

The Delta General

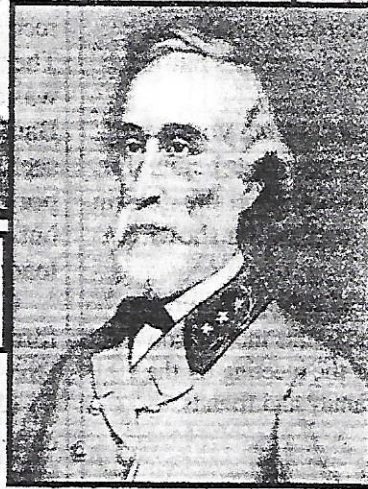
A Publication of the
Brig.-General Benjamin G. Humphreys Camp #1625, SCV
Brig.- General Charles Clark Chapter #253, MOS&B
Ella Palmer Chapter #9, OCR



B/Gen. Benjamin
Grubbs Humphreys



Ella Palmer



B/Gen. Charles Clark

August 2001 – Volume 4, Issue 8

Commander's Note

Greetings Compatriots;

General Forrest's Birthday picnic was again a big success. Thanks to all who made this possible.

As you know, we are in the midst of collecting signatures for the Constitutional Flag petitions. I am please to see so many of us getting involved. Thanks to Hartley Sanford, Paul Artman Sr., and Dan McCaskill for their efforts. We have a long way to go, and a short time to get there. October 1st is our deadline. We need at least 18,500 signatures of registered voters in each of the five Congressional Districts. We must work even harder than we have been. We must not loose this battle. It's that time again!!!

It is time to start paying your Membership Dues. The new year begins for us August 1, 2001. Let's get the dues in on time and remain a strong showing in the Division.

We will be celebrating General Humphreys Birthday this month, so we need to all come to the meeting on the 19th. Bring your family and friends.

Respectfully yours
Earl M. McCown Jr., Commander

Camp News -

Next Camp Meeting Is August 16

If you missed the July meeting you a night of fellowship as the OCR sponsored our annual General Nathan Bedford Forrest Birthday Picnic. Lt. Commander WOWED us once again with his talent on the guitar accompanied by Jessica and Julie Evans as they sanged period songs.

Some members also had artifacts and books on display from the war. The centerpiece of the all the artifacts was an actual Enfield Rifle that was recovered from the Shiloh Battlefield. The rifle was Oliver McCaskill's that was always present at the Lee/Jackson Banquets in the past. Many wanted to see it once again. Dan McCaskill reported that it is still in firing condition but he would not want to be the one to load and fire it.

Commander Earl McCown informed us in the business session that Division Commander Wayne McMaster wants every Camp to commit to continuing getting signatures for the Flag Petition drive. Deadline is set for October 1, 2001, to complete the drive. Please inform the public that this petition will give the citizens of Mississippi the right to make a constitutional amendment to protect our

flag. Also it was revealed that the general public is getting tired of the whole ordeal and we must work patiently with them in gaining their support and their signatures.

Lt. Commander Palmer also gave hints to the ULTIMATE Trivia Night that is planned for October. The ladies will have their own trivia and the questions will deal with "Women of the War" and the men's questions will deal with "Generals of the War." So start brushing up and preparing for October.

Our August meeting will feature our own News Editor as the Camp's guest speaker. He will be giving a talk on the Confederate States Marine Corp. As you know, it is this branch of service that our Camp color-guard unit portrays and reenacts at different events.

Also, Stan and Michelle Spell have a new addition to their family, a little Southern Belle. Take time out to congratulate them when you see them.

From the Adjutant

My Fellow Compatriots,

August 1, 2001 starts the new year for the Sons of Confederate Veterans. This also means that annual dues of **\$ 37.00** are now due and payable from 1 August until 31

December 2001. Our goal for this year is 100% retention of our current members. The strength of the SCV and Your Camp is solely dependant upon the members of the Camps. Last year we lost 18% of our members for various reasons. **Your Camp** cannot grow and remain a viable force without retaining its current members and re- cr u i t i n g i n g n e w m e m b e r s. Remember it was the Sons of Confederate Veterans who spearheaded the effort to retain the Mississippi Flag. We won a great battle on April 17, 2001 but the War is not over. The NAACP is marshalling their forces for renewed attacks on our Confederate Heritage in the near future. Do not remain on the sidelines; help defend your Confederate Heritage by renewing your membership today! Your dues are the ammunition the SCV uses in this fight. Please send your dues to:

Larry McCluney
P.O. Box 63
Webb, MS 38966

Or

Dan McCaskill
205 Cypress Street
Leland, MS 38756

Make your checks payable to "SCV".

