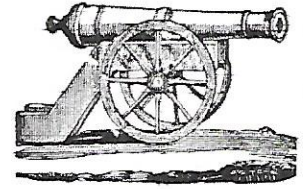
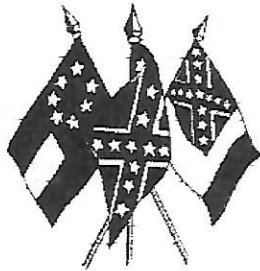
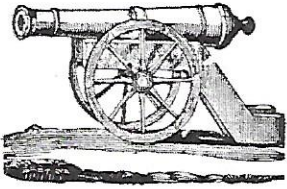


# The Delta General



## Brigadier General Benjamin G. Humphreys Camp 1625 - Sons of Confederate Veterans

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### GENERAL SPONSOR

*This issue of Delta General is sponsored by Compatriot Dan McCaskill in honor and memory of his ancestors:*

**James Douglas McCaskill, Pvt. Co. A 7th Battalion South Carolina Infantry (Enfield Rifles) Paroled at Greensboro, North Carolina May 1, 1865**

**George E. Keith, Pvt. Co. E, 18th Reg't North Carolina Infantry. Paroled at Appomattox Court House, April 9, 1865**

**Elijah Ferguson, Pvt. Co. H, 29th Mississippi Volunteers. Died in Service.**

### PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY DEDICATION By: Dan McCaskill

*The Jefferson Davis Presidential Library was dedicated May 30, 1998 at Beauvoir. It was a typical Mississippi day, hot and humid with an occasional thunderstorm. Weather conditions did not keep away an estimated crowd of 1,000 visitors and 100 Confederate re-enactors. The re-enactors made up the Color Guards, Honor Guards, Guards at the main gate, and manned the artillery battery. Our Camp was well represented by the attendance of Hartley*

*Sanford, Andrew McCaskill, Dan McCaskill, Alan Palmer (our newest member), and Scott Blaylock (a future member). Scott, Alan and Andrew participated as CS Marines with the Marine/Navy Squad of the Confederate States Army Honor Guard firing the 21 gun musket salute.*

*The ceremony began with the presentation of the Colors. First came our National Colors followed by our State Flag, Flag of the Confederate States of America, and the Flags of each State of the Confederacy in the order of their Secession from the Union. Eloquent addresses were given by Governor Kirk Fordice and Senator Trent Lott honoring Jefferson Davis and the Cause for which he stood. Senator Lott also read a letter from Senator Thad Cochran who could not attend the ceremony. The ribbon cutting opening the Library was done by Alberta Martin, the last Confederate widow. Immediately following the ribbon cutting, there was a 21 gun musket salute by the CSA Honor Guard comprised of seven members each from the Infantry, Cavalry, and Marine/Navy and a 21 gun artillery salute. The ceremonies were closed by the playing and singing of "Dixie". The Library was officially opened to the public for viewing.*

Events took place throughout the afternoon and evening. There was a birthday cake cutting celebrating the 190th birthday of Jefferson Davis, an infantry drill, an artillery demonstration, a dismounted cavalry drill, a concert by the 8th Georgia Regimental Band, capped off at night by a magnificent fireworks display.

The Library is a great tribute to a great Southerner and American. It is beautifully constructed and filled with artifacts belonging to Jefferson Davis and his family connected with their lives.

The event was very moving and made you proud to be a descendant of a Confederate fighting man. Anyone who has not been to Beauvoir, needs to go. It sends chills up and down my spine knowing you are walking in the house and on the grounds that Jefferson Davis walked.

#### COMMANDER'S LETTER

My fellow Compatriots:

The Mississippi Division Convention has come and gone. It was a wonderful event and I wished that everyone could have gone. This was my first convention to attend and I am looking forward to next year's convention which will be held in Natchez.

While I was there, I did have the opportunity to visit the Jefferson Davis Memorial Library. It make my heart swell with pride as I went through such hallowed halls. I urge everyone to take the opportunity and visit the library, if you haven't already.

Our camp is receiving much attention from the Division. Let me say that from the Brigade level on up have been watching us grow and take notice of our activities since we have come out of the closet and become more active. We need to continue our efforts and reach the goals that we have set for ourselves. Our current membership status is now at 36 and we need 14 more to reach the goal of 50 by the end of the year. With everyone working together it can be achieved. We also lack one more member to complete our Order of the Confederate Rose requirements and we can apply for our Charter. Let us continue to grow and reach these goals.

Compatriot Danny McCaskill last month also brought to our attention that he has located the grave of a Confederate General that needs our attention. The site needs cleaning up and the headstone needs replacing. I think this is a wonderful project for our camp to take up. If organizations like ours do not take up such challenges, the grave sites of our ancestors will be forgotten. We must answer the call when such challenges are brought forth. Once we have cleaned the area up and the marker replaced, we could have a rededication ceremony at the site as well. This is our opportunity, not only to gain public attention, but to show the area what we truly stand for. Think about this and give feedback at our June meeting.

