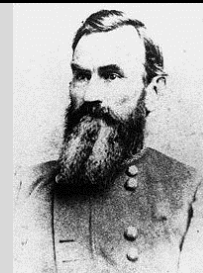




The Delta General

January, 2015 Volume 18, Issue 1

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



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UPCOMING EVENTS

- Annual Camp Lee/Jackson Banquet, Saturday January 24, 2015 – Social at 6:00 PM, Banquet at 7:00 PM
- No Camp Meeting in February
- Board Meeting at Beauvoir – February 14
- MS Division EC Meeting – February 21 at War Memorial Building in Jackson, MS
- Battle of Helena, Ark – March 13-15

Camp News:

Editor's Note

First, I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year. 2015 has just started and it marks the year of the end of the Sesquicentennial of the War for Southern Independence. There is a lot to do this year as we make preparations for the end of four years of observances and prepare for the coming Sesquicentennial of Reconstruction.

This issue of the DELTA GENERAL is dedicated to the birthdays of two great Southern Generals, General Robert E. Lee and General Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson. There will not be a Commander's note in this issue but I must relay to you that Commander Joe Nokes hopes that we turn out in record numbers and RSVP to Dan McCaskill ASAP for the Lee and Jackson Banquet. We are sure to have a great banquet with Dr. Ann Carol Miller who will give a power point presentation on the Star of the West. Also, the ladies of the OCR are having their traditional raffle as well. We will also be honoring a JROTC Cadet with the Hunley award.

Remember there will not be a February meeting since it is so close to our Lee/Jackson Banquet. February will be a time for the Camp Executive Council to meet and develop the new year's budget and goals.

Hope to see you there.

Lee/Jackson Banquet Announcement

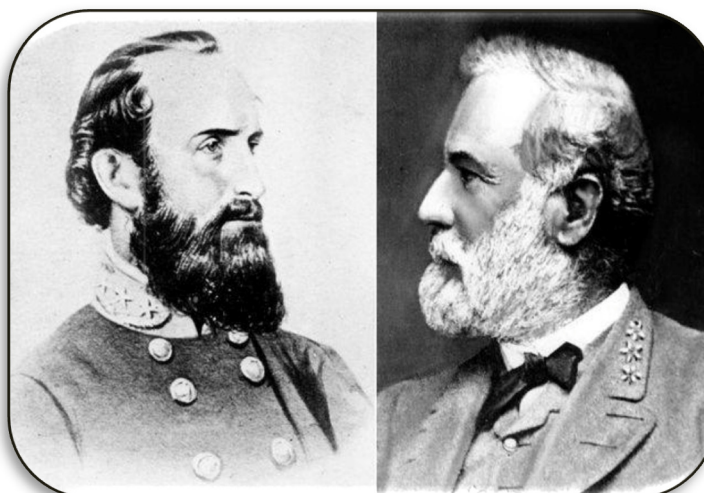
The B/G Benjamin G. Humphreys Camp # 1625 will be hosting its 18th Annual Lee – Jackson Birthday Banquet on Saturday, January 24, 2015 at the 1st Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall in Indianola, MS starting with Social Hour at 6:00 pm followed by the Banquet at 7:00 pm. Our speaker for the evening will be Dr. Mary Carol Miller who will present a program on "The Star of the West". This will be a Pot Luck Dinner therefore no charge. The Camp is providing the main course for the evening.

Dr. Mary Carol Miller is a native of Greenwood and a graduate of the University of Mississippi School of Medicine. Her first book, *Lost Mansions of Mississippi*, was published in 1996. She has two children and an ever-increasing number of stray dogs. Mary Carol Miller is the author of *Written in the Bricks*.



THIS ISSUE IS DEDICATED TO THE MEMORIES OF GENERALS

ROBERT EDWARD LEE AND THOMAS J. 'STONEWALL' JACKSON



Lt. Commander's Report – Richard Dillon

I would like to report a series of speakers that I have booked in advance through the months of May:

- January None (Finalize Plans for Lee - Jackson Banquet) Our speaker for the Lee – Jackson Banquet will be Dr. Mary Carol Miller who is not only a medical doctor but a well known published author.
- February: No Meeting
- March: Dr. Wanda Gaddy
- April: Brother James Taylor
- May: Earl McGown

I wish each of you and your families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and I look forward to seeing you at each and everyone of our meetings during the coming year.

