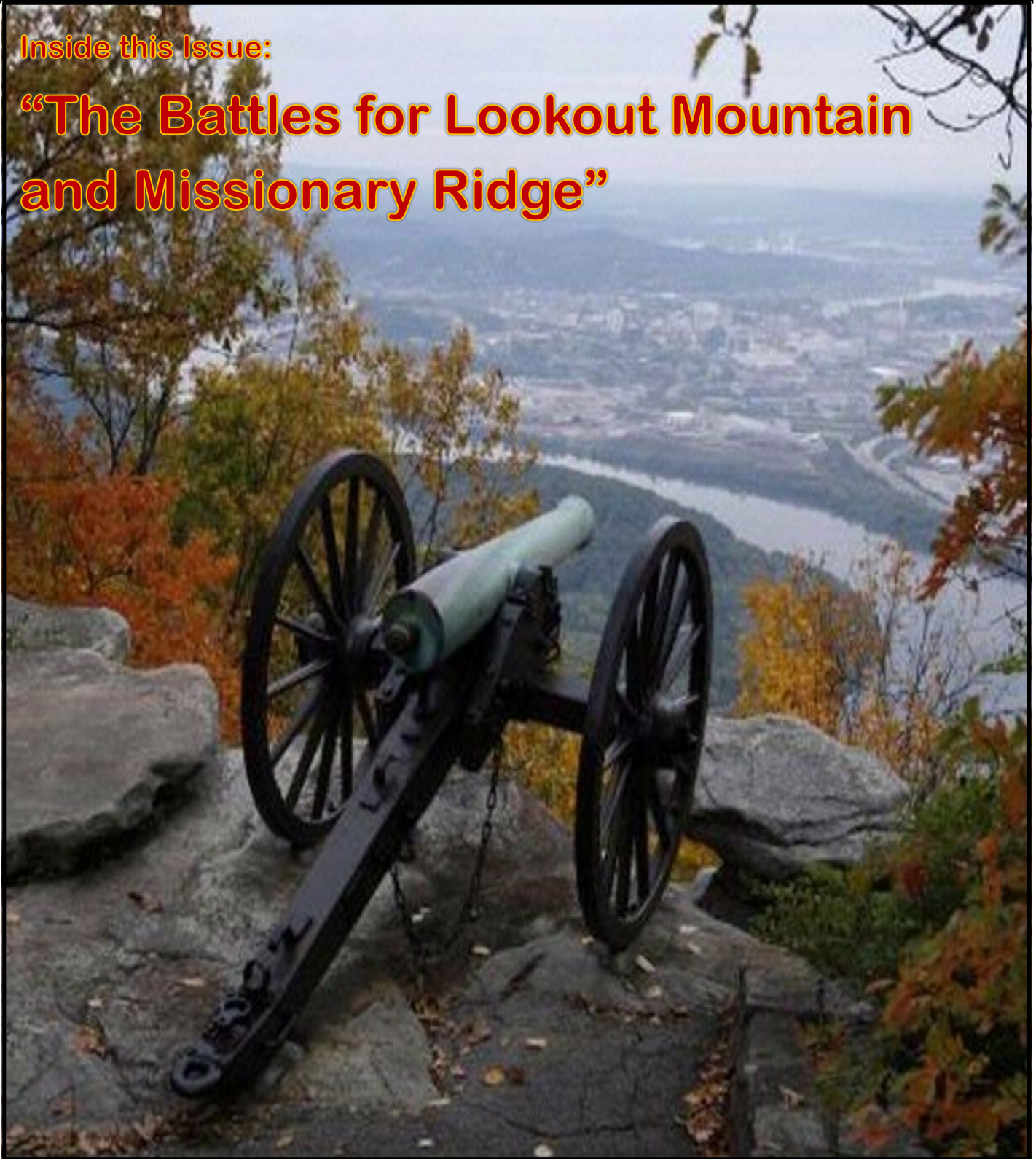


# *The Delta General*

Camp Website: [www.humphreys1625.com](http://www.humphreys1625.com)

Inside this Issue:

## **“The Battles for Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge”**



November - 2018, Volume 21, Issue 11

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



# *The Delta General*

Camp Website: [www.humphreys1625.com](http://www.humphreys1625.com)

