

The Delta General

**This Month's Issue observes the Vicksburg and Gettysburg.
Camp Meeting is Saturday, July 8.**



Camp Website: www.humphreys1625.com

July 2023, Volume 26, Issue 7

Dedicated to the Memory of Brig/ General Benjamin G. Humphreys

Commander's Comments — Larry McCluney

Compatriots,

Welcome to the July edition of the Delta General. I hope everyone is surviving the heat and taking care of themselves this summer. July is now upon us and this begins our renewal process. You should have received your Membership Renewal form, please read it carefully. Send all dues to Dan McCaskill not Mike Moore. Also, The form does not include Camp dues, yes you still have to include the \$10.00 Camp dues to Dan McCaskill. Please make your check payable to B/G Benjamin G. Humphreys # 1625. The bank will not accept the check otherwise.

At our July Camp meeting, we will be discussing the Constitutional Amendments that will be voted on at the National Reunion in Hot Springs. Those Amendments are in your Confederate Veterans Magazine. Please read up on them carefully. We will be voting on them as a Camp so we can direct our delegation how to vote in Hot Springs.

I said this in last month's issue, but I feel it warrants to be said again: "I know life tends to get in the way of things at times but we have a duty as descendants of Confederate Veterans to attend and participate. That duty is stated in our Charge and the oaths you took when you joined this organization. One Saturday evening out of a month is not much to ask of you to participate in your Camp's activities and meetings. Remember, our ancestors gave 365 days of four years. Can you not give one evening a month to participate? There are other ways you can participate such as attend your Camp's Lee/Jackson Banquet once a year, attend your Camp's Memorial Day Service once a year, support our activities such as the new headstone our Camp erected that our Camp paid for or give money toward projects such as the \$1,200 we collected to help with the National project to rebuild the pedestal for the Forrest Equestrian Statue at Elm Springs."

Robert E. Lee once said, "You should do your duty in all things. You can never do more, you should never wish to do less." Remember the Charge? "To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will commit the vindication of the cause for which we fought. To your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate soldier's good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles which he loved and which you love also, and those ideals which made him glorious and which you also cherish." Let us all rededicate ourselves to carry out our DUTY and set our priorities to set aside this time to attend meetings and support our Camp activities as we wind this fiscal year down. Remember, "If not US, Who? If not Now, When?"

In closing, remember, it is your duty to protect the Confederate Soldier's good name so that his legacy will continue for future generations.

Camp Adjutant's Report — Dan McCaskill

Our Camp Meeting for June was postponed until our scheduled July Camp Meeting on July 8th due to the Mississippi Division Reunion at Beauvoir on the above date. In lieu of a regular report, I will report on Membership Renewal.

All Camp Members should have received their Membership Renewal Statement from the Division on or about June 10th. One major change on the statement was a notice, in red, directing you to contact the Camp Adjutant for the amount of your Camp Dues. A few have done so but most have not. I sent out two emails reminding members the Camp Dues is \$10.00 per year and it was also posted in the last issue of the Delta General. Your membership will be valid until August 31st but it is better to pay as soon as possible. As a refresher, your total Annual Dues is \$55 which includes National, Division and Camp. The only variation will be with those with a Life Membership in National or Division or both. To date, I have received renewal dues from 22 members which includes one past member, Ronnie Stewart. Of the 22, the following members owe their Camp Dues: Mitch Costilow, Mark King and Dr. Joe Pulliam.

At present, we have 23 members in good standing for Fiscal Year 2023 with 19 who have not yet renewed. When renewing there is something else to keep in mind, Optional Giving. These are worthy causes and are listed toward the bottom of your statement. Please consider giving a little to your favorite cause.

VERY IMPORTANT: due to changes in Banking Regulations, I will not be able to deposit your check unless it is made payable to B/G Benjamin G. Humphreys #1625, SCV. The name on your check must match the name on the account.

MEMBERSHIP DUES STATEMENTS

Gentlemen,

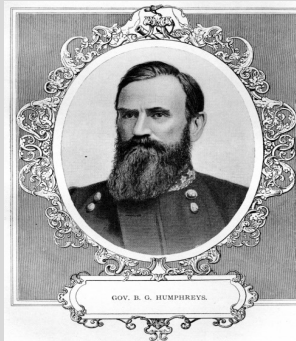
Our annual membership statements should have already arrived. I'm making an urgent plea to each of you to please get your dues in on time and give to the National Confederate Museum at Elm Springs and to the Forrest Pedestal Project.

As most of you know we have been embroiled in many legal fights for awhile now. Our dollars are bullets and we need your help for the Arlington Monument Defense, the National Confederate Museum, and the Forrest Pedestal Project. So get those dues in and give for additional giving's.

Please give all you can when you renew your annual membership dues. All donations are tax deductible and every cent goes toward our fight.

Gentlemen, this is our fight, this is our charge as descendants of Confederate Soldiers. If we don't give this fight all we got then what is our purpose? We have got to fight to win.

Please give to uphold the honor and good name of the Confederate Soldier.



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Larry McCluney
Camp Commander / Editor:
Confederate @suddenlink.net

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Chaplain's Corner — Earl McCown

As we celebrate this July 4th holiday, I can't help but think about two specific things, the Names of Vicksburg and Gettysburg. The Battle of Gettysburg, was fought July 1-3, 1863, in and around the town of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, by Union and Confederate forces.

In the battle, Union Major General George Meade's Army of the Potomac defeated attacks by Confederate General Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia, halting Lee's invasion of the North. The battle involved the largest number of casualties of the entire war and is often described as the war's turning point due to the Union's decisive victory and concurrence with its victorious Siege of Vicksburg.

These two battles were much different in their nature. A siege and open warfare in the field are truly a contrast. The South's defeat was horrific in both battles. There were many casualties on both sides in both of these campaigns.

Each of us face our own battles each day of our lives. Some of our conflicts are on an open battlefield with Satan bombarding us with just about everything he can throw at us. Other times, we are pinned down by our doubts and fears, while Satan lays in wait, keeping us under Siege. If we don't pay close attention to our conflicts, we will be defeated. Fortunately, we have a very detail Manual called God's Holy Bible. By reading and following our Father's instructions and guidance, we can and will be victorious against Satan every time.

"Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."
1 Peter 5:8 (ESV)

"Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour." Ephesians 6-11 (ESV)

"Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil." Ephesians 4:27 (ESV)



Division News:

Guardians needed

Everyone knows the atmosphere in this country where it comes to anything Confederate. Last summer we saw how vulnerable our Memorials were to the rioters. Sadly, it has spread to the cemeteries the place where the left wants all the Memorials moved. In the past few weeks, the Sleeping Lion Memorial to the Confederate dead in Oakwood Cemetery in Atlanta, GA has been removed. Our Confederate Dead and our Memorials are at risk to removal and vandalism. This why we need Guardians to watch over our Memorials and burial sites of our Confederate Dead. Most of our members live in Counties with Confederate Memorial Monuments and all live near a cemetery where Confederate Dead are buried. The Mississippi Division has the MS Division Guardian Program for burial sites where a person adopts a burial site or several sites and watches over the site ensuring it is properly cared for. The Division now has the MS Division Monument Guardian Program. With this program, a person signs up to keep watch on a Memorial. There is a contact person to report any vandalism and/or threats of

removal. If anyone is interested in this program please see the attached application and information to find out more on the following page

Mississippi Division

Sons of Confederate Veterans

127th Reunion Beauvoir, Biloxi, Mississippi

June 9 – 11, 2023

The call for the Annual Reunion of the Mississippi Division went out to the membership shortly after the first of the year to convene on the hallowed grounds of Beauvoir. Your Delegates to the Reunion were Larry McCluney, Gator Stillman, and Dan McCaskill.

There was one potential problem within the Division that was discussed at the Pre-Reunion Executive Council Meeting Friday evening along with some other issues. Commander Bond announced no proposed amendments to the Constitution would be considered because they were not published in accordance with the Division Constitution.

Saturday morning started with the Opening Ceremonies where different dignitaries brought greetings to the Reunion. Afterwards, the Business Session began with a roll call of the Camps. Twenty-eight of the forty-four Camps in the Division were represented. After taking care of some "housekeeping" business, Commander Bond made two announcements. First, the problem with the 3rd Brigade Officer Elections had been resolved and no re-vote would be necessary. Secondly, a motion was made and passed to table all proposed Constitution Amendments until the next Reunion.

The Time and Place Committee announced the 2024 Reunion will be hosted by the Rankin Grays to be held in Flowood, MS. The 2025 Reunion will be hosted by the Col. William P. Rogers Camp and will be held at Pickwick Landing State Park. There is no host or site for the 2026 Reunion. Additional information will be coming at a later date.