Mechanized Cavalry Report: Richard Dillon, Cpl

Our Annual Ride is scheduled for the 1st weekend in June at Marble Falls, Arkansas. If you have not made your reservation, you need to do so quickly. Don't forget to WEAR YOUR VEST and spread the word about the SCV and the SCVMC!



Ella Palmer, OCR Report: Sandra Stillman, President

First, I want to wish everyone a Happy New Year. I hope you will turn out in record numbers at the Lee/Jackson Banquet on January 24. Social hour begins at 6:00 PM the Banquet begins at 7:00 PM. The ladies have been working hard on decorations and planning for the event. We will also use this opportunity to recruit new members.



Mississippi Division News

Confederate Memorial Day Plans at Beauvoir

Beauvoir's Annual Confederate Memorial Day will be held Saturday April 25, 2015 on the very historic property of beautiful Beauvoir: The Jefferson Davis Home & Presidential Library. There will be a potluck lunch on the grounds around noon. The program will begin at 2pm with a speaker to be named at a later date. We will have more work completed on the Bricks for Beauvoir Project to view. Anyone who would like to come dressed out in Confederate Uniform would be welcome to be a part of the Honor Guard. SCV & UDC Camps who wish to lay a wreath are welcome to do so. Anyone who would like to participate & take part can get with Beauvoir personnel & staff to make plans & accommodations. We have a hotel partner, Regency Hotel, in the Promenade that can give you a good deal on a very nice affordable hotel room. We hope you will make plans to be a part of this annual, very special even

Magnolia State Heritage Campaign; Sign the petition to preserve our Identity!



Initiative #46 or the 'Heritage Initiative' would amend the State's Constitution to define Mississippi's Heritage in the following areas: religion, official language, state flag, nickname, song, motto and state university mascots. Designate the month of April "Confederate Heritage Month," and reinstate Mississippi's Constitutional boundaries. Sign the petition. Let's bring this to vote in 2016!

Proposal is listed on the Secretary of State's website:
www.sos.ms.gov/elections/initiatives/InitiativeInfo.aspx?IIId=46

*"We passionately believe in the heritage, culture, values, traditions,
and Southern hospitality of Mississippi, the Magnolia State"*

www.magnoliaheritage.com

*"Fold it up carefully, and lay it aside, Tenderly touch it, look on it with pride.
For dear must it be to our hearts ever more, The Jacket of gray our loved soldier boy wore.
Can we e'er forget when he joined the brave band? Who rose in defense of our dear Southern land.
And, in his bright youth, hurried on to the fray; How proudly he donn'd it, the Jacket of gray."*



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



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

2015 REUNION REGISTRATION FORM

SCV MEMBER NAME: _____ CAMP: _____

OCR MEMBER NAME: _____ OCR CHAPTER: _____

ADDRESS: _____

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

GUEST'S NAME FOR BADGE: _____

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Barksdale's
Headquarters Hotel:**

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

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

Reunion Contact Information: Make Checks Payable to:

Host Camp Commander:

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

SCV Camp 1220

**Mail Registration Form
and Payment To:**

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

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

**Reunion Program
Advertisements:**

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

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

Our dear friend, Jim Strickland Sr.

"Has crossed over the river and is resting beneath the shade of the trees."



Our dear friend and Compatriot, James M. "Jim" Strickland, Sr., 77 of Columbus, Mississippi, after losing his long battle with cancer, left this world on December 7th, 2014.

Born July 19th, 1937 and a native of East Ridge, Tennessee, he graduated from Chattanooga Central High School and held a Bachelor's and Master's Degree from the University of Tennessee.

He was licensed to practice engineering in seven southeastern states.

As an Engineer, he was good with numbers, but he was also good with his hands. He was happy when he had a pencil and a clipboard in his hands; but he was just as happy when he had a screwdriver and a pair of pliers.

When asked, he would say that his hobby was "piddling." He took great pleasure in doing repairs and maintenance for the elderly or disabled.

He was a Boy Scout Leader for over 35 years serving as Cubmaster, Scoutmaster, Commissioner and Jamboree Scoutmaster with other positions; as well as being on the Board.

He taught the week long leadership course twelve times and was instrumental in construction of two scout camps and was awarded *The Silver Beaver*; Scouting's highest award for volunteer leaders.