God Bless The South,
Dan A. McCaskill, Adjutant

Ella Palmer Chapter #9, OCR President's Note

Ladies,

I would like to thank you for your support in making our Gen. Forrest Picnic a success once again. The food was great and so was the fellowship. Also a special thanks goes to Alan Palmer for the night's entertainment.

As you know, August 24 is General Humphreys' birthday. I would like some of us to bring some finger snacks to honor the General since we will have our meeting the week before his birthday. Let us also remember that our dues are now due this month they are \$20.00. Please make every effort to turn them in. They can be mailed to:

Anne McCaskill
205 Cypress Street
Leland, MS 38756

I hope to see each and everyone of you at our next meeting. Please make the effort to attend and bring a friend. The Camp's speaker will be my husband, Larry McCluney, who will speak on the Confederate Marine Corps.

See you on August 16, until then,

Confederately,
Annette McCluney, President

August 24 is Gen. Benjamin G. Humphrey's Birthday (1808-1882)

Benjamin Grubb Humphreys was born on August 24, 1808 in Claiborne County, Mississippi. A cadet at West Point, he was dismissed with many others after a student riot on Christmas Eve, 1826. He was a lawyer, legislator, and planter in Mississippi and an opponent of secession. When the war came, however, he raised a company and was commissioned Captain, 21st Mississippi C.S.A. on May 18, 1861. Elected Colonel on September 11, 1861, he led his regiment through all the major battles of the Army of Northern Virginia except 2nd Bull Run, until Gettysburg, when he succeeded Barksdale as brigade commander. Appointed Brig. General on August 14, 1863, he fought under Longstreet at Chickamauga and elsewhere in Georgia and Tennessee from September of 1863 until spring of 1864 and led his brigade in Kershaw's division at the Wilderness. Active in Early's Valley Campaign in 1864, he was wounded at Berryville, Virginia in September, and then given command of a military district in Mississippi.

After the war he was elected Governor of Mississippi, holding the office from October of 1865 until June of 1868, when he was ejected by the Federal military authority. He was then a planter and in the insurance business. Humphreys died on December 20, 1882 in Leflore City, Mississippi.

General Humphreys is buried in Wintergreen Cemetery in the Humphreys family plot in Port Gibson.

Announcements - 7TH ANNUAL SOUTHERN HERITAGE CONFERENCE

Come celebrate the Mississippi Flag victory with the Jones County Rosin Heels SCV Camp, at the Southern Heritage Conference at the Ramada Inn in Laurel, MS, Labor Day weekend!

Our speakers are Charley Reese, syndicated columnist, late of the Orlando Sentinel, plus Bro. John Kilian, Bro. Cary Worthington, Bro. Gene Case, and Bro. George Felton.

We'll meet Friday, August 31, at 6:30 PM and start again at 9:00 AM Saturday, September 1. We'll break for dinner at noon, and Tom Lester

(Eb on GREEN ACRES), will keep our minds sharp while we eat. We'll come back afterwards for the afternoon session.

We'll end the afternoon with a concert by Scottish entertainer Carl Peterson. Many of you are familiar with his Confederate album, "Bagpipes and Banjos". His latest album is "Scotland Remembers the Alamo".

After a nap, dress up or dress out in Confederate uniforms and antebellum ball gowns or wee kilties for the Saturday evening Supper at 7:00. Carl will sing some more and we'll have some Southern dance and maybe Scottish Country dance demonstrations for you to join in.