## **Commander's Report:** **Larry McCluney**

My fellow Compatriots,

As you can tell, the temperatures are starting to drop and fall is truly upon us and soon the holidays will be here. The hunters are anxious to get out and find that trophy deer and college football is in mid-season. I bring this up because I know with all of the distractions that can develop I ask you, when was the last time you have visited your Camp and rekindled friendships with your Compatriots. All across the Confederation we hear all the time about the various attacks upon our heritage and people complain what is National doing to stop this? Its easy to complain and pass fault, but my question is, WHAT HAVE YOU DONE LATELY? When was the last time you visited your Camp and participated in its activities? Apathy is our number one enemy. It starts with oneself if we are to curve this tide of apathy that is sweeping our ranks. If I can travel over 16,000 miles so far this year in the name of the SCV, can you travel and make your monthly Camp meeting and see what is taking place in our organization?

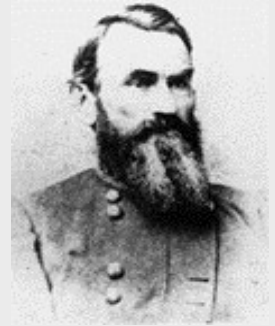
Our November meeting will feature Alan Palmer and one of his famous trivia nights. This time he will have two competitions, one for the ladies, and one for the men, featuring prizes as well. His topics will be the Battles of Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge. For the women it will be on heroines of the war. We will also need to discuss our Lee/Jackson Banquet, and discuss if we will sponsor the Hunley Award again this year.

I also want to report on the success of our care packages to the soldiers in the Middle East sent from our Camp. They have been received and Sgt. Ashley Parks, Annette's nephew, texted her thanking us for the packages. They came at the perfect time because the men really needed cheering up cause they were missing home. He needed cheering up as well cause on October 24 was his wedding anniversary and he was missing her. The packages brought many smiles and he personally thanks the Camp. I would like to do this again if we can gather things to pack for the December meeting. This would be a great Christmas package for the troops. Also, if you know or see a Veteran, lets remember to thank them for their services on November 11. You should thank them every-day!

Don't forget to vote on November 6. This is an important National election for our Senators and Representatives. Remember your vote can make a difference and it is your civic duty.

If I do not see you again before our December meeting, I want to wish each and everyone of you a Happy Thanksgiving and to ask you to remember about our ancestors and the many thanksgivings they spent away from home all in the defense of a righteous Cause. Will you pick up the Cause with us and continue defending their good name? It starts first by attending your Camp, then Division, and even National activities.

Live the Charge!



**Brig. General Benjamin G. Humphreys Camp #1625, SCV**

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## Adjutant's Report by Dan McCaskill — October 6, 2018

6:00 pm: The Meeting was called to order by Commander Larry McCluney at 6:00 pm. Dan McCaskill was called upon to open the Meeting with a word of prayer and blessing. This was followed by Color Sergeant Earl Allen leading everyone in the Pledge and salutes to our Flags followed by the reading of "The Charge" given to us by L/G Stephen D. Lee.

Larry welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited everyone to partake in the evening meal Ladies of the OCR Chapter provided. Program: Our "program" for the evening was preparing care packages for nine members of the 155th Combat Artillery Battalion deployed to the Middle East from Mississippi back in June. Annette's nephew with the unit informed her that these men had received nothing from home since the deployment and asked if we could help. We did and will try to do the same each month they are deployed.

Officer Reports: 1st Lt. Commander: Zack Kiker announced the program for next Camp Meeting would be Alan Palmer's Trivia Night. One for the ladies and one for the men. The men's trivia will be on the Chattanooga Campaign but do not know the subject for the ladies; 2nd Lt. Commander: Jimmy Alford was absent; Adjutant: Dan McCaskill reported he had received annual dues for 39 members, past and present, and forwarded to National and Division. Our account currently stands at \$ 1,308 and our e-post card has been filed with the IRS. At this writing, dues have been received for three additional members bringing our Camp up to 42 with 3 members delinquent. Ella Palmer OCR: Sandra announced the Chapter is now accepting donations for the LeeJackson Banquet Raffle; Lt. C-I-C: Larry commented on the 1st Brigade Workshop on Recruiting and Retention. The meeting was very poorly attended with only 4 members representing 3 Camps of the 1st Brigade present. Apathy is killing us and preventing the Division to grow. We need new ideas to re-invigorate the Camps, Brigade and Division but can't get them if people will not take time to participate.