A history buff, he was a member of the Sons of the Confederate Veterans where he served a decade as Adjutant for the General William Barksdale Camp and two terms as Division Adjutant of the Mississippi Division receiving the *Meritorious Service Medal*, the *Distinguished Service Medal* and *Compatriot of the Year*.

He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Lee Strickland.

Two sons – Jim, Jr (Libby) Strickland of Columbus, Mississippi and Ed Strickland of Jacksonville, Florida.

Four Granddaughters – Jennifer Strickland of Ocean Springs, Mississippi, Sara Strickland of New York, New York, Holly Strickland of Columbus, Mississippi and Stephanie Strickland of Tallahassee, Florida;

Nephew – James "Ike" Swindoll of East Ridge, Tennessee;

Niece – Martha Pierce of East Ridge, Tennessee;

Two great Nieces – Becky Griffin of Murfreesboro, Tennessee and Tammy Grumley of Ringgold, Georgia.

Per his request, Memorial Gifts may be made to the:
General William Barksdale Camp
223 Belle Circle, Columbus, MS 39702

"The Membership and Staff of the General William Barksdale Camp, Camp 1220 in Columbus, Mississippi would like to humbly express our deepest sympathies and condolences to all who loved him."

He was a good man and will truly be missed.

*The South has lost.....yet another son.
Farewell dear brother; till we meet again".*



WALT GRAYSON HUNTS FOR GHOSTS AT BEAUVOIR

Dec 01, 2014 2:44

BILOXI, MS (Mississippi News Now) -

One of the old holiday songs says, "It's The Time of Year to", among other things, "Tell Scary Ghost Stories."

Well, Walt Grayson followed along on a ghost hunt in an old house this past weekend. And it wasn't just any old house, it was Beauvoir, the last home of Jefferson Davis in Biloxi.

Walt says, "For me, it isn't so much what we found, as what found ME!" Beauvoir almost became a ghost itself when it was bashed by hurricane Katrina.

But primarily the storm just knocked the porches off, leaving the core of the house very restorable. And now that it has been restored, a group of ghost hunters is here tonight to see if any of the ghosts are still hanging around.

One of the "ghost hunters" in the cemetery asks, "What is your name? Can you tell us your name?" I suppose anyone who isn't already convinced otherwise wonders if there really is such a thing as a ghost. Even ghost hunters wonder. That's why some of them hunt.

One of our hunters admits, "I've seen video from other people but I've yet to have my 'ah-ha' moment." And almost immediately after going to the cemetery ghostly things happen to the equipment. I ask, "What happened?" My hunters reply, "Our batteries died, our batteries."

And the meter that registers electromagnetic fields goes off the chart in several places in the cemetery. A ghost hunter explains, "And there is no overhead power lines, there's no underground utilities, there's absolutely no reason for a high amount of EMF to be in a cemetery other than paranormal activity."

At the command center outside at the back steps, monitors show the infrared cameras that continuously watch over several places inside the house at once, automatically registering when it detects movement in its line of sight. Sometimes the ghost hunters themselves in the house trip the signal.

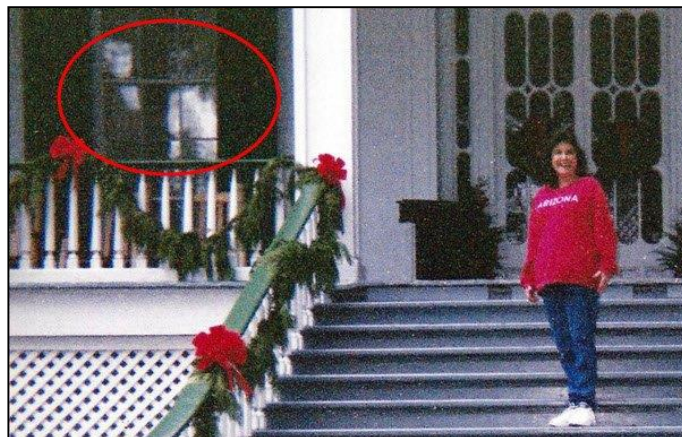
But oftentimes the little motion icon comes on when nothing is visible on screen. One of the Beauvoir docents says about a picture she has seen, "You see a silhouette of a woman in a white dress..."