CONFERENCE TICKETS IN ADVANCE \$15.00 PER FAMILY, \$10.00 INDIVIDUAL PREACHERS AND OFFICE HOLDERS, FREE NOON DINNER \$10.00 PER PERSON, SUPPER \$15.00 PER PERSON

Mail check to:

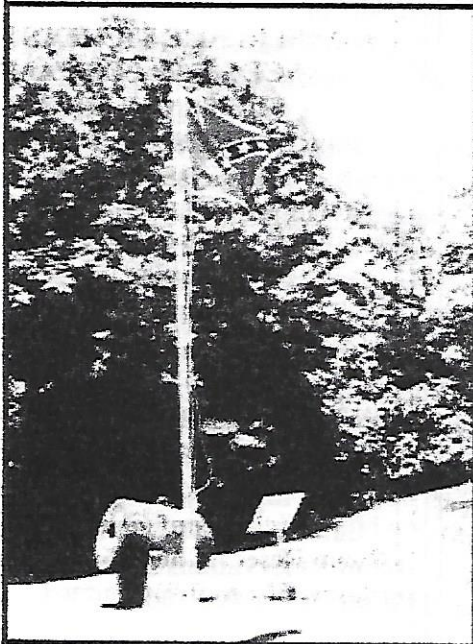
Jones County Rosin Heels
1010 Rogers St.
Laurel, Ms 39440

PHONE: 601-649-1867 days, 601-426-2041 nights, E-mail:

**LaurelSoConf @ hotmail.com
Room Reservations at the Ramada
Phone: 601-649-9100**

**Division News –
Brookhaven Light
Artillery
Raises Battle Flag at
Grand Gulf**

Seventeen members of the Camp and the Ella Palmer Chapter, OCR attended the flag ceremony at Grand Gulf Military Park. A permanent flag pole and battle flag was raised at Fort Wade to fly 24/7!! A huge victory for our Division thanks to the Brookhaven Lt. Artillery Camp.



**The Thirteenth
Amendment that Al-
lowed Slavery**

There is a long-standing controversy about a missing thirteenth amendment to the United States Constitution, which is known as "Titles of Nobility and Honor". The present interpretation of this amendment would prevent lawyers from holding public office.

There was another thirteenth amendment proposed for addition to the United States Constitution, which was passed by both Houses of Congress on March 2, 1861. After the two-thirds majority passage of the amendment during the second secession of the thirty-sixth congress, President Lincoln signed the amendment. This thirteenth amendment was submitted to the states for approval, but only Illinois ratified it before the war broke out. The amendment read:

"No amendment shall be made to the constitution which will authorize or give to congress the power to abolish or interfere, within any state, with the domestic institution thereof, including that of persons held to labor or service by the laws of the State"

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Editor's Note –

Man talk about a "What if" situation. Would the South reconciled if the amendment was passed?

Source for this article comes from the John C. Pemberton Camp in Vicksburg. Their news letter is called *From the Trenches*, Eddie Cresap, editor.

Mississippi History –

This month's issue of the Delta General is dedicated to . . .

"The Spy Harrison"



On the night of June 28, 1863, a lone horseman in civilian clothes rode through the Pennsylvania countryside near Chambersburg. Encountering pickets of the Confederate Army camped there, he demanded to be taken to see General James Longstreet at once. Longstreet recognized him as his "scout" Harrison, a trusted spy; he gave credence to the information Harrison delivered and immediately sent him to General Robert E. Lee's nearby tent.

Lee had lost contact with his cavalry, the army's eyes and ears, during the invasion of Pennsylvania and had no information on the Union army's countermoves to his raid. Harrison's timely information changed the course of the war: He reported that the Union army had crossed the Potomac River and was marching north. Lee reacted to the news immediately and ordered his army to concentrate at Gettysburg.

Not until recent years has the identity of the shadowy figure known as The Spy Harrison been unraveled. Longstreet recorded he was a "slender, wiry fellow about five feet eight, with hazel eyes, dark hair and complexion, and brown beard. He wore a citizen's

Continued on page 8 . . .

suit of dark material, and except for his stooping shoulders was well formed and evidently a man of great activity.”