Camp Business: Details for our Lee-Jackson Banquet which is set for January 19, 2019 will be worked out at our next Camp Meeting on November 3rd. A motion was made and seconded by Kenneth Ray to continue our Care Package Program on a monthly basis while the unit is deployed. The motion passed. With no other business coming before the Camp, a motion was made by Kenneth Ray, seconded by Zack Kiker and passed to close the business session.

Traveling grace was given by Dan McCaskill. The Meeting was closed with the singing of Dixie. It was a great meeting with attendance of only 10.

## From the Chaplain's pen ... Earl McCown

During the War-between-the-States. Several significant spiritual revivals took place in both the Northern and Southern armies. \*\*

The early months of the War saw the assembly of armies that consisted of thousands of young men that had never been away from home. Army chaplains complained that "seductive influences of sin" and "legions of devils" infested the camps. Among the sins were "spiritous liquors" card playing, gambling, and profanity. Early in the war, one Confederate soldier said that "if the South is overthrown. The epitaph should be 'died of whiskey'"

Abraham Lincoln recognized the value of religion as a stabilizing force in the Union army, and did all within his power to provide for organized spiritual guidance to soldiers. On May 4, 1861, he ordered all regimental commanders to appoint chaplains for their units. The Chaplain was expected to be an ordained minister of a Christian denomination, and was to receive an officer's salary (initially \$1,700 per year, later cut to \$1,200.) Lincoln also provided as much support as he could to the United States Christian Commission, an inter-denominational organization that was dedicated primarily to the spreading of the Gospel in the Union armies.

Unfortunately for the southern soldiers, Jefferson Davis and his administration put less value on army chaplains and evangelistic activities within the army. There was no corresponding effort to assure that every regiment had a chaplain, and those appointed received a salary initially of \$1,020 per year, which was soon reduced to \$600. Although the salary was later increased to \$960, few Confederate army chaplains were ever fully supported by the Confederate authorities. The Confederate government was far more anxious to have "fighting men" than "preaching men."

Southern Christian leaders usually through their respective denominational organizations, made earnest efforts to provide the soldiers with Bibles, New Testaments, and religious tracts. Those chaplains and religious leaders that lived with the soldiers sent out a constant stream of letters to their home churches and church leadership, begging them to send "our best men - holy men" to assist in evangelizing and ministering to the troops. Although the South had few facilities for printing its own Bibles, southern Christian leaders put forward supreme efforts to acquire Bibles and tracts for their soldiers. British and even some northern Bible societies responded generously.

Northern soldiers were fortunate in that northern Christian leaders were better organized and more willing to ignore their denominational differences from the very start. With the support of both the Lincoln administration and the War Department, they organized the U.S. Christian Commission - a civilian "army" of men and women that lived in or near the army camps, passing out religious tracts and Testaments, organizing worship serviced, acting as nurses in the hospitals, and doing their best to spread the Gospel.

[\*\* Some information gleaned from Gordon Leidner of Great American History]



This is a rendering and the floorplan for The National Confederate Museum to be built at the our Headquarters in Columbia, TN. Groundbreaking will commence soon, but we have only a small portion of the funds required to build our museum. We need your help! Education is the long term solution to upholding Stephen D. Lee's Charge and our museum will be the penultimate museum dedicated to the Confederate Veteran! Who else will tell the truth about our ancestors? The media? Academia? Schools? No one!

***We need you to donate now!***



***The National Confederate Museum at Elm Springs***

*Please donate today - our ancestors need their story told truthfully!*

*Museum Fund, Sons of Confederate Veterans, PO Box 59, Columbia, TN 38402*



POTENTIAL FLAG CONSERVATION PROJECTS FOR THE MISSISSIPPI DIVISION,

SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

**1968.61.1 – 23<sup>rd</sup> Mississippi Infantry, Co. A, Blount Guards**

First National pattern flag made of silk. Captain C.G. Blount raised the Blount Guards in August, 1861, in luka in Tippah County. Blount's sister presented the company with this flag shortly before they left to join General Albert Sidney Johnston's forces in Kentucky.