When I accompanied the troop inside the house, we concentrated on sound, not sight. Not bumps in the night kind of sound, but sound from scanning devices randomly spitting out words gathered from the airwaves.

Questions are asked and the device is offered to any spirit with which to compose a response. A ghost hunter calls a name heard from the scanner? "Mr. Albert?" The device responds, "What?" The ghost hunter confirms, "What."

We were getting more random noise than anything. Until I heard it start calling my name. "Walt." A ghost hunter asks, "Did it say Walt?" The device continued, "Walt," much to the delight of the ghost hunters. The device went on, "Walt, Walt, Walt, Walt..." Ya know, I'm still a skeptic. I will be until I have MY "ah-ha moment" although I doubt I'll simply say just "ah-ha" if I ever do.

So I don't mind an occasional ghost hunt, gives you a chance to see old places in a new light, or dark. I don't mind so long as I can stay the hunter, and not the hunted! <http://www.msnewsnow.com/story/27518348/walt-grayson-hunts-for-ghosts-at-beauvoir?clienttype=generic&mobilecbypass> (Take time to go to this site and view the video they made.)



Military Order of the Stars and Bars: Commander General's Message

There are great changes that have been occurring in our population over the past several decades. These changes will continue at an accelerated rate. While our over-all population will increase, the number of people of European ancestry will decline. In fact, the population of White Americans will become a minority by the year 2043. We simply don't have a birthrate that will sustain and grow our population. Each year the number of people in this category who will die exceeds the number who will be born.

Ironically, the United States is one of the few industrialized countries with a growing population. In most European countries – and especially Germany and Greece – the population is in decline. The same is true with Japan and South Korea.

The U.S. is the exception because of wholesale immigration and the unusually high birthrate of our immigrants. These demographics will have a profound effect on most of the service organizations, clubs, and heritage groups in our country. We have an aging group of White Americans and most immigrants don't join organizations.

As Commander General, I want to take the necessary steps today that will assure our relevancy for future generations. In the past few years, we have been able to maintain our membership at historic levels.

However, I do expect that we will soon feel the pressure from our Country's changing demographics. For that reason, we will soon be launching a new membership program. The backbone of this program will be advertisements that will appear in the magazines of leading heritage societies. Our initial ad will appear in the quarterly edition of the Sons of the American Revolution quarterly magazine.

We also need to improve our membership retention program. Many of our new members never really get connected to us. They might attend one or two meetings but they eventually drop out from a lack of interest. To combat this trend we simply must have Chapter and Society meetings that are both educational and entertaining. That includes having a guest speaker for every single meeting.

I have worked hard on membership over the past two years. I am particularly excited about our new strategy because it will bring us new members who value heritage organizations like ours. As members of MOS&B we are stewards of our culture and our heritage. We simply must take the necessary steps today to assure us that a new generation will be there to follow in our footsteps. We must also trust those individuals to protect and advance our heritage just as we have done. You have my best wishes.

Deo Vindice!

Wm. Howard Jones, Commander General



FLAGS USED BY MISSISSIPPI

During The War Between The States

by Larry Hawkins



More than 100 Colored Flag Pictures
8 1/2 x 11", 160 pages
More than 300 Named Flag Bearers

ALL PROFITS GO TO THE
PRESERVATION OF MISSISSIPPI
FLAGS by Mississippi SCV Division

Paperback: Retail \$32.00
(plus \$3 shipping & handling)
Hardback: Retail \$45.00
(plus \$5 shipping & handling)

The book is written by SCV Life Member Larry Hawkins, a native Mississippian.

Make check out to "Larry Hawkins," and mail to SCV Camp 1312, P.O. Box 11207, Memphis, TN 38111. For more info, Hawkins can be reached at lh232g1b@gmail.com, and at (901)365-0644.

SCV National News:

Message from the Adjutant-in-Chief

Compatriots,

The Budget and Finance Committee will review funding requests prior to the Spring General Executive Council (GEC) meeting. Requests must be received no later than Monday, February 2, 2015 and must be received in one of two formats, to be considered!

(1) It is preferred that requests and supporting documentation be sent as attachments to an email message directed to Adjutant-in-Chief Nash (nc46e@hotmail.com) and Executive Director Landree (exedir@scv.org).