Research by James O. Hall indicates that the man was most likely Henry Thomas Harrison, whom archive records identify as “one of the original Mississippi Scouts that served on the Potomac” Aided by information supplied by Harrison's granddaughters, Mrs. Marian Beattie Ralph and her sister, Mrs. Martha Beattie Alexander, Hall uncovered the identity of this elusive man. He was Henry Thomas Harrison from Nashville, Tennessee. Even Harrison's granddaughters did not know much about their grandfather's Civil War activities except that their mother, Mary Irene Harrison Beattie, had said that he was a “scout for General Longstreet.”

He was a second Lieutenant assigned to intelligence duties in Mississippi before being called to Virginia to work under Secretary of War James Seddon. A member of Longstreet's staff said Harrison “used to travel as regularly between Washington and our headquarters as . . . mail.”

Archive records make no mention of Harrison after September 19, 1863. In fact, Longstreet needed Harrison's services later that year, but he could not be located.

Fascinating Fact: At 31, Harrison

married a 19-year-old Virginia girl in Washington on September 28, 1863. He went to Montana in 1867 and was not heard from for 33 years.

Harrison's daughter rejected him when he returned to Virginia in 1900, and when and where he died is unknown.

C.S.S. Hunley Update- **HUNLEY STILL HOLDS TREASURES**

During the summer months archaeologists continue to work on the H. L. Hunley. X-rays have been conducted on the submarine, showing there are artifacts, possibly personal effects of the crew stowed underneath the wooden bench. Dr. Robert Neyland, Project Director says, “If the crew carried any personal items onboard the sub, the bench would be the likely place because of the cramped conditions.” The x-rays showed a small glass medicine bottle and a leather strap. The strap is lying on the top of the bench, goes underneath and is concreted to the side of the hull. Two tin canteens were also located underneath the bench. Archaeologists say that previous canteens removed from the sub were extremely fragile, and that it was like “excavating through wet paper”, and that's why the canteens remain in

the sub. A metal pipe was discovered and believed to be connected to a rubber hose from the bellows and runs under the bench. Scientists aren't sure how far back it runs, but speculate that the pipe carried air back to the stern for air circulation for the crew. Senator Glenn McConnell, Chairman of the Hunley Commission, expressed optimism that the x-ray results confirm our belief that the area inside the sub, under the crew bench is relic rich with the personal effects of the men of the Hunley. Sen. McConnell says, "The excavation in the fall will be comparable to reading a good mystery book with each day being a new page revealing more about the characters and uncovering more of the clues to solving the mystery of what happened on the final voyage. Soldiers of that time wore haversacks and canvas bags on a sling in which they carried their personal possessions like diaries, pictures, and utensils. The odds are that this would be the area where they would have stored these bags during their service on the Hunley." "It is our hope that we will be able to describe what each crewman looked like, and, based upon what they carried onboard the Hunley, a little bit about their personalities. The Hunley is a time machine that will truly enable us to relive history," said Warren Lasch, Chairman of Friends of the Hunley.

The excavation of the Hunley will resume in October. Then, archaeologists will x-ray and possibly start excavation because of the sediment. The area under the bench is heavily concreted and the sediment has a lot of iron in it, making it harder and more difficult to remove.

Reenactments – Battle of Hardy Station

Once again a call has been sent out to rally the troops to defend our homeland. On Labor Day Weekend (September 1-3) the camp reenactors will be portraying the 30th Mississippi, Co. K, at the north end of Grenada Lake. If you have never seen a reenactment then you might want to take time out to see this one and learn more about the trials and hardships that our ancestors experienced in the War for Southern Independence.

The Battle of Hardy Station and Coffeeville will be reenacted. These battles were crucial in turning back General Grant in 1862 when he was making his approach to Vicksburg. Grenada and its railroad was the objective but with General Van Dorn's raid on Holly Springs only added to Grants problems and loss at these two battles.

Battle of Wilson's Creek, "The Bull Run of the West"

This month marks the 140th anniversary of the Battle of Wilson's Creek sometimes called the "Bull Run of the West." Little has been written about the battle but it did play a significant role in the early months of the war as a Confederate victory.