Let us turn out in June in large numbers and everyone bring a friend with you as we take this opportunity to remember our ancestors.

Yours Confederately,

Larry McCluney,  
Commander

#### ADJUTANT'S CORNER

I had the pleasure to represent our camp, along with Commander McCluney at the Mississippi Division Convention. It was an enjoyable event and a lot was accomplished for the Division. All of the By-Laws that we discussed at our May meeting were passed, with minor amendments, and will be published and distributed in short time. I was unable to attend the Banquet and Awards ceremony due to illness, but the remainder of the convention was outstanding. Next year's convention will be in Natchez and I encourage all of you that can attend.

The Division will begin working on producing a Camp Guidebook that will be distributed in March 1999 and our next Division Workshop. I have volunteered to help work on this Guidebook and if you have any suggestions that you think would improve the operations of a Camp, please let me know. Any and all input from you will be appreciated.

See you at our meeting on June 18th  
Mr. Dave Thomas will be our speaker..



**MISSISSIPIANS IN GRAY  
(PVT. JAMES C. BRANDON)**

**Contributed by Dan McCaskill**

The following narrative was taken word for word from the Washington County Historical Society Papers entitled "A sketch of The Brandon Family". It is about James C. Brandon who is buried in the Greenville Cemetery

James C. Brandon, third son of Gerald Brandon, went with his father in 1862 to Texas, where they refuged with their slaves; but, reaching the age of seventeen in 1863, he felt it his bounden duty to enter the Confederate service. From far off Texas, he rode horseback to the Mississippi River to a point above Natchez, which was then in the hands of the Federals. He then crossed the river in a skiff, swimming his horse. Then he rode to his home, Brandon Hall, tarrying but a short while for fear of capture by the Federals. He then pursued his ride across the State of Mississippi, and through Alabama to Dalton, Georgia, where he enlisted in a Natchez Company commanded by Captain Ned Blackburn, going into active service at once. After the defeat of Hood's army at Atlanta, he went with Hood's army through Tennessee, engaging in the battle of Missionary Ridge, as special aide to General Pat Cleburn. He was in the thickest of the battle at Franklin. General Cleburn's Division attacked these formidable breastworks, fighting with the left flank on the Columbia and Franklin Pike, immediately in front of the memorable "Gin House", through which the Federal lines came. It was within a few yards of this building that James C. Brandon was shot down while dismounting to give his horse to the general, the general's horse having been killed a few seconds before. As the general held the reins, preparing to mount, a volley from the enemy's works shot Mr. Brandon, wounding him in the shoulder and leg and completely riddling the horse. Thirty-two wounds were afterward counted in the little mare's body, beside the cannon shot which took away both forelegs. General Cleburn took a few steps and was killed. At this junction, the Federals fell back, vacating the town.

The next morning the Confederates moved on the field to care for the wounded and the dead.

the ground being literally strewn with them. Mr. Brandon's comrades left him in the hands of a true Southern woman, Mrs. Baugh, of Franklin, Tennessee, who nursed him tenderly until he was taken by the Federals and placed in Camp Chase, Ohio. There he lingered until the close of the war, but he never recovered from his wounds, having to use crutches until his dying day.

**WAR IN THE MISSISSIPPI DELTA  
(22nd Mississippi Regiment)**

March 19, 1863, General Featherstone was ordered with his brigade to Snyder's Bluff, whence he took a steamer with the 22nd Miss. and the 33rd. Miss. Regiments and a section of artillery up Sunflower River to Rolling Fork, where Col. S. W. Ferguson had proceeded him with his command from Greenville. They engaged the 5 Federal Gunboats under Admiral Porter and Sherman's land forces on April 20th and throughout a period of nearly ten days, until the expedition withdrew through Black Bayou.

April 22, a considerable Federal force was landed on one of the dry spots and an attempt made to cut off the two Mississippi Regiments. The total Confederate losses in the skirmishes were 2 killed and 6 or 8 wounded. In his report of the Rolling Fork campaign Featherston mentioned Capt. W. R. Barksdale, Adjt-Gen.; Lieut. A. N. Parker, Aide; Lieut. W. A. Drenau, Ordinance Off.; E. M. AcAfee, Volunteer Aide; Major E. H. Cummins, Engineer Officer of Maury's Staff.

When the gunboat had escaped in Black River, the Regiment was taken to Fort Pemberton, at the confluence of the Yalobusha and Tallahatchie where Pemberton was withstanding another expedition of gunboats from the Miss. River which had come down the Yazoo Pass. Here the Star of the West was sunk. When the high water began to subside, the Federal fleet retired.

Article from the Unit History of 22nd Mississippi Regiment. By Dunbar Rowland

**If you find errors in this Newsletter - The computer didn't make them.....**