(2) If you send the request and supporting documents in hard-copy format, they must be sent to Adjutant-in-Chief Nash, Executive Director Landree and Army Commanders McCluney, Burbage and Lauret, who also serve on the Budget and Finance Committee. Mailing addresses can be found on the National Committee page at: <http://www.scv.org/committeeView.php?cid=BF>

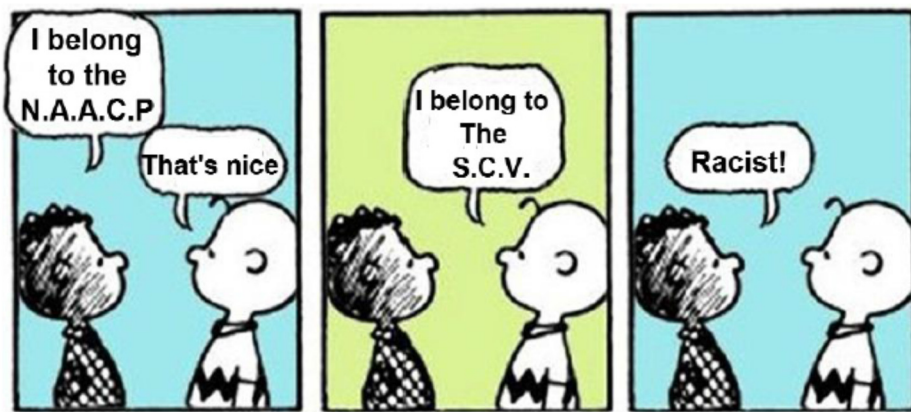
Those requesting funds should read the Funding Proposal Guidelines found on the Forms and Documents page of [scv.org](http://www.scv.org) at: <http://www.scv.org/pdf/FundingProposalGuidelines.pdf>

The form to be used to make a Funding Request is also on the Forms and Documents page at: <http://www.scv.org/pdf/SCVFundRequests.pdf>

The information requested on the form is the minimum that is needed for consideration of a request. Those making requests are encouraged to submit supporting information if it helps clarify the purpose and other particulars of the project.

If you have any questions regarding the guidelines, form or process, please contact me.

Douglas W. Nash, Jr, Adjutant-in-Chief
nc46e@hotmail.com



A Note from Ben Jones, Chief of Heritage Operations

This new year is the 150th anniversary of the end of the fighting between the armed forces of the United States of America and the Confederate States of America. May it also be the end of the ongoing mendacious attacks on the honored heritage and history of the men who carried that fight for the Southern cause.

May this be the year when the national media recognizes that the War Between the States was about the cultural, political, economic and Constitutional differences that had evolved from the shared national experience and not about the single issue of slavery in the Southern region.

May this be the year when the full truth about slavery as the "American Sin" and not the "Southern Sin", be fully understood. May Americans learn that slavery was financed in the North, controlled by the Northern slave traders, and that the profits from the trade and from the cotton went mainly to the North.

May this be the year when the divisive demagoguery of "political correctness" is exposed as the idiocy that it is and becomes a thing of the past, remembered only as a sad and silly period when decisions were made by an odd and distorted view of relationships, sensibilities, and common sense. May it be the year when people go back to making decisions based on the admonitions of our great religious teachings, and not on appeals to victimhood or prejudice. May this be the year when we begin to judge people by the content of their character and not by the color of their skin.

May this be the year when the 70 million American descendants of those who fought for the Confederacy proudly stand up and be counted. May our voices be heard in such numbers that it will turn the tide of hatred and ignorance that comes daily against us.

May this be the year when those bigots who use the beloved symbols of our courageous ancestors to spread a gospel of racial hatred and superiority be exposed as the fools they are. May this be the year when the flags of our forefathers once again stand for that which is the best within us, rather than the worst.

May this be the year when we counter-attack the demagogues who wish to destroy every vestige of our Confederate heritage. May this be the year when our statues, monuments and gravestones are not attacked by vandals of every stripe, and when our flags fly more than ever in places of deserved honor.

May this be the year when every member of our brotherhood becomes more involved as spokesmen for the Cause, and when all of us do something of active service every day to carry a positive message about our ancestry.

May this be the year when the national media stops portraying our ancestors as "traitors" and portraying us as "Nazis", "white supremacists" and "racists". May this be the year when they recognize their own sanctimonious posturing and when they realize the stupidity of anyone assuming a moral superiority in matters of the heart.