The final order of business was the nomination and election of Division Officers. All Brigade Officers were elected at their respective Brigade Caucus. The four Division Officers were nominated and elected by acclamation by the Reunion Delegates as follows: Division Commander Dennis Brown; 1st Lt. Commander Forrest Daws; 2nd Lt. Commander Terry Arthur and Division Adjutant Mike Moore. Your new Brigade Officers are as follows: 1st Brigade (us), Commander Boyd Coker, Councilman Dan McCaskill; 2nd Brigade, Commander John Wiggins, Councilman Sammy Mardis; 3rd Brigade, Commander Aubrey Everett, Councilman Cullen Watts; 4th Brigade, Commander Bruce Warren, Councilman Ian Powell; 5th Brigade, Commander Jessie Sanford, Councilman Harrison Daws and Captain of Mechanized Cavalry, Billy Bryant. These are the voting members of the MS Division Executive Council. The new officers were sworn into their respective office at the Awards banquet that evening.

As with tradition, the Awards Banquet brought to conclusion the 127th Mississippi Division Reunion. We had an excellent meal and a wonderful speaker. The speaker was the Chief of Heritage Operations Ron Kennedy who is a published author of many books. The evening was capped off by awarding multiple awards. Hopefully a complete list of recipients will be published in the next issue of the Jeff Davis Legion. Until we gather again in Flowood, MS, continue to live The Charge!

Submitted by,
Dan A. McCaskill



SCV_CHAT
RECLAIMING THE NARRATIVE
ONE WEEK AT A TIME

BEAUVOIR

SCV Chat — Every Monday Night on Facebook at 7:00 PM Central time and on Thursday Nights at 7:00 PM for
Look Around the Confederation

Mississippi Guardian Program Application

Turn Application into Division Guardian Committee Chairman

Name of Applicant: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Zip Code: _____ Phone #: () _____

E-Mail Address: _____

SCV Camp Name & Number: _____

Location: _____

GRAVESITE DETAILS

Confederate Veterans Name: _____

Rank: _____ Unit: _____ Co.: _____

Born: ___/___/___ Died: ___/___/___ Condition of site: Poor, Fair, Good, Excellent

(circle one)

Location of Grave: (Include name of cemetery, city and county): _____

Marker on Grave denoting Confederate Service: _____ Cross of Honor? _____

Documentation of Confederate Service: List book, service record, etc. _____

I affirm that all the information here is true and accurate. I agree to faithfully care for and protect this Confederate Veteran's grave in accordance with the GUARDIAN PROGRAM rules for as long as I am able. In the event I cannot carry out my duties, I shall notify the Review Committee immediately. I also understand that the Review Committee can revoke my status as a GUARDIAN for good cause.

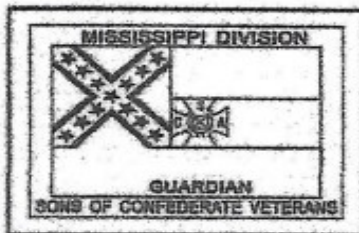
Applicant Signature: _____ Date: ___/___/___

Committee Chairman: _____ Date: ___/___/___

Mail Application, Map and Photos to:

Mississippi Division Guardian Program
123 Douglas Street
Bruce, MS. 38915

Mississippi Division Guardian Program



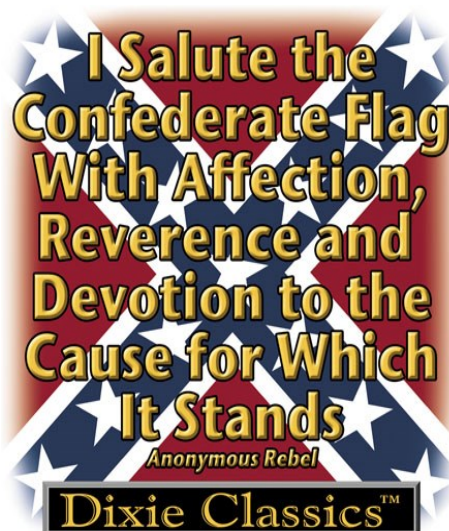
- .. **Purpose:** The program is designed to honor the memory of our Confederate ancestors and through its implementation will provide the preservation of their final resting places and will document for future generations their sacrifices.
- l. **Eligibility:** Any Mississippi Division camp member in good standing, who is at least 12 years of age and who has demonstrated his desire and ability to serve as a GUARDIAN. All compatriots are encouraged to participate in the program to honor our ancestors and to protect their final resting place.
- l. **DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES:**
 - (A) He shall care for and protect the grave(s) of a Confederate Veteran, ensuring that the gravesite is kept clean and well maintained year round. He shall perform these duties personally unless he is physically unable because of health reasons. At no time shall these responsibilities be passed on to another without the approval of the GUARDIAN committee for the Alabama Division.
 - (B) He will be responsible to appropriately mark the grave so it is designated as a final resting place of a Confederate Veteran. This can be by stone, plaque, Cross of Honor, etc. He will also be responsible for replacing or repairing any marker that is worn, damaged or destroyed.
 - (C) He shall personally visit the grave a minimum of two times a year to include Confederate Memorial Day or at least one week prior. He shall place a wreath or a small Confederate flag or both on the grave.
- l. **APPLICATIONS, REVIEWS & APPROVAL:**
 - (A) Individuals who wish to participate in the GUARDIAN program must complete and submit the Guardian Application form to the Mississippi Division Guardian Committee Chairman. The Committee Chairman will then forward the application on to the Guardian Committee for approval. The application must be accompanied with a map showing the location of the gravesite along with written driving instructions to the cemetery. A before photograph of the gravesite must also be submitted before approval. An after photograph can be submitted for the file as work is completed.
 - (B) The applicant must also remit a one-time \$10.00 fee with the application to cover the cost of the GUARDIAN pin and certificate, which will be awarded upon the candidate's approval for membership in the GUARDIAN program. The fee is non-refundable.
 - (C) Individuals who are not accepted into the GUARDIAN program will be given an explanation in writing by the Review Committee. The applicant can request an appeal of the decision. The Review Committee will review the applicants appeal and render a decision. The decision of the Review Committee is final.

5. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Multiple Gravesites: GUARDIANS may care for more than one gravesite and will be

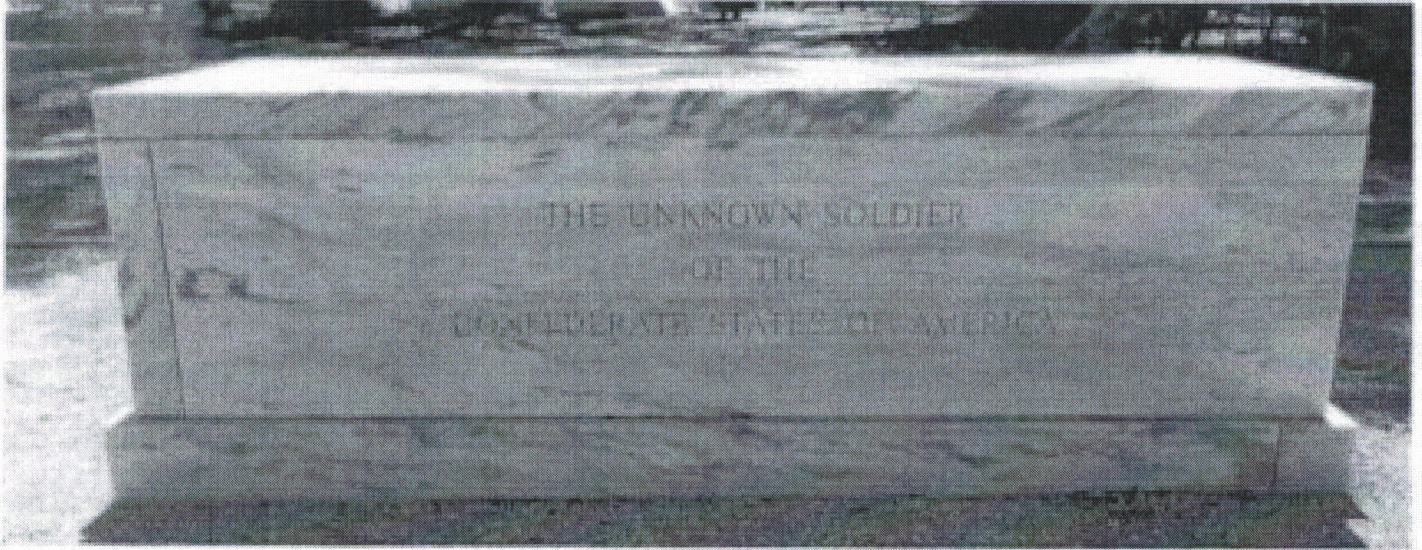
recognized by the Guardian Review Committee. Special certificates or indications on the Guardian pin may be authorized to signify the care of multiple veterans' graves. Normally no more than 25 gravesites will be authorized for a Guardian to care for. The Review Committee may authorize more than 25 on a case by case basis under the advice of the applicants Camp Commander.