Conservation Estimate: \$27,000



## **Mississippi Division Reunion News**

Mississippi Sons of Confederate Veterans,

Greetings from SCV Camp #265 in Brandon, MS. We are hosting the state/division SCV Reunion in Brandon, Mississippi this year on June 7th and 8th of 2019 and wanted to personally invite each and every one of you and your families to attend.

Our first thought was: "How can we convince our fellow SCV members around the state to come to the Division Reunion if they've never been or have not planned on coming?" Well let me tell you what we brain stormed. We will be hosting a Civil War Relic Show in conjunction with our reunion! Isn't that a great idea?! We will have vendors for men and women, MS authors, MS artists, musicians, a live band (from MS) playing period music, a cannon display outside, a civil war surgeon with all the tools of the trade inside, and much, much more! The Relic Show will open at 9:00am on Saturday morning and close at 5:00pm Saturday evening. Please come early, visit, and support the vendors that are here for you. Registration is from 3pm - 7pm on Friday afternoon and from 6am-9am Saturday morning. By the way, the relic show will be open to the public so they can see what the SCV is all about. Your attendance will be very impressive to the public and the vendors at the show. Men and women are welcome to wear their period clothes. At 6pm on Friday afternoon we will have a president's reception for all the vendors, members, and families. At the reception we will be serving a large birthday cake along with dinner to celebrate Jefferson Davis' 211th Birthday. Hopefully feeding everyone will ease the financial strain of coming to the reunion. At 7pm we will have a short musical performance. We will end the night by everyone singing "Dixie". Dress for the business meeting is business, business casual or period dress. Everyone who wants to dress out is welcome to be a part of the color guard. This would make for an impressive picture for the Confederate Veteran magazine!

Opening ceremonies for the business session will be from 8am to 9am. The business session will run from 9:00am - 1:00pm with our memorial service at 1:00pm through 1:30pm. Sorry, but the business session is for division members in good standing only. After the business session we need a group picture of all members! After the group picture will be a good time for fellowship time and an opportunity to get dressed for the banquet starting at 6:30pm. At 6:30pm dinner will be served buffet style with some of the best food you will ever lay your lips on. Let me put it this way, the last National Reunion I went to, I paid \$30.00 for lunch and got a turkey wrap! I assure you there will be no turkey wraps on our buffet!! The menu will be: baked chicken and prime rib with all the trimmings.

At 7:30pm, Mr. Walt Grayson will be our speaker. He is a great speaker! The wives will enjoy him just as much as you do. At 8:00pm awards will be given out and at 8:30pm door prize winners will be announced! At 9:00pm we will end by the members singing "Dixie" and afterwards we will have a special treat along with the announcement of the winner of the AR15.

Let's look at finances. When you come to the reunion, dinner will be provided on Friday night for FREE, there will be FREE coffee and donuts Saturday morning, hotel rates are from \$89.00 a night, and registration is \$45.00. The banquet is \$25.00/person, and in theory, the convention ends early enough for you to drive home Saturday night and not spend the extra money on the hotel. That's two days of entertainment around some of the best people you will ever meet for approximately \$70.00 for one person within driving distance; \$165.00 with a one night hotel stay; \$190.00 with a one night hotel stay with your spouse. Now that's affordable!

We here in Brandon are proud to be members of the Mississippi Division Sons of Confederate Veterans and are not ashamed of it. We will not be having this convention in a barn in the middle of the woods hiding from view. We are having this convention at City Hall in downtown Brandon; the largest room we could find. We have a letter from the Mayor, the Rankin County Chamber of Commerce, and the Rankin County Board of Supervisors welcoming the Sons of Confederate Veterans to Brandon and Rankin County for our 124th annual reunion.

The task of putting all this together for the entire state has been no walk in the park. We will try to personally visit each camp in the state to invite you to the convention but there will probably be more to do than time and money will allow. On top of that, as each one of you know, everything done for the SCV is done after working, church activities, school, kids, health issues, and without pay.