May this be the year when our national leaders transcend the weary, mean-spirited and divisive politics of yesterday and break through to policies that bring Americans together in mutual respect and purpose.

May this be the year when we Sons of Confederate Veterans lead a victorious struggle for an honest modern understanding of the extraordinary and exemplary courage of our honored and beloved ancestors. May this be the year when we stand fearlessly together against the orchestrated smear campaign of those who would "culturally cleanse" the nation of any positive thought of our forefathers.

May this be the year when our membership puts aside our petty differences and our personal ambitions and solidly unite for a higher and more important cause.

May this be the year when we Sons of Confederate Veterans restore the good name of Robert E. Lee and the million men who left home and hearth to follow him. May our nation realize that the men of the Confederacy were thoroughly American, and that they were of many ancestries and races and creeds, and that they did what they did in their time because their forefathers had done the same.

And above all, may this be the year when a Loving Creator guides all of us in every moment as we face the challenges of protecting our heritage while building our future. May the Great Healer intervene in the hearts and souls of all of us, and bring to closure the ancient wounds of our Nation's past.

ROBERT E. LEE'S VIEW ON THE NORTH

I have fought against the people of the North because I believed they were seeking to wrest from the South its dearest rights. But I have never cherished toward them bitter or vindictive feelings, and I have never seen the day when I did not pray for them.

A Federal soldier's opinion of Stonewall Jackson.

"M. Quad," in some very fair and unusually accurate sketches which he has been writing in the Detroit Free Press, says: In these sketches Stonewall Jackson's battles have been taken in reverse. We found him first on the blood stained field of Antietam -- almost at the close of his career, instead of at the beginning. The world knows how he fought there. We found him at Kernstown fighting one to four -- fighting, falling back, grimly giving way to fight again. We saw him strike the Federal armies right and left in the Valley, and fill Washington with white faces. We found him at Fredericksburg on Lee's right; at Chancellorsville in Hooker's rear; at Manassas behind Pope, on his flank, in his front. We have found him at Gaines's Mill. Fate waited for him before striking a last blow. It was the hammer in his grasp which shattered the Federal position. Without him Longstreet and Hill would have been pressed back, routed, annihilated.

A Christian in faith -- a child in his sympathies -- a General who cared not for the world's admiration so much as for the comfort of any single man who followed him in his wonderful marches. He had the courage of a lion and the heart of a woman. The pomp and glitter of war were not for him. His banners grew old and faded and shot torn. His legions grew ragged and footsore and weary. No matter who hesitated, Jackson advanced. Fierce in the heat of battle, because it was his duty to kill. When the roar of cannon died away the groans of the wounded reached a heart which had a throb for every groan.

Partisans may keep their bitterness of heart, but the world has spoken. The man whom they hate died forgiving all. Struck down at Chancellorsville, amid the roar of battle, he was removed to die amid the softest peace. Strong men wept like children when they saw that his last hour had come; but if they had a feeling of revenge down under their sorrow, he had none. With malice toward none, with forgiveness for all, his life went out as his pale lips whispered: "Let us cross over the river and rest under the shade of the trees "

Southern Historical Society Papers Vol. X. Richmond, Va., July, 1882. No. 7.



Jackson Stone Marker

After the war, Fitz Hugh Lee, nephew to Robert E. Lee and cavalry general under J. E. B. Stuart at Chancellorsville, had a stone marker placed on the battle-field near where Jackson was shot. This marker was intended to be a long lasting commemoration to Jackson. Many believe, erroneously, that the marker was placed at the spot where Jackson was shot. In fact, no one really knew where he was shot so the marker was placed in the approximate area. A park ranger is believed to have found the spot in 1998, in a clearing off through the woods a bit further to the east.

The Chancellorsville battle-field is as close to a shrine to the Southern Cause as you will find. The main reason for this is the death of Jackson in these woods and the Confederate defeat at Gettysburg two months later. Many who believe that the defeat at Gettysburg sealed the fate of the Confederacy point to Jackson's death as one cause. If Jackson had lived, the theory goes, the South would have won at Gettysburg. This makes the Chancellorsville battlefield all the more poignant.

This marker, located behind the Visitor Center and not far from the road, sits near the point where Jackson's attack stalled on the evening of 2 May 1863, and not far from where he died. On one face of the marker are Jackson's final words: "Let us cross over the river and rest under the shade of the trees."