- (A) **Forfeiture of Guardian position:** A Guardian who cannot meet the requirements of his position due to relocation, health or other reasons must notify the Review Committee. All fees are non-refundable.
- (B) **Bequeathing of GUARDIAN position:** A Guardian may transfer his responsibilities as a Guardian to another SCV member in good standing with prior approval by the Review Committee. There is a \$10 fee for transferring the Guardianship. This fee will cover the new Guardian's membership pin and certificate. If he is already in the Guardian program there will be no fee to cover the certificate designating the new guardianship he is undertaking.
- (C) **Revocation of GUARDIAN status:** The Review Committee may revoke the status of a participant in the Guardian program if he fails to carry out his duties and responsibilities as outlined. The Committee reserves the right to inspect, with or without notice, any GUARDIAN'S Confederate Veteran's gravesite to confirm compliance with all of the rules and regulations specified in the program.
- (E) **Wilderness Gravesite:** This is a gravesite that is completely neglected or abandoned in a remote area. Application for this special designation must be accompanied with before and after pictures of the gravesite and the Guardian must meet all other requirements of the program.



Bricks for Beauvoir and the Tomb of the Unknown Solider

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



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

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

Ancestral Brick Order Form

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

Line 1: _____
(First and Last Name)

Line 2: _____
(Rank)

Line 3: _____
(Unit)

ORDER YOUR ANCESTOR'S BRICK TODAY!

Make Checks out for \$50.00 per brick for:

Bricks for Beauvoir
Mail to: Bricks for Beauvoir
2344 Beach Blvd
Biloxi, MS. 39531

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

Example:

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

National SCV News

Join the Confederate Legion

- Individuals and organizations can join. Membership in the Sons of Confederate Veterans is not required.
 - Businesses, associations and S.C.V. camps can join.
 - An individual member can organize an independent Confederate Legion group and name it whatever he/she likes.
 - Members are expected to follow moral standards, obey the law, and participate in the Southern Victory Campaign.
 - Credit cards and checks are accepted. Credit card payments can be recurring.
 - Payments are tax deductible because the S.C.V. is a 501 (c) (3) entity.
 - Members receive an ID card, certificate, access to support and communications. Most of all, you get the satisfaction of knowing you're part of the offensive!
- Dues and donations are used to mount a two-prong offensive that we call the Southern Victory Campaign. It's led by the Heritage operations Committee of the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

Phase One of the campaign offensive involves direct action by the Heritage Operations Committee of the S.C.V. Prong Two involves direct action by individual and group members of the Confederate Legion.

Objectives include:

- Reestablishing public support for the principles of liberty held by the founders of the United States and the Confederate States of America. Rebuilding respect for the Confederate States of America that preferred to leave the Union rather than abandon the principles of liberty like the Northern states were doing under Leftist influences of that day and age.

For those interested in more information on how you can help "Make Dixie Great Again" go to <https://www.makedixiegreatagain.com/>



Contact Armed Services Chairman about Arlington!

Compatriots,

Attached is a link to our One Click Politics that allows you to contact Armed Services Chairman Mike Rogers (R – AL) and voice your opinion on the removal and or alteration of the Reconciliation Monument in Arlington Cemetery. I ask that you please click on the link below and fill in the information and click submit.

https://oneclickpolitics.global.ssl.fastly.net/messages/edit?promo_id=20805

Members are asking what can we do. An action has been presented to you. Take a few moments and complete this task and let your voice be heard. You are a citizen of this nation, and you can voice your opinion as a citizen.

Do so today, as a discussion will be held on Wednesday.

R. S. Jason Boshers
Commander-in-Chief

Walter D. Kennedy
Lt. Commander-in-Chief



THE NATIONAL CONFEDERATE MUSEUM AT ELM SPRINGS

The truth about the South's struggle to form a new nation is under attack as never before. The National Battlefield Parks have been taken over by the "it's all about slavery" provocateurs. Museums have changed their collections and interpretations to present what they call the cultural history of the War for Southern Independence. In reality this new perspective is nothing more than South bashing. The forces of political correctness have gone into high gear. They attempt to ban any and all things Confederate through their ideological fascism.

There needs to be at least one place where the people of the South and others can go to learn an accurate account of why so many struggled so long in their attempt to reassert government by the consent of the governed in America!

The General Executive Council of the Sons of Confederate Veterans made the commitment in October of 2008 to start the process to erect a new building that will have two purposes. One of the uses of this new building will be 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. At the SCV Reunion in July of 2009 the GEC set up a building fund for this purpose. One of the goals is to provide an accurate portrayal of the common Confederate soldier, something that is currently absent in most museums and in the media.

These plans have now become a reality. The ground breaking has taken place and the museum is now open.

Take this journey with us and support the museum as a donor or join the Friends of the Museum today!

Send Donations to:
Sons of Confederate Veterans
Attn: National Confederate Museum
P.O. Box 59
Columbia, TN 38402

Or you can call 1-800-MY-DIXIE to pay by credit card.
www.theconfederatemuseum.com



Friends of The Confederate Museum at Elm Springs Annual Membership Application

All memberships are tax-deductible and include the E-Newsletter.

_____ Yes, I want to join the Friends of The Confederate Museum at Elm Springs

_____ Is this a Corporate Membership?

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email address: _____

Membership Levels & Benefits

<p>Longstreet Level: \$25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership for one • Unlimited Tours of Elm Springs 	<p>Judah P. Benjamin Level: \$50</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Membership • Unlimited Tours of Elm Springs 	<p>Patrick Cleburne Level: \$100</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Membership • Unlimited Tours of Elm Springs • 10% Gift Shop Discount
<p>N. B. Forrest Level: \$250</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Membership • Unlimited Tours of Elm Springs • Unlimited Tours of The Confederate Museum • 10% Gift Shop Discount • Free Elm Springs Hat or T-Shirt 	<p>Robert E. Lee Level: \$500</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Membership • Unlimited Tours of Elm Springs • Unlimited Tours of The Confederate Museum • 15% Gift Shop Discount • Free Elm Springs Hat and T-Shirt 	<p>Jefferson Davis Level: \$1000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Membership • Unlimited Tours of Elm Springs • Unlimited Tours of The Confederate Museum • 20% Gift Shop Discount • Free Elm Springs Hat, T-Shirt and Polo

Please check the following membership level:

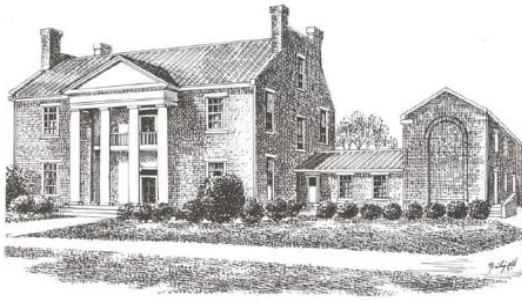
_____ Longstreet Level _____ Judah P. Benjamin Level _____ Patrick Cleburne Level

_____ N. B. Forrest Level _____ Robert E. Lee Level _____ Jefferson Davis Level

Please make checks payable to Sons of Confederate Veterans and mail to:

Sons of Confederate Veterans, P. O. Box 59, Columbia, TN 38402

If paying by credit card, please call (931) 380-1844 or email at exedir@scv.org



Friends of Elm Springs

Annual Membership Application

All Proceeds go to the restoration and maintenance of the Home
Elm Springs built in 1837

All Memberships are tax-deductible and include the E-Newsletter

_____ Yes, I want to join the Friends of Elm Springs

_____ Is this a Corporate Membership?

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email address: _____

Membership Levels & Benefits

Elm Tree Level: \$25

- Membership for one
- Unlimited Tours of Elm Springs

Cool Spring Level: \$50

- Family Membership
- Unlimited Tours of Elm Springs

Todd Family Level: \$100

- Family Membership
- Unlimited Tours of Elm Springs
- 10% Gift Shop Discount

Susan Looney Level: \$250

- Family Membership
- Unlimited Tours of Elm Springs
- Unlimited Tours of The Confederate Museum
- 10% Gift Shop Discount
- Free Elm Springs Hat or T-Shirt

Abram Looney Level: \$500

- Family Membership
- Unlimited Tours of Elm Springs
- Unlimited Tours of The Confederate Museum
- 15% Gift Shop Discount
- Free Elm Springs Hat and T-Shirt

Frank Armstrong Level: \$1000

- Family Membership
- Unlimited Tours of Elm Springs
- Unlimited Tours of The Confederate Museum
- 20% Gift Shop Discount
- Free Elm Springs Hat, T-Shirt and Polo

Please check the following membership level:

_____ Elm Tree Level

_____ Cool Spring Level

_____ Todd Family Level

_____ Susan Looney Level

_____ Abram Looney Level

_____ Frank Armstrong Level

Please make checks payable to Sons of Confederate Veterans and mail to:

Sons of Confederate Veterans, P. O. Box 59, Columbia, TN 38402

If paying by credit card, please call (931) 380-1844 or email at exedir@scv.org

Forrest's Last Ride



Forrest's Last Ride is the name of the project to reconstruct the gravesite of Lieutenant General Nathan Bedford Forrest and his wife Mary Ann Montgomery Forrest on the grounds of Historic Elm Springs and the National Confederate Museum. This will be a very large project as the plaza is 50 feet deep and 75 feet wide. Everything that was with the graves is now on the grounds and waiting to be reconstructed. The Equestrian Statue, which is the headstone of the graves will be repaired and returned to its rightful place. This project is for the repair, reconstruction, and placement of the Forrest Gravesite in its entirety and as intended by the artist Charles Henry Neihaus.