In closing, I want you to know we are doing this because we are proud of our history in this great country, we are proud of our brave ancestors, and we are proud to be Sons of Confederate Veterans. Please mark your calendars for June 7th and 8th 2019, request vacation days at work, put off the family reunion for one year, whatever you have to do to come and support the vendors that will be here for you, meet your fellow SCV members from around the state, enjoy some good ole southern hospitality, and let's show everyone that old times here are not forgotten! May God bless you and your families.

Sincerely,

Tim Cupit

PS: Hotel reservations must be made by May 30th, 2019 to get the SCV rate. Contact info is on the registration form.

Registration forms must be received by May 25th, 2019. We will register you at the door but, it comes with the obvious consequences; name tags hand written, no goodie bag, etc.

Remember to bring your scrapbook! They will be judged on Saturday after the business meeting. Your scrapbook will be good ways to let the other camps in the division see what you have done over the past year and may also give other camps ideas for activities in their communities.

Activities in the community for nonmembers or people who do not want to attend the relic show: The Bass Pro Shop, Braves Stadium, AG Museum, Children's Museum, Wildlife and Science Museum, Shopping at The Dogwood Promenade, Antique Stores, and much more! The reunion, relic show, and registration will be at City Hall. (Address will be on the registration form)

## **2019 SCV MS Division Reunion Registration Form**

124th Reunion – Mississippi Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans 25th Reunion  
Mississippi Society, Order of Confederate Rose Brandon, Mississippi – June 7th & 8th, 2019  
Hosted By The Rankin Rough And Ready's Camp #265 And Mary Ann Forrest Chapter #23, MSOCR  
All Events Will be Held at The Brandon City Hall: 1000 Municipal Drive, Brandon, MS 39042

SCV Member Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title / SCV Camp Name & Number \_\_\_\_\_

OCR Member Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title / OCR Chapter Name & Number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse/

Guest Name(s)-For Badges \_\_\_\_\_

All registered SCV members will receive a name badge, a convention medal, a program, and a bag of goodies (quantity limited to 150). Registration at the door will receive the same as long as supplies last. OCR registrants will have a Tea in lieu of a medal. If you wish to get a medal, please pay SCV price this will automatically qualify you for the AR15 being given away Saturday night at the banquet! (Contingent upon meeting all applicable laws and regulations in the state of Mississippi)

### **REGISTRATION AMOUNTS**

SCV before May 15, 2019 \$45.00 After May 15, 2019 \$50.00 QTY \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

OCR before May 15, 2019 \$20.00 After May 15, 2019 \$25.00 QTY \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Ancestor Memorial: EACH MEMORIAL IS \$10.00 QTY \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please print or type each memorial on a separate page & submit before April 25th, 2019

Program Ads: \$100.00 - full page; \$50.00 - half page; \$35.00 - quarter page; \$25.00 - business card size (Please email ad information on a separate page before April 25th, 2019) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Awards Banquet: \$25.00 per adult plate QTY \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\$10.00 per child plate (15 and under) QTY \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(No Meal Registration after May 25, 2019)

Total Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please Make Checks Payable to SCV Camp #265 & Mail to: Tim Cupit, 317 Lake Heather Rd, Brandon, MS 39047

Contact Information: SCV Contact: Tim Cupit: 769-234-2966 or timcupit@comcast.net | OCR Contact: Brandi Gray: 601-896-8652 or maryannforrestocr@yahoo.com

Host Hotel Info: La Quinta at 215 Dande Rd, Brandon, MS. SCV Rate - \$89.00 plus tax Phone: 601-591-1045. Ramada Inn at 341 Airport Rd. Pearl, MS SCV Rate - \$89.00 double plus tax Phone: 601-933-1122 \*\*All Reservations must be made by April 30, 2019\*\*

Registration will be at City Hall between 4pm & 7pm Friday and between 6am & 9am Saturday.



## **SCV ATTEMPTS NEW LICENSE PLATE**

Texas Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller is sponsoring a proposed Texas license plate that honors Confederate soldiers to help raise money for the Sons of Confederate Veterans - reigniting a decade-old debate over establishing a novelty plate to benefit the group.

The new design does not have a Confederate flag but instead includes a rebel soldier clad in a gray Confederate uniform carrying a Texas regiment's flag.