<http://www.hyperbear.com/acw/chancellorsville/acw-chanc-jackson-mon.html>



Sesquicentennial Articles

The Second Battle of Fort Fisher - January 13-15, 1865

After the failure of his December expedition against Fort Fisher, Maj. Gen. Benjamin Butler was relieved of command. Maj. Gen. Alfred Terry was placed in command of a "Provisional Corps," including Paine's Division of U.S. Colored Troops, and supported by a naval force of nearly 60 vessels, to renew operations against the fort. After a preliminary bombardment directed by Rear Adm. David D. Porter on January 13, Union forces landed and prepared an attack on Maj. Gen. Robert Hoke's infantry line. On the 15th, a select force moved on the fort from the rear. A valiant attack late in the afternoon, following the bloody repulse of a naval landing party carried the parapet. The Confederate garrison surrendered, opening the way for a Federal thrust against Wilmington, the South's last open seaport on the Atlantic coast.

Skirmish at Pine Bluff, ARK

Federal outposts across Arkansas continued, in early 1865, to send out regular patrols to ascertain the movements and intentions of the enemy in an effort to keep organized resistance to a minimum. This engagement took place on January 9, 1865, during a Federal effort to capture a number of mules held by Confederate forces near Pine Bluff (Jefferson County).

On January 7, Captain John Toppass of the Seventh Missouri Cavalry (US) received orders from his superiors to launch a scouting expedition to capture mules held nearby by the enemy. Organizing a group of 150 men, including fifty troopers from the Thirteenth Illinois Cavalry and 100 from the Seventh Missouri, the patrol departed from Pine Bluff at 7:00 p.m. the same day. After covering about fifteen miles over bad roads, the Federals stopped around midnight.

Continuing their march the next morning at daylight, the Union force captured a Confederate soldier before crossing Bayou Wabbaseka on a bridge. Interrogating the prisoner, Toppass learned that the livestock was no longer in the area. In the face of a recent Union patrol from Brownsville (Lonoke County), the Confederates and mules were now scattered on the other side of the Arkansas River. Determining that he could not accomplish his mission, Toppass ordered his men to return to Pine Bluff.

Crossing the bayou again, the Federals marched to within twelve miles of Pine Bluff. Toppass then detached thirty-seven men from his command to take a detour to the left of the road. After several minutes, Toppass heard gunfire from the direction of this detachment and sent an additional thirty men as reinforcements. Toppass halted his column, but after not hearing any more firing for an hour, he continued to Pine Bluff. About an hour after Toppass arrived, his detached troopers returned to the city.

Under the command of Lieutenant James Sanders, the Federal detachment surprised a group of guerrillas and forced the enemy to retreat. After a running battle, the Confederates charged the Federals' lines but were repulsed, and they retreated again. The Federals pursued, but the Confederates escaped. Sanders reported suffering one man wounded, one horse captured, and one horse shot. Sanders also estimated that the Confederates suffered four killed, four wounded, and eight horses badly wounded or killed.

While the goal of the scout was not accomplished, the ultimate outcome still found the Federal troops enjoying some success with keeping the enemy off balance in the Pine Bluff area.

A Letter from Gen. Robert E. Lee to Andrew Hunter

Headquarters Army of Northern Virginia

January 11, 1865

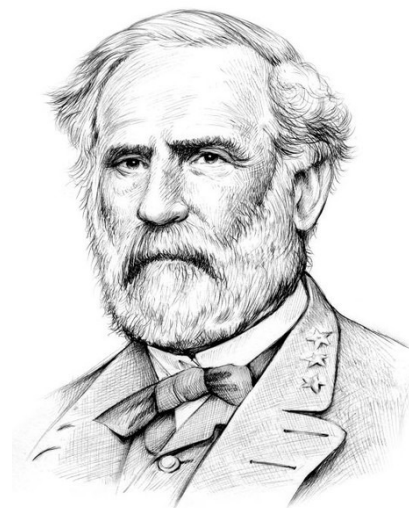
Hon. Andrew Hunter - Richmond, Va.:

Dear Sir:

I have received your letter of the 7th instant, and without confining myself to the order of your interrogatories, will endeavor to answer them by a statement of my views on the subject. I shall be most happy if I can contribute to the solution of a question in which I feel an interest commensurate with my desire for the welfare and happiness of our people.