On September 18, 2021, we gathered to lay to rest, Lt. Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest and his wife Mary Ann Montgomery Forrest were on the grounds of Historic Elm Springs. On October 1, 2022, the General Executive Council voted to rebuild the entire plaza as it was originally Constructed. The estimated cost to reconstruct the entire plaza is \$150,000. Currently, \$76,000 has already been raised. This project is being done by the great-great-grandsons of General Forrest and the General Executive Council.

This cannot happen without your help and donations. This cannot be built until the money has been raised. If you wish to contribute, please send your donations to SCV National.

To pay by check:

Please make your check payable to SCV National with Forrest Plaza in the memo line and mail to:

SCV
P. O. Box 59
Columbia, TN 38402

To pay by phone: call 931-380-1844, ext. 209

To pay online: <https://scv.org/paypal-donations/>

You take them down, and we will put them back up!



2023 Sons of Confederate Veterans National Reunion

www.2023scvreunion.org

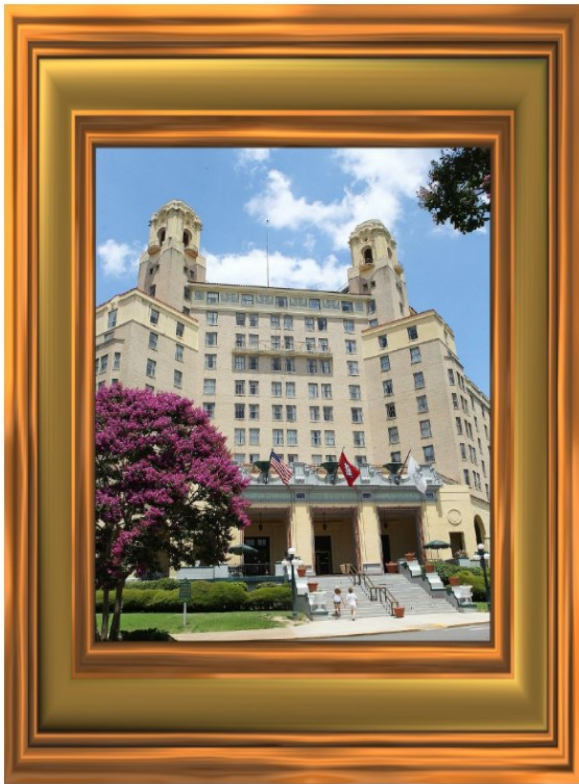
Hosted By The James M Keller Camp #648

Hot Springs National Park, Arkansas

July 19, 20, 21, 22nd 2023



The Arlington Hotel is the Official Hotel of the 2023 SCV National Reunion



The Arlington Hotel is located at 239 Central Avenue in historic Hot Springs.

The vast majority of the reunion events will happen in facilities at the Arlington Hotel

Tel: (501) 623-7771 (800) 643-1502 Website: www.arlingtonhotel.com

email: info@arlingtonhotel.com

Room Rates:

Single/One Adult: \$109.00 Double/Two Adults: \$109 Mineral Water Room: \$149.00

*** Make sure to mention 2023 SCV Reunion to receive the special Reunion Rate!***



128th SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS 2023 REUNION



Please Print Clearly

NAME: _____		
TITLE/POSITION: _____		
SCV CAMP NAME: _____	NUMBER: _____	
PERSONAL ADDRESS: _____		
City: _____	State: _____	Zip: _____
Email Address: _____	Phone: (____) _____	
SPOUSE'S NAME (for badge): _____		
GUEST NAME: _____		GUEST NAME: _____

Please don't mail registration forms after July 15, 2023

Event/Date	Price per ticket	Quantity	Total
Registration Fee (through May 31, 2023 - includes Reunion Medal & Program)	\$70.00		XXXXXXXXXX
Late Registration Fee (June 1 through July 15, 2023 - \$100.00 at the door)	\$80.00		
Extra Reunion Medals	\$25.00		
Limited-Edition Reunion Medals (Numbered 1-50)	\$50.00		
Ancestor Memorial (Each @ 2 Lines per Memorial - see Ancestor Memorial form)	\$10.00		CLOSED
Chaplain's Prayer Breakfast - Thursday, July 20, 6:30 am	\$45.00		
Heritage Defense Luncheon - Thursday, July 20, 12:30 pm	\$50.00		
Trial of Abraham Lincoln Play - Thursday, July 20, 7:00 pm	\$20.00		
H.K. Edgerton Breakfast - Friday, July 21, 7:00 am	\$45.00		SOLD OUT
SCV Awards Luncheon - Friday, July 21, 12:30 pm	\$50.00		
John Wilkes Booth Lecture & Buffet - Friday, July 21, 6:00 pm	\$60.00		
Mechanized Calvary Breakfast - Saturday, July 22, 6:30 am	\$45.00		
SCV Banquet, Debutante Ceremony & Grand Ball - Saturday, July 22, 6:00 pm (Note: Dress/Attire is Coat & Tie or Period Uniform/Civilian)	\$75.00		
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED:			

Late registered and walk-ins are **NOT** guaranteed a name badge, a convention medal or a convention program.
This applies to events and meals also.

Contact Information: Loy Mauch at 501-538-3326 or dlmcsa@yahoo.com
or Gary Slate at 479-970-1470

Make checks or money orders payable to: 2023 National Reunion

Mail checks to: **James M. Keller 648**
P.O. Box 21701
Hot Springs, Arkansas 71903

AN HONORABLE CAUSE

Clyde Wilson, The Abbeville Institute

America is now governed as an ever more centralized nation/ state with an increasingly imperialist and left-authoritarian character. But America as a society and a people is no longer coherent. A people, according to St. Augustine, are those “who hold loved things in common.” By that reading Americans are not a people.

A recent poll indicates that 44% of Southern people are in favour of separating themselves from blue-state America. The number includes 50% of Independents and 66% of Republicans, representing the more conservative part of the population. Although the fat and satisfied Republican officeholders are not about to embrace the ideas of the grassroots. The same poll shows that 39% of the people of the Pacific states also favour independence from the U.S., although probably for different reasons than the Southerners.

In these times the beleaguered Southern people are throwing up new and interesting voices of defense. It has been evident since at least the 1980s that the ruling elite and the apparatus of the U.S. government is not “a government of the people.” The South has no place in a world-wide military empire and crony capitalist state.

The survival and even resurgence of Southern identity in a regime that intensively treats Southerners as a contemptible non-people without any rights to their own history and values, may be surprising. But Southern consciousness has always grown stronger when under attack. Tearing down a statue of Robert E. Lee is bound to create a reaction—such vandalism is a product of ignorance and petty malice that makes decent, civilised people angry.

The Twelve Southerners who published *I’ll Take My Stand* in 1930 lived in a strong and widely accepted American state that was not particularly intrusive culturally and morally. They did not imagine an independent South but only hoped to enlighten a materialistic people about certain humane ways that the South could still demonstrate.

A half century later the scholars and writers of the Abbeville Institute successfully took up the mission of preserving the Southern tradition and demonstrating its value to an often hostile world.

History has moved on and we are now in a different time. New times bring new thoughts and a hope for new solutions among people imposed upon by the regime under which they live. The South remains a living and loved reality to a great many people. It is the oldest of American things. Indeed, there is nothing more American than the South.