On August 10, 1861, Union General Nathaniel Lyon sent his outnumbered command on a daring attack that surprised the Confederate Army under Sterling Price camped on the banks of Wilson's Creek. But the Confederates halted the attack, and with their superior numbers they managed to rout the Union force that had attacked their rear. The Confederates then turned their total force, including five captured Union cannon, against the remaining Union force holding a creek-side known as Bloody Hill.

The federal batteries dominated the field and broke up one Confederate attack after another; but the Union line was close to buckling from the weight of the Rebel fire. Lyon, already wounded, walked among his men steadying them for the task at hand. Mounting a horse, he rallied his men

and led them in a charge, only to be knocked off his horse by a bullet in the chest. Albert Lehman, Lyon's orderly, held the general in his arms and heard his last words, "Lehman, I am killed."

By now the vicious battle had raged for five hours, and both sides were exhausted and low on ammunition. Maj. Samuel D. Sturgis, the highest-ranking Union officer left on the field, continued the struggle for another hour, then ordered his men to withdraw. The equally exhausted rebels, content with their victory, did not pursue the retreating federals. "We watched the retreating enemy through our field glasses and were glad to see them go," said a rebel general.

The casualties were about the same for both sides — 1,317 federals and 1,336 Confederates. But these figures only represent one-fourth of the total Union force and one-tenth of the Rebels'. Regiments on both sides suffered casualty rates as high as 33% in this bloody battle. Together with the 1st Battle of Bull Run in Virginia, fought three weeks earlier, the Confederacy counted major victories against Northern aggression on two fronts of its new country.

Interesting Fact: Stand Watie, the only American Indian to become a Confederate General, commanded a company at the Battle of Wilson's Creek.

Editorial:

The following article comes from the *In the Trenches* Newsletter of the John C. Pemberton Camp in Vicksburg, editor Eddie Cresap and I thought this article needed to be shared with everyone. It fits the situation we see in our Southland today.

HOW CAN WE POSTURE OUR SELVES TO WIN THE WAR

We continue to develop strategy to win each heritage battle as it comes up, but what is the strategy to win the Heritage War. As I see it there are two very important things that we must all do in our never-ending fight to preserve our Southern Heritage and its symbols.

The first is to ensure you have linked your good name to the symbols of our ancestor's courage and honor. You must be proud of your heritage and never hide this pride under a basket. The second is to education. Present society, reinforced by our public school instruction about the War for Southern Independence, has left many people with Southern Ancestors ashamed of their proud heritage. We must continue to "tell our story" to dispel the myths and half-truths that now pass as history.

Update on Harvey's Scouts Monument

Since the last issue of the *Delta General*, I have had several people to e-mail me about the monument in Canton dedicated to the Blacks that served in Harvey's Scouts and they reassured me that it still stands. This report comes from Ron Stowers from the Jeff Davis Camp in Jackson:

It is located on a small residential lot in a black area of town between a house and a small apartment unit. (Southeast of town square - not hard to find) The site abuts the city cemetery on the North side. It is a fenced and (as of last year) being well kept up in general.

It is a moving tribute to the loyal black confederates who rode with the Harvey's Scouts and I encourage you to seek it out sometime you won't be disappointed.

On the monument is the following inscription: "Erected by W.H. Howcott to the memory of the good and loyal servants who followed the fortunes of Harvey's Scouts during the Civil War. A tribute to my faithful servant and friend, Willis Howcott, a colored boy of rare loyalty and faithfulness, whose memory I cherish with deep gratitude. Loyal, faithful, true were each and all of them."

The Delta General

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Camp Web Page:
[http://humphreys1625.
homestead.com/Index.html](http://humphreys1625.homestead.com/Index.html)

Welcome New Members

**Edwin Ray Haley
Lee Allan Haley
Darrel Haley
ancestor:
James Carroll Haley,
Brevet 2nd Lieutenant
Company A, 44th
Tennessee Infantry**

The Delta General

**P.O. Box 63
Webb, MS 38966**

Mr. Dan McCaskill
205 Cypress Street
Leland, MS 38756



*"Remember, it is your DUTY to see that the true history of
the South is presented to future generations" —*

Lt. General Stephen Dill Lee