Considering the relation of master and slave, controlled by humane laws and influenced by Christianity and an enlightened public sentiment, as the best that can exist between the white and black races while intermingled as at present in this country, I would deprecate any sudden disturbance of that relation unless it be necessary to avert a greater calamity to both. I should therefore prefer to rely upon our white population to preserve the

Continued on page 9 . . .



Lee Continued from page 8 . . .

ratio between our forces and those of the enemy, which experience has shown to be safe. But in view of the preparations of our enemies, it is our duty to provide for continued war and not for a battle or a campaign, and I fear that we cannot accomplish this without overtaxing the capacity of our white population.

Should the war continue under the existing circumstances, the enemy may in course of time penetrate our country and get access to a large part of our negro population. It is his avowed policy to convert the able-bodied men among them into soldiers, and to emancipate all. The success of the Federal arms in the South was followed by a proclamation of President Lincoln for 280,000 men, the effect of which will be to stimulate the Northern States to procure as substitutes for their own people negroes thus brought within their reach. Many have already been obtained in Virginia, and should the fortune of war expose more of her territory, the enemy would gain a large accession to his strength. His progress will thus add to his numbers, and at the same time destroy slavery in a manner most pernicious to the welfare of our people. Their negroes will be used to hold them in subjection, leaving the remaining force of the enemy free to extend his conquest. Whatever may be the effect of our employing negro troops, it cannot be as mischievous as this. If it end in subverting slavery it will be accomplished by ourselves, and we can devise the means of alleviating the evil consequences to both races. I think, therefore, we must decide whether slavery shall be extinguished by our enemies and the slaves be used against us, or use them ourselves at the risk of the effects which must be produced upon our social institutions. My opinion is that we should employ them without delay. I believe that with proper regulations they can be made efficient soldiers. They possess the physical qualifications in an eminent degree. Long habits of obedience and subordination, coupled with the moral influence which in our country the white man possesses over the black, furnish an excellent foundation for that discipline which is the best guaranty of military efficiency. Our chief aim should be to secure their fidelity.

There have been formidable armies composed of men having no interest in the cause for which they fought beyond their pay or the hope of plunder. But it is certain that the surest foundation upon which the fidelity of an army can rest, especially in a service which imposes peculiar hardships and privations, is the personal interest of the soldier in the issue of the contest. Such an interest we can give our negroes by giving immediate freedom to all who enlist, and freedom at the end of the war to the families of those who discharge their duties faithfully (whether they survive or not), together with the privilege of residing at the South. To this might be added a bounty for faithful service. We should not expect slaves to fight for prospective freedom when they can secure it at once by going to the enemy, in whose service they will incur no greater risk than in ours. The reasons that induce me to recommend the employment of negro troops at all render the effect of the measures I have suggested upon slavery immaterial, and in my opinion the best means of securing the efficiency and fidelity of this auxiliary force would be to accompany the measure with a well-digested plan of gradual and general emancipation. As that will be the result of the continuance of the war, and will certainly occur if the enemy succeed, it seems to me most advisable to adopt it at once, and thereby obtain all the benefits that will accrue to our cause.

The employment of negro troops under regulations similar in principle to those above indicated would, in my opinion, greatly increase our military strength and enable us to relieve our white population to some extent. I think we could dispense with the reserve forces except in cases of necessity. It would disappoint the hopes which our enemies base upon our exhaustion, deprive them in a great measure of the aid they now derive from black troops, and thus throw the burden of the war upon their own people. In addition to the great political advantages that would result to our cause from the adoption of a system of emancipation, it would exercise a salutary influence upon our whole negro population, by rendering more secure the fidelity of those who become soldiers, and diminishing the inducements to the rest to abscond.

I can only say in conclusion that whatever measures are to be adopted should be adopted at once. Every day's delay increases the difficulty. Much time will be required to organize and discipline the men, and action may be deferred until it is too late.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
R.E. Lee, General

Celebrate the Sesquicentennial with a visit to the home of our founder!



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

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

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

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

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

Larry McCluney, Editor
1412 North Park Dr
Greenwood, MS 38930

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**Get to Stepping Over to the Lee/Jackson
Banquet on Saturday, January 24 to!!**