An example of new stirrings: a group of present-day Southerners have just published *The Honorable Cause: A Free South: Twelve Southern Essays* (amazon). The editor of *The Honorable Cause* suggests that a regime governed by a degenerating elite is ripe for serious change. It is only the South that has a cultural and historical substance to form a real opposition to the current regime. All the Tea Party and Alt-Right nonsense are mere abstractions— notions. Indeed, one of the contributors to the *The Honorable Cause* points out that Southern nationalism is not “White Nationalism,” a baseless theory. To call the new Southern consciousness “racist” or “White Nationalist” is false.

That such a book, by writers mostly younger people, has appeared is indeed an indication of changed times. The twelve writers are intelligent, earnest, and thoughtful. They are a good deal more broadly learned and eloquent than most of the academic and media “experts” we hear all the time. Their idea of a self-governing South is a long shot, but it is not in the least nostalgic and not lacking serious attention to practicalities.

These twelve writers are not as distinguished as the Agrarians or Abbeville scholars. They are a lot closer to the plain folk and it is the plain folk that is their intended audience. They cover, both practically and imaginatively, many aspects of a hopeful movement. Three of the writers are women. It is good Southern women who are in the front lines of resistance to the atheism and moral degeneration of the American regime. There are many facets to the symposium, but the underlying theme is a hope for preserving faith and family and once more achieving the consent of the governed.

It is a source of uneasiness that more than half of the authors use pseudonyms. This can be understood. Who the writers are is not important. Every one of the pen-names used represents an established frequent writer for the identitydix-

ie.com website. Readers are familiar with those pennames, while the real names would be unfamiliar to them.

We live in a time when wealthy New Yorkers identify and target every individual person they don’t like with the intention of destroying them. It is called “doxing,” which is the American JUNE 2023 PAGE 5 version of Soviet kompramat and has already damaged dozens of people if not more. At least one of the writers in *The Honorable Cause* was put in prison by the feds for a trivial technical violation of a regulation. Several others have been “doxed,” have had their livings destroyed by relentless slander, with the necessity of painfully rebuilding their lives.

These writers have given much food for thought and proof that the South still draws powerful allegiance. Another promising book for these interesting times is T.L. Husley’s *The Constitution of Non-State Government: Field Guide to Texas Secession*. This truly remarkable work deserves to be brought to the attention of Abbevilleans and will hopefully get a full review..”

Clyde Wilson is a distinguished Professor Emeritus of History at the University of South Carolina where he was the editor of the multivolume *The Papers of John C. Calhoun*. He is the M.E. Bradford Distinguished Chair at the Abbeville Institute. He is the author or editor of over thirty books and published over 600 articles, essays and reviews and is co-publisher of www.shotwellpublishing.com, a source for unreconstructed Southern books

Ten Facts About Gettysburg

JULY 1-3, 1863

It is the site of the bloodiest battle of the Civil War and one of the most visited places in the United States, but Gettysburg is still plagued by misinformation. Set the record straight with these ten key facts.

- **Fact 1:** The battle was fought at Gettysburg because of the area road system—it had nothing to do with shoes. The Town of Gettysburg, population 2,000, was a town on the rise. It boasted three newspapers, two institutes of higher learning, several churches and banks, but no shoe factory or warehouse. The ten roads that led into town are what brought the armies to Gettysburg. The shoe myth can be traced to a late-1870s statement by Confederate General Henry Heth.
- **Fact 2:** The First Day’s battle was a much larger engagement than is generally portrayed. The first day’s fighting (at McPherson’s Ridge, Oak Hill, Oak Ridge, Seminary Ridge, Barlow’s Knoll and in and around the town) involved some 50,000 soldiers of which roughly 15,500 were killed, wounded, captured or missing. The first day in itself ranks as the 12th bloodiest battle of the Civil War—with more casualties than the battles of Bull Run and Franklin combined.
- **Fact 3:** The Second Day’s Battle was the largest and costliest of the three days. The second day’s fighting (at Devil’s Den, Little Round Top, the Wheatfield, the Peach Orchard, Cemetery Ridge, Trostle’s Farm, Culp’s Hill and Cemetery Hill) involved at least 100,000 soldiers of which roughly 20,000 were killed, wounded, captured or missing. The second day in itself ranks as the 10th bloodiest battle of the Civil War—with far more casualties than the much larger Battle of Fredericksburg.
- **Fact 4:** Of 120 generals present at Gettysburg, nine were killed or mortally wounded during the battle. On the Confederate side, generals Semmes, Barksdale, Armistead, Garnett, and Pender (plus Pettigrew during the retreat). On the Union side, generals Reynolds, Zook, Weed, and Farnsworth (and Vincent, promoted posthumously). No other battle claimed as many general officers.
- **Fact 5:** Culp’s Hill and Cemetery Hill were far more important than Little Round Top. While Little Round Top is far more popular today, its importance to the Union army is at least debatable. The same cannot be said for Culp’s Hill and Cemetery Hill. The two latter hills formed the center and right of the Union’s main position and also protected the Union army’s only real lifeline on July 2 and 3—the Baltimore Pike. Had Confederates captured and controlled either of these two hills, the Union army would have had to leave the Gettysburg area. It is as simple as that. Even with its sweeping views and commanding height, the same cannot be said for Little Round Top.



- Fact 6: Pickett's Charge was large and grand but by no means the largest charge of the Civil War. Not even close. Pickett's Charge involved some 12,000 Confederate soldiers, but the Confederate charge at Franklin had roughly 20,000. Even that pales in comparison to the grand Confederate charge at Gaines' Mill which involved more than 50,000 Confederate troops. Even the well-known 260- gun bombardment that preceded Pickett's Charge was not the largest of the war. There was at least one bombardment at Petersburg with more than 400 cannons involved.
- Fact 7: The Battle of Gettysburg is by far the costliest battle of the Civil War but not necessarily the largest. While each of the three days of the Battle of Gettysburg rank in the top 15 bloodiest battles of the Civil War—the 160,000 troops present at Gettysburg are eclipsed by the more than 185,000 at Fredericksburg.
- Fact 8: 63 Medals of Honor awarded to Union soldiers for their actions at Gettysburg The deeds spanned the battlefield and were awarded from war-time into the 20th century. Eight were awarded for actions on July 1, and 28 each for actions on July 2 and July 3.
- Fact 9: The Gettysburg Address essentially said the same thing as the famous orator Edward Everett's speech but in 1/60th the time. When Lincoln uttered these two sentences, "We have come to dedicate a portion of that field as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this," he was essentially repeating an idea that had already been stated—only more succinctly. Everett used more than 5,500 words (the entire speech can be found here) to make the same point. Most every part of the corresponding speeches can be examined this way and leaves no doubt as to why Everett wrote to Lincoln: "I should be glad, if I could flatter myself that I came as near to the central idea of the occasion, in two hours, as you did in two minutes."
- Fact 10: While the Gettysburg Battlefield is well-preserved, there are still numerous parcels to be saved. The Civil War Trust and the National Park Service have identified several unpreserved parcels which are important to the story of America's greatest battle. The battlefield itself is among the best resources for historians and others to learn about the battle. The unique

terrain, when used in conjunction with the words of those who fought here, images created on the ground, and monuments placed by the veterans, provides an unparalleled learning opportunity. We must continue to work to preserve this hallowed ground.

More Facts:

- There are more than 1,400 monuments, markers and tablets at Gettysburg.
- More than 30,000 dead and wounded soldiers were left in the battle's wake.
- More than one-third of all known photographs of dead soldiers on Civil War battlefields were recorded at Gettysburg.
- General George Gordon Meade was only in command for three days before the battle.
- The Battle of Gettysburg started without the knowledge or consent of either army commander -- Lee or Meade.
- The 200,000,000 year-old Gettysburg Sill created the volcanic boulders on the Union right and left flanks.
- The Battle of Gettysburg was fought on some of the hottest days of the summer. The hottest time of the month, nearly 90 degrees, was right during Pickett's Charge on July 3rd.
- It did not rain during the battle, but a heavy downpour soaked the battlefield the day after.
- Most of the battlefield places were nameless before the battle—there was no reason to name them. But the battle made a wheatfield into The Wheatfield and a peach orchard into The Peach Orchard.
- General Lee lost 23 battle flags in Pickett's Charge -- more than he had lost in the previous 14 months combined.

“Vicksburg Surrendered To General Grant”

Major-General Halleck:

We have certain information that Vicksburg surrendered to General Grant on the 4th of July. Now, if General Mead can complete his work, so gloriously prosecuted thus far, by the literal or substantial destruction of Lee's army, the rebellion will be over.

Yours truly

Abraham Lincoln to Henry Halleck, July 7, 1863.

Vicksburg Surrendered

The siege of Vicksburg had dragged on for months and food supply for the Confederate soldiers and civilians ran legendarily low. Artillery barrages frightened the military and citizens alike, and by the end of June, with no relief approaching, Confederate General Pemberton considered his options.