The Sons of Confederate Veterans is a group of about 3,200 members in Texas, according to its March application for the specialty license plate. The group estimates about 1,000 such plates would be sold in the first year. Of the \$30 fee collected for specialty Texas license plates, \$22 would go to the Department of Agriculture as the sponsoring agency. The department would give that money back to the Sons of Confederate Veterans in the form of grants "for supporting charitable causes and related activities," Miller told the DMV in a letter offering to sponsor the plate.

The purpose of the special license plate is to "remember and honor our Confederate ancestors" and to make the commemorative plate available to people interested in Texas' participation in the war, according to the application.

Kim Olson, a retired lieutenant colonel running against Miller in the November general election, said the agency should be focused on agricultural resources instead of sponsoring Confederate license plates, "We have bigger fish to fry."



## **SILENT SAM RESTORATION CHALLENGED**

**The News & Observer** of Raleigh reports that the University of North Carolina Faculty Council adopted a resolution Friday calling for the statue nicknamed "Silent Sam" and its remaining stone pedestal to be removed from campus grounds.

The faculty move came hours after the university's 225th birthday celebration. Chancellor Carol Folt used the occasion to make a public apology for the university's connection to slavery and the oppression of blacks.

Folt and the school's trustees have until Nov. 15 to present a plan to the statewide public university system's governors for how they will restore the statue.

## **SILENT SAM VANDAL GOES FREE**

In the week's trial of a University of North Carolina student accused of vandalizing Silent Sam, the Judge has declined to punish the University graduate student who admitted to the crime in open court.

Orange County Judge Samantha Cabe noted that Maya Little had admitted to the crime on the stand and that the facts showed she was guilty of the charge of defacing a public monument. But Cabe used a North Carolina judicial maneuver known as a "continued judgment" to essentially withhold the guilty verdict because she sympathized after hearing Little's testimony about how she struggled with the statue's Confederate symbolism.

Judge Cabe also waived court fees and restitution. Little known fact, "Court Fees" go straight into the Judges retirement account. Because of that, Judges almost never waive them. That is why even the innocent, and those whose charges were dismissed, are still assessed "Court Fees," or "Court Costs."

## **In Wake Of Charlottesville, Federal Government Pays To Protect Confederate Cemeteries**

The Department of Veterans Affairs has spent millions of dollars paying for private security at several Confederate cemeteries following the deadly white supremacist rally in Charlottesville, Va., in August 2017, the Associated Press reported.

Initiated by the department, the protection for at least eight VA-run cemeteries "was aimed at preventing the kind of damage that befell Confederate memorials across the U.S. in the aftermath of the Charlottesville violence," the AP said.

The wire service used records accessed through the Freedom of Information Act.

The Virginia protest, during which counterprotester Heather Heyer was killed, was organized by white supremacist groups opposing the city's plan to remove a statue of Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee. The ensuing violence amplified calls for the removal of Confederate monuments from public spaces and triggered a rash of vandalism against them.

"VA has an obligation to protect the federal property it administers, along with cemetery staff and visitors paying respect to those interred at our sites," VA officials told NPR in an emailed statement.

According to the statement, the department's National Cemetery Administration is responsible for decisions to enhance security for specific sites "based on a variety of factors, including their historical significance, replacement/repair value, and previous vandalism or threats of vandalism at the sites."

While it's unclear exactly what type of threats prompted the protection of the cemeteries, at least two were vandalized before extra security was added. A bronze statue of a rebel soldier at Camp Chase Confederate Cemetery in Columbus, Ohio, was decapitated and knocked over less than two weeks after the Charlottesville melee. About a week after that, and just hours before the arrival of President Trump in Springfield, Mo., a 117-year-old Confederate memorial at the Springfield National Cemetery was covered in paint.

Five other cemeteries are currently receiving round-the-clock protection, according to the AP; North Alton Confederate Cemetery in Alton, Ill.; Woodlawn National Cemetery in Elmira, N.Y.; Point Lookout Confederate Cemetery in Scotland, Md.; Finn's Point National Cemetery in Pennsville Township, N.J.; and Confederate Stockade Cemetery in Sandusky, Ohio. Confederate Mound at Oak Woods Cemetery in Chicago has added security only during daylight hours, the AP reported.

