888 at the age of 56. He died in July 1905 at 73 years of age.

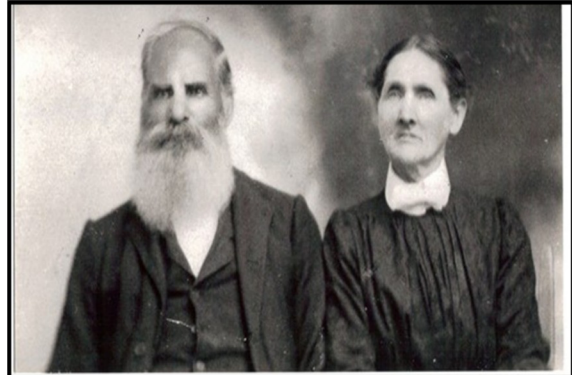


Figure 2 - Joseph Bentley Whitt and Elvira Susan Haley Whitt of Pulaski County, VA later in life.

Family's Service and Sacrifice

Records indicate several of Whitt's brothers also served in the Confederate Army. Brothers Fleming T. Whitt (1825-1902) and Martin L. Whitt (1836-?) were privates in Co. E, 54th Va Infantry serving in the Army of the Tennessee.

Fleming was wounded at Kolb's Farm in 1862 and captured near Marietta Georgia on 22 June 64. He was released from Camp Douglas, IL POW camp on 16 June 1865. He and his wife Polly later received Confederate Pensions from Virginia. He died in Montgomery County, Va in 1902 at age 77. One of their eight children, born in 1862, was a son named Joseph B. Whitt, in honor of his officer brother.

Martin was wounded in action in the right hip on 15 May 64 at Resaca, Georgia. He was married twice. His first wife was Ruth S. Chaffin (1844-?) married on 10 August 1859 in Montgomery County, Va. His second wife was Sallie F. Tucker (1836-?) married in Montgomery County, Va on 15 Nov 1865.

A third brother, John Calvin Whitt (1835-?) served in Co. E, 24th Va Infantry in the Army of Northern Virginia. He married Elmira Radcliffe (1844-1900) on 15 June 1865. His date of death is undetermined but the place of death is believed to have been in Wythe County, Va.

Notes:

1. Lieutenant Joseph B. Whitt is the three-time great uncle to Williamson Chapter MOS&B member Greg Eanes.
2. Other children included Flemming Trigg Whitt (1825-1902); Nancy S. Whitt (1827-1888); Mary Jane Whitt (24 Dec 1829-1902), later married John Grim; John Calvin Whitt, b. 1835; possible twins Martin L. and Martina Whitt, b.1836, and Wilhelmina Whitt (1827-1888). One son cannot be positively determined, either Thomas L. or William C.
3. The details of Whitt's service are contained in his Compiled Service Record, Virginia Confederate Disability Applications and Virginia Confederate Pension applications. The latter are available through the Library of Virginia website. His Disability Application was incorrectly transcribed as "James" rather than "Joseph".
4. Undated request in CSR file.
5. She was the daughter of H.B. Haley and C. Haley of Charlotte County, Va. A pre-war photo together with Whitt's parents suggests a strong tie but for some reason they didn't get married before the war. The marriage certificate indicates Elvira was widowed by the time she married Joseph B. Whitt, age 41. She was aged 32 at the time.

Membership in the Military Order of the Stars & Bars is limited to male descendants, either lineal or collateral, of the officers who served honorably in the Army, Navy and other commands of the Confederate States of America and male descendants of the elected and appointed civilian officials of the Confederate States; the national Confederate Government; and the Five Civilized Tribes which allied with the Confederacy. All members must be at least twelve years old. **Ancestral documentation must accompany all applications for membership.** First year national dues are \$50 and must accompany your completed application. This fee covers the national dues for the current year, plus the succeeding year. Annual renewals for national membership are \$35. Your State Society and Local Chapter may also have annual dues in addition to the national dues.

National life memberships are also available. The life membership fee is determined on an age graduation scale. For additional information on the chapter closest to you, review the State and Local links on this site or contact our National Headquarters. Membership includes a membership card, a lapel pin, and a large color certificate of membership suitable for framing.

Interested in joining? See Earl McCown for more information.

THE DELTA GENERAL
1412 North Park Dr
Greenwood, MS 38930

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