On July 3, 1863, he sent a message to Union commander U.S. Grant, asking for terms of surrender. Like his responses in 1862, Grant replied, “unconditional surrender;” however, he reconsidered and decided to parole the approximately 30,000 Southerners, rather than send these hungry men to prison camps. He hoped the paroled, defeated men would carry the story of Vicksburg through the South, helping to break morale and resistance. (That didn't exactly happen and some paroled Confederates turned up in the Southern army ranks later in 1863 and 1864.)

On July 4, 1863, Vicksburg surrendered to the Union forces. The Mississippi River was in Union control as this last major stronghold fell, and the Confederacy was basically cut off from their states west of the river.

A Fourth of July To Remember

The surrender at Vicksburg is often overshadowed in Civil War memory by

the **Battle of Gettysburg** (July 1-3, 1863), and historians have filled hours and pages arguing which incident was more important.

Pemberton asked for terms on July 3, 1863, and the surrender arrangements concluded on July 4th. Some accounts say he waited for this American holiday, hoping to get better terms and more lenient treatment. Vicksburg created a Fourth of July to remember – no question about that. For Confederate soldiers and civilians in the city it meant surrender and the hoped-for arrival of food. For Union soldiers it signaled a major victory! As the news reverberated across the North and

South, citizens, soldiers, and politicians responded to the major event.

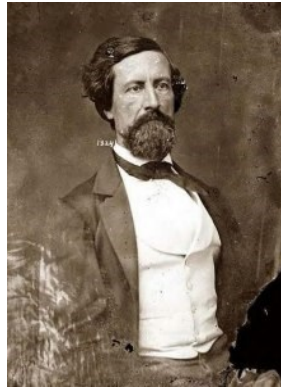
Union soldiers celebrated, but for Vicksburg civilians it was several years before they celebrated Independence Day again, preferring to ignore the holiday associated with their defeat day.

Black Confederates: Myth or Reality?

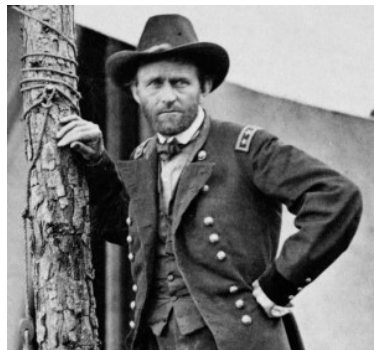
Robert S. Davis, June 19, 2023, blueandgrayeducation.org

In November 2022, the University of Dayton student newspaper ran an article about Al Arnold and his 2015 book, *Robert E. Lee's Orderly: A Modern Black Man's Confederate Journey*. Arnold is a devout Christian descended from a Black Confederate veteran. Arnold states: “My story is written through the lens of Grace through the background of my Confederate ancestor and the redemptive story of Christ ... I seek to show forgiveness and Grace is the path of the Christian even when the story runs against the culture.”

Arnold's great-grandfather was Turner Hall, Jr. One of Nathan Bedford Forrest's enslaved laborers, Hall, Jr., was “a body servant for two Confederate officers and an orderly for Gen. Robert E. Lee.” Postwar, he maintained loyalty to the Confederacy, attended reunions as a veteran, and wore Confederate medals. “He notably attended the last national Civil War reunion hosted at the Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, battlefield in 1938...” Shortly after the event, Hall Jr., died at the age of 104.



General Pemberton



General Ulysses S. Grant (1864)

Some claim Blacks who served the Confederacy were coerced when the actual records reveal a much more complicated situation. Regardless of the miscalculations of Confederate leadership, thousands of Blacks were loyal to the South. As Al Arnold discovered, his great-great grandfather, Turner Hall, Jr., was one of those individuals and he was proud of it.

The Black population in the South was roughly 3.6 million in the mid-1800s, including approximately 262,000 free Blacks.

Henry Lewis Gates noted, prior to the war, the North never had more free Blacks than the South. Also, approximately 3,800 Blacks were slave owners. This included William Ellison, Justus Angel, and Mistress L. Horry in South Carolina, August Donato in Louisiana, etc.

Critical Roles

It requires minimal research to understand the critical role played by Blacks in keeping farms and plantations productive during the Civil War. In addition, they traveled with the armies, engaged in fighting, digging fortifications, building bridges and breastworks, blacksmithing, scouting, and, according to several Union sources, at least 20 were sharpshooters. Many were cooks, teamsters, and musicians. Like their White counterparts serving in those roles, all were considered to be a part of the Confederate military.

As more proof of their service, later, Black Confederates were given state pensions. The postwar financial devastation and occupation of the southern states, initially, diminished available funding for all qualified pension recipients. Researcher James Hollandsworth, Jr., noted: “Mississippi, which was the only state to include African Americans in its [pension] program's beginning in 1888, had 1,739 Black pensioners; North Carolina, which first offered pensions in 1927 had 121; South Carolina, which first offered pensions in 1923, had 328; Tennessee, which first offered pensions in 1921, had 195; and Virginia, which first offered pensions in 1924, had 424 Black pensioners.”

In 1863 Irish-born Confederate general Patrick Cleburne, understanding the manpower shortage, advocated enlisting large numbers of Blacks as “official” soldiers. Anyone who fought would be rewarded with freedom and a chance at self-sufficiency. The immediate reaction was generally against it—some adamantly were opposed. However, the continued depletion of manpower caused many to reconsider and entertain the feasibility of enlisting Black soldiers to help gain independence. Robert E. Lee supported it, stating: “I believe that with proper regulations they can be made efficient soldiers. They possess the physical qualifications in an eminent degree.” Lee felt their rewards should be “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.” The March 13, 1865, Confederate Congress authorization to recruit 300,000 Black Confederates was too late to make an impact.

A Short List

A short list of a few documented Black Confederates includes: Thomas Williamson, Wheaton's Battery, Georgia Light Artillery; Neptune, who went to war with Capt. Low King; James Clarke, free Negro, fifer in Company K, 28th Georgia Regiment; Private Levi Oxendine, Free Negro, age 53; friends Alexander Harris and George Dwell, First Volunteer Regiment of Georgia; Amos Rucker, 7th Georgia Regiment; Tim Billing, cook for the Columbus Guards; Bill Yopp, of Marietta, Georgia, who went through the war with his own, Capt. Thomas Yopp; Jim Lewis, servant to Stonewall Jackson who led Jackson's horse, “Little Sorrell,” in Jackson's Richmond funeral procession; the Coney family of New Orleans, who set up a home warning system beginning with “Damyankes a-comin’; Alex Street, member of Captain Claiborne's expert bridge building crew; Allen Griffin and Emanuel Pinks of Macon, Georgia ...



A little photo of Jefferson Shields, Pvt. Co. H 27th Va. Inf., Stonewall Brigade, | LOC

Pickett's Charge: That July Afternoon in 1863

On July 3, 1863, the Union and Confederate Armies were locked in a death struggle near the crossroads town of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. What began as a skirmish between cavalry and infantry quickly morphed into one of the largest battles in American history. Although the Federal forces were driven from their positions north and west of the town on the afternoon of July 1, they quickly assumed defensive positions atop and along the dominating hills and ridges to the south of Gettysburg. The titanic struggle roared back to life on the afternoon of July 2nd, with neither side gaining a decisive advantage over the other. Confederate General Robert E. Lee renewed his offensive at Culp's Hill on the morning of July 3, but to no avail. Having been assaulted on both his right and left flanks, Federal commander General George G. Meade predicted that Lee would next assault the center of the Union lines positioned along the low but defensible Cemetery Ridge. Conversely, Lee believed that the Union center was now weakened due to the assaults on the Federal left and right, and thus, the center was vulnerable to an assault. Lee believed that an all-out assault on the Federal center was the best option to win the battle. Although the assault is best known today as Pickett's Charge, named for Virginia General George E. Pickett, in reality, Pickett's all Virginia divisions made up one-third of Lee's strike force on July 3. Pickett's three brigades of roughly 5,400 men were not in Gettysburg for the previous two days of fighting. This made them perfect candidates to spearhead a frontal assault.

The Confederate assault plan called for a pre-assault bombardment to soften up the Union positions. Some 150 Confederate cannon were rolled into battery and opened a bombardment near 1 p.m. on July 3rd. With high humidity and with temperatures peaking at 87 degrees, cannons from both sides duelled for nearly two hours. With Confederate artillery ammunition supplies running low, the Rebel infantry strode from the cover of a woodline and formed for their role in the assault. Under the overall command of General James Longstreet, Pickett's division along with the divisions of Generals Isaac Trimble and James Johnston Pettigrew lurched forward near 3 p.m. Approximately 12,500 Confederate soldiers, from Virginia, North Carolina, Mississippi, Alabama, and Tennessee marched from their positions along Seminary Ridge across the rolling and undulating one mile of open ground with Cemetery Ridge and the Federal center as their destination. Pickett exclaimed to his all-Virginian division, "Don't forget today that you are from Old Virginia!"