Continued on page 8 . . .

No incidents of vandalism have occurred at any of the cemeteries since the two that followed the Charlottesville violence, the VA told the wire service.

The AP says records show the 24-hour security has been outsourced by VA to a Florida-based company called Westmoreland Protection Agency, which has, in turn, hired The Whitestone Group, an Ohio-based subcontractor, to fulfill at least part of the federal contract.

Attempts by NPR to reach Westmoreland Protection Agency were unsuccessful. As of Tuesday afternoon, the company's voicemail system was full and no longer accepting messages.

Veterans Affairs officials declined to answer NPR's questions about the specific costs of the boosted security at the eight cemeteries, but using from records obtained through the Freedom of Information Act request, the AP concluded the government allocated nearly \$3 million since August 2017 and has earmarked another \$1.6 million to continue the added surveillance in fiscal year 2019.

"All told, the VA spent about \$462,500 on security through Oct. 23, 2017, when it agreed to an annual contract with Westmoreland at a cost of just under \$2.3 million," the AP reported.

VA officials told NPR all security funds for its cemeteries come out of the National Cemetery Administration's annual appropriation for Operations and Maintenance.



A guard walks past a monument at North Alton Confederate Cemetery in Alton, Ill. The federal government has hired private security firms to guard several Confederate memorials across the U.S in the aftermath of clashes between white nationalists and counter protesters last year.

## **Message from Commander-in-Chief Paul Gramling: The Passing of PCIC Michael Givens' Mother**

Grace Marian Bailes Givens  
Rocky Bottom, Sunset, South Carolina

Marian Givens, 81, of Rocky Bottom, South Carolina passed away on October 20, 2018. Born in St. George, South Carolina, Marian was the daughter of the late Dr. Robert William and Grace Riddle Bailes. Marian lived in Greenville, Travelers Rest, Pickens, Beaufort, and Rocky Bottom (Sunset) South Carolina. She also lived in Haiti, Kansas City, Kansas, Kannapolis, North Carolina and Pascagoula, Mississippi. Her most cherished time spent was with her loving husband, Gene Givens, at their home place in Rocky Bottom.

She is survived by two sons, J. Allan Givens (Melody) of Los Angeles, California, R. Michael Givens of the home, four grandchildren, Jennifer Givens (Mark) Thrasher of Anderson, Micael Givens (Brandon) of Orlando, Florida, Olivia Givens of Chicago, Illinois and Chandler Givens of Greenville, South Carolina as well as great-grandchildren, Hannah, Connor, and Mark Thrasher, and Savannah, Ashlyn, and Bella Givens also two sisters, Kathryn B. (Dale) Hedrick of Lexington, North Carolina, and Elizabeth B. (Robert) Coleman of Travelers Rest, and many nieces and nephews.

Marian was predeceased by her beloved husband, Thomas Eugene Givens, two brothers, James Lewis and Robert William Bailes II.

A special thank you to Dr. Christine Lawrence, Barbara Pappas, Nicole Erickson, Matt Esteve, Interim Heathcare, and Nona Jedelle Cook who have provided so much care and comfort to Marian.

A Memorial Service will be held on Friday, October 26, 2018, 3:00 PM at Rocky Bottom Baptist Church.

Paul Gramling, Jr.  
Commander-In-Chief  
Sons Of Confederate Veterans





# Help Save General Forrest



The Memphis City Council has passed a resolution to remove the Forrest Equestrian Statue from Forrest Park and to dig up the graves of General Forrest and his wife MaryAnn from beneath the statue.

The SCV and the Forrest family descendants must raise money to fight the city in this second attack on General Forrest. We need your help.

## Help us to save the graves and monument of General Forrest

Can you, or your camp or Division donate \$100, \$500 or \$1000 to the defense ?