As the Confederates marched towards Cemetery Ridge, Federal artillery fire ripped open gaps in the Rebel ranks. With approximately 12,500 men marching side-by-side, artillery continuously harassed the Confederates marching across the open field towards Cemetery Ridge. As they advanced, the Confederates were delayed by obstacles in the field, such as hilly terrain and fences. The Union, in comparison, began shouting "Give them Fredericksburg!" in reference to the major Union defeat just seven months prior at the Battle of Fredericksburg, hoping to exact revenge for the crippling defeat. Union General Winfield S. Hancock commanding the Union center was severely wounded in the fray but refused to leave



Major General George E. Pickett
Library of Congress



the field to oversee the battle's conclusion. Hancock ordered the soldiers to rain Minie balls and cannon shot onto the field to repel the encroaching Confederate forces. One soldier from the 8th Ohio Infantry, Lt. Col. Franklin Sawyer explained the scene from the Union's perspective during Pickett's Charge, "They were at once enveloped in a dense cloud of smoke and dust...Arms, heads, blankets, guns and knapsacks were thrown and tossed in to the clear air...A moan went up from the field, distinctly to be heard amid the storm of battle..."

As the Confederate forces drew closer, what appeared to be a break in the Union's line presented itself. Named the "Angle," for where the low stonewall manned by Union soldiers along Cemetery Ridge jutted back to the east, General Lewis Armistead ordered his men to take this break in the line and hold it at all costs. On the battlefield, Armistead shouted, "Come forward, Virginians! Come on, boys, we must give them the cold steel! Who will follow me?" As they stormed over the wall, the Confederate forces commandeered two abandoned cannons, but they did not have any ammunition. Federal General Alexander Webb defended the Angle and repelled Armistead's men in hand-to-hand combat. As more Union soldiers poured into the area, Armistead was mortally wounded, and what few Confederates that crossed the wall with Armistead (perhaps 250 men) were killed, wounded, or captured. Any Confederate soldier that was not already wounded or captured fled the area for their lives. In the post-war years, one historian dubbed the Confederate breakthrough at Cemetery Ridge and is the High-Water Mark of the Confederacy.

Pickett's Charge was a monumental disaster for the Confederacy, but a monumental victory for the Union. The Confederates lost about half of their men that engaged in the charge. Under Longstreet's command, Pickett's division alone suffered 2,655 casualties, Pettigrew's division suffered 2,700 casualties, and Trimble's brigades amassed 885 casualties. In total, there were 6,555 Confederate casualties in less than an hour of fighting. Confederate casualties during the charge accounted for approximately thirteen percent of all casualties on both sides during the Battle of Gettysburg, and twenty-three percent of all Confederate casualties during the battle. General George Meade refused to counterattack, having witnessed what his artillery had done to the Confederates, he would not allow a role reversal by attacking across the same killing fields. The Union themselves were

battered and worn down from the assault, amassing 1,500 killed and wounded from the charge and many more from the previous two days of fighting.

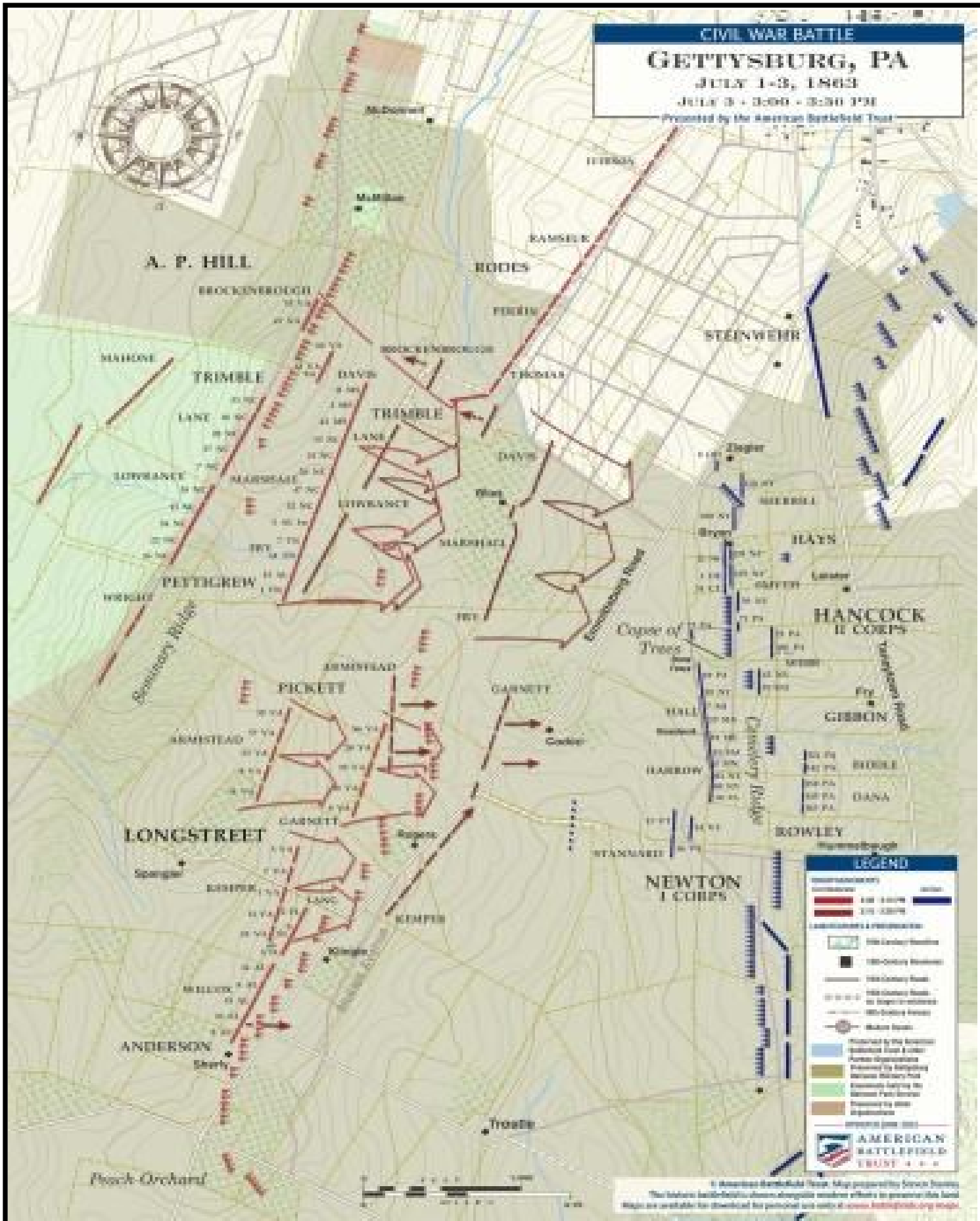
After the fighting, Lee expressed deep regret for ordering the charge. He told a general, "this has all been my fault." Some saw Pickett weeping over the loss of half of his division. Pickett's after-battle report was reportedly extremely bitter, and General Lee forced Pickett to destroy it. Cavalry Captain John Singleton Mosby explained that

after the war, Pickett still blamed Lee for the devastating losses and held bitter resentment for the old general. However, Pickett was asked years following the war what caused the assault to fail. He responded rhetorically, "I've always thought the Yankees had something to do with it."

Pickett's Charge was ultimately a futile all-out assault on an extremely fortified Union position. Many historians consider Pickett's Charge to symbolize the turning tide of the war for the Union Army, although Lee's army fought on for nearly two more years. The Rebel defeat in Pennsylvania, coupled with the Federal victories at Vicksburg, Port Hudson, and in the Tullahoma Campaign—all in a six day span—marked a true turning point in the war. In Confederate memory, however, Pickett's Charge became one of the most iconic events within the Lost Cause narrative. Nevertheless, Pickett's Charge signaled the end of a three-day battle and the shifting tide of war in favor of the Union Army.

Further Reading:

- *Pickett's Charge at Gettysburg: A Guide to the Most Famous Attack in American History.* By: James A. Hessler and Wayne Motts.
- *Pickett's Charge: In History and Memory.* By: Dr. Carol Reardon.
- *Pickett's Charge: A Micro-History of the Final Attack at Gettysburg, July 3, 1863.* By: George Stewart



Lee's Retreat From Gettysburg, 1863

Lee's second invasion of the North was a gamble - a gamble he lost with his defeat at Gettysburg in early July 1863. On the battle's third and final day, (July 3) Lee attempted to break the Union's lines with a massive attack led by General George Pickett aimed at the enemy's center.

Raked by devastating cannon and rifle fire, the Confederate assault sputtered and died just as it reached the Union lines. Thousands died, many more were wounded. A reporter observed: "The (Confederate) lines have disappeared like a straw in a candle's flame. The ground is thick with the dead, and the wounded are like the withered leaves of autumn. Thousands of rebels throw down their arms and give themselves up as prisoners."

It was a disaster, forcing Lee to begin a retreat towards the Potomac River and Virginia the following day.

Lee's Remorse

Confederate General John Imboden commanded a cavalry brigade that arrived at Gettysburg on the afternoon of July 3 - too late to take part in the battle. That evening, General Lee ordered Imboden to wait at his headquarters where he would receive further instructions. We join General Imboden's story in the early morning hours of July fourth as he and his staff await the arrival of General Lee:

"When he arrived there was not even a sentinel on duty at his tent, and no one of his staff was awake. The moon was high in the clear sky and the silent scene was unusually vivid. As he approached and saw us lying on the grass under a tree, he spoke, reined in his jaded horse, and essayed to dismount. The effort to do so betrayed so much physical exhaustion that I hurriedly rose and stepped forward to assist him, but before I reached his side he had succeeded in alighting, and threw his arm across the saddle to rest, and fixing his eyes upon the ground leaned in silence and almost motionless upon his equally weary horse, - the two forming a striking and never-to-be-forgotten group. The moon shone full upon his massive features and revealed an expression of sadness that I had never before seen upon his face. Awed by his appearance I waited for him to speak until the silence became embarrassing, when, to break it and change the silent current of his thoughts, I ventured to remark, in a sympathetic tone, and in allusion to his great fatigue:

'General, this has been a hard day on you.'

He looked up, and replied mournfully: 'Yes, it has been a sad, sad day to us,' and immediately relapsed into his thoughtful mood and attitude. Being unwilling again to intrude upon his reflections, I said no more. After perhaps a minute or two, he suddenly straightened up to his full height, and turning to me with more animation and excitement of manner than I had ever seen in him before, for he was a man of wonderful equanimity, he said in a voice tremulous with emotion: 'I never saw troops behave more magnificently than Pickett's division of Virginians did today in that grand charge upon the enemy. And if they had been supported as they were to have been, - but, for some reason - not yet fully explained to me, were not, - we would have held the position and the day would have been ours.' After a moment's pause he added in a loud voice, in a tone almost of agony, 'Too bad! Too bad! OH! TOO BAD!'"

Mournful Trek

Lee orders General Imboden and his brigade of cavalry to protect the retreating train of Confederate wounded as it retreats back across the Potomac River into Virginia. The column moves out at four o'clock in the afternoon and stretches for miles. Wagons carry the severely injured while the walking wounded straggle behind. The column makes its way west through the Pennsylvania mountains. We rejoin General Imboden's story the evening of July 4:

"After dark I set out from Cashtown to gain the head of the column during the night. My orders had been peremptory that there should be no halt for any cause whatever. If an accident should happen to any vehicle, it was immediately to be put out of the road and abandoned. The column moved rapidly, considering the rough roads and the darkness, and from almost every wagon for many miles issued heart-rending wails of agony. For four hours I hurried forward on my way to the front, and in all that time I was never out of hearing of the groans and cries of the wounded and dying. Scarcely one in a hundred had received adequate surgical aid, owing to the demands on the hard-working surgeons from still worse cases that had to be left behind. Many of the wounded in the wagons had been without food for thirty-six hours. Their torn and bloody clothing, matted and hardened, was rasping the tender, inflamed, and still oozing wounds. Very few of the wagons had even a layer of straw in them, and all were without springs. The road was rough and rocky from the heavy washings of the preceding day. The jolting was enough to have killed strong men, if long exposed to it. From nearly every wagon as the teams trotted on, urged by whip and shout, came such cries and shrieks as these:

'O God I why can't I die!'

'My God I will no one have mercy and kill me!'

'Stop! Oh! For God's sake, stop just for one minute; take me out and leave me to die on the roadside.'

'I am dying! I am dying! My poor wife, my dear children, what will become of you?'

Some were simply moaning; some were praying, and others uttering the most fearful oaths and execrations that despair and agony could wring from them; while a majority, with a stoicism sustained by sublime devotion to the cause they fought for, endured without complaint unspeakable tortures, and even spoke words of cheer and comfort to their unhappy comrades of less will or more acute nerves. Occasionally a wagon would be passed from which only low, deep moans could be heard. No help could be rendered to any of the sufferers. No heed could be given to any of their appeals. Mercy and duty to the many forbade the loss of a moment in the vain effort then and there to comply with the prayers of the few. On I On I we must move on. The storm continued, and the darkness was appalling. There was no time even to fill a canteen with water for a dying man; for, except the drivers and the guards, all were wounded and uhttp://www.eyewitnesstohistory.com/images/gtsburg22.jpg

terly helpless in that vast procession of misery. During this one night I realized more of the horrors of war than I had in all the two preceding years."

Desperate Battle

Harassed by Union cavalry and pelted by driving rain that turned the ground into a quagmire of mud, the retreating column reached the town of Williamsport on the afternoon of July 5th. Occupying the town, General Imboden turns it into a giant hospital, ordering the citizens to cook for the wounded. The following day Union cavalry attacked the town in strength:

"The enemy appeared in our front about half-past one o'clock on both the Hagerstown and Boonsboro roads, and the fight began. Every man under my command understood that if we did not repulse the enemy we should all be captured and General Lee's army be ruined by the loss of its transportation, which at that period could not have been replaced in the Confederacy. The fight began with artillery on both sides. The firing from our side was very rapid, and seemed to make the enemy hesitate about advancing. In a half hour J. D. Moore's battery ran out of ammunition, but as an ordnance train had arrived from Winchester, two wagon-loads of ammunition were ferried across the river and run upon the field behind the guns, and the boxes tumbled out, to be broken open with axes. With this fresh supply our guns were all soon in full play again.

...Night was now rapidly approaching, when a messenger from Fitzhugh Lee arrived to urge me to 'hold my own,' as he would be up in a half hour with three thousand fresh men. The news was sent along our whole line, and was received with a wild and exultant yell. We knew then that the field was won, and slowly pressed forward. Almost at the same moment we heard distant guns on the enemy's rear and right on the Hagerstown road. They were Stuart's, who was approaching on that road, while Fitzhugh Lee was coming on the Greencastle road. That settled the contest."





Walkways of Remembrance
Bricks and Pavers For the Walkways for the
General Headquarters for the Sons of Confederate Veterans at Elm Springs
and the
Confederate Museum at Elm Springs

Remember and honor your Confederate Ancestor, a family member or any cherished memory with the purchase of a Memorial Brick to be laid for a walkways at the General Headquarters for the Sons of Confederate Veterans and the Confederate Museum at Elm Springs.

Brick sizes:

The 4" x 8" brick will allow 3 lines with 21 characters (including spaces) per line and will cost \$50.

The 8" by 8" brick will allow 6 lines with 21 characters (including spaces) per line and will cost \$100.

Layout for 4" x 8" brick with 3 lines max and 21 characters per line max (including spaces) \$50

Layout for 8" x 8" brick with 6 lines max and 21 characters per line max (including spaces) \$100

Make checks payable to SCV and write "Bricks" in the memo line. Please fill out this form and mail to:
SCV, P.O. Box 59, Columbia, TN 38402
Credit card payments are available by calling 1-800-MYSOUTH and contacting Merchandising.

Please include all your contact information so we can contact you.

Name: _____
Address/City/State/Zip: _____
Phone number: _____
Email address: _____

Memorial Park Bench

Remember and honor your Confederate ancestor, loved one, family member or organization with the purchase of a Memorial Park Bench. These sturdy, long-lasting and beautiful benches will be placed along the walkways and the Memorial Garden on the property of the scenic General Headquarters of the Sons of Confederate Veterans and the Confederate Museum at Elm Springs.

The benches are available to individuals, camps, divisions and organizations. The inscription and use of a logo is of your own choosing. The cost for the bench is \$1,800.

Disclaimer: The General Headquarters of the Sons of Confederate Veterans and the General Executive Council reserve the right to approve the use of symbols, logo, wording and placement of the benches.



Will you be using a logo? _____ If so, please attach logo with form or email.

Inscription of up to 5 lines:

Make checks payable to SCV and write "Bench" in the memo line. Please fill out this form and mail to:

SCV, P.O. Box 59, Columbia, TN 38402

Credit card payments are available by calling 1-800-MYSOUTH and contacting Merchandising.

Please include all contact information so you can be contacted when your bench arrives.

Name: _____

Address/City/State/Zip: _____

Phone number: _____

Email address: _____

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