Please sign me up as a supporter. No membership fee.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Contribute through PayPal at our ally at : [www.citizenstosaveourparks.org](http://www.citizenstosaveourparks.org)

Please donate to our cause: Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_ check number \_\_\_\_\_

### Forrest Park Defense Fund

PO Box 241875, Memphis, TN 38124

## The Battle of Lookout Mountain, November 24, 1863 by Jack H. Lepa



After their disastrous defeat at the Battle of Chickamauga on September 19-20, 1863, the surviving troops of the Federal Army of the Cumberland, commanded by Major General William Starke Rosecrans, fled to what they believed to be the safety of the town of Chattanooga, Tennessee. The victor of Chickamauga, Confederate General Braxton Bragg, commander of the Army of Tennessee, followed the Federals to Chattanooga and seized control of most of the high ground around the city, turning what the Union troops thought would be a sanctuary into a trap where they would eventually have to surrender or starve. The two most important points of high ground the Confederates occupied were Missionary Ridge to the east and north of the city and a huge rock known as Lookout Mountain. Located south and southwest of the city, Lookout Mountain overlooked the Tennessee River which ran just past the city together with a single railroad track of the Memphis and Charleston Railroad along the base of the mountain. With these heights under Confederate control, the city was cut off from all supply routes other than an almost useless trail that wound around narrow mountain roads and was nearly impassable in the winter. <sup>[1]</sup>

Chattanooga was a small but strategically important city which was needed for control of Central Tennessee. Aware of the potential disaster facing Rosecrans' army President Lincoln appointed his most successful commander, Major General Ulysses S. Grant, to the command of all the armies in the West. Grant's first assignment was to save the army at Chattanooga and he immediately replaced the ineffective General Rosecrans with Major General George Henry Thomas. After making the arduous trip along the only open supply route to Chattanooga, it was obvious to Grant that finding a way to deliver large quantities of provisions was imperative if the city was to be held. Getting right to work Grant approved a surprise attack by way of the Tennessee River on Confederate positions west of the city that led to the opening of a much shorter and less treacherous route from the Federal supply depots at Bridgeport, Tennessee to Chattanooga. This eliminated much of the importance of Confederate control of Lookout Mountain since this new supply route was too far from the mountain for the Confederate artillery posted there to interfere with Federal wagon trains. <sup>[2]</sup>

Another advantage of the new route was that it opened a link between Chattanooga and reinforcements sent from the Army of the Potomac, who were forced to stay miles from the city due to the shortage of provisions. This relief force consisted of two infantry corps commanded by Major General Joseph Hooker who was now able to move closer to the city with a portion of his command to a position in Lookout Valley, just west of the mountain.

During the night of October 28-29, Confederate Lieutenant General James Longstreet, who was in command of Lookout Mountain and the territory to the west, launched an attack on a small division of Hooker's troops stationed at Wauhatchie under the command of Brigadier General John White Geary to force them back out of the valley. The Confederates were repulsed and the Federals were now firmly in control of Lookout Valley and the ground to the north all the way to the city itself. <sup>[3]</sup>

With the new supply route open and secure, control of Lookout Mountain now figured less in General Grant's planning since his main objective was Missionary Ridge and the Confederate railroad east of the ridge that brought supplies up from Atlanta. General Bragg was also aware that he had lost a great advantage over the Federal troops in Chattanooga but did not want to just abandon such a prominent location. On November 12 Bragg placed Major General Carter Littlepage Stevenson in command of the 8,700 Confederate troops on Lookout Mountain. In addition to his own division which occupied the summit, Stevenson had brigades commanded by Brigadier Generals John King Jackson, Edward Cary Walthall, and John Creed Moore to defend the mountain. Stevenson had several batteries of artillery on the summit but due to the angle of the slope they could not fire on much of the western side of the mountain. <sup>[4]</sup>

Down in the valley General Hooker's command was a diverse group from three different armies. Three of the four divisions that accompanied him from the Army of the Potomac were currently either guarding the supply depot at Stevenson or on the other side of the river. Currently under his immediate command was Brigadier General John White Geary's division from the XII Corps of the Army of the Potomac. Representing the Army of the Cumberland was a division of the IV Corps commanded by Brigadier General Charles Cruft, and the division of Brigadier General Peter Joseph Osterhaus from the XV Corps of the Army of the Tennessee. Osterhaus' troops had come east with Major General William Tecumseh Sherman who had just recently arrived with about 20,000 reinforcements from Vicksburg, Mississippi. Osterhaus had gotten stuck on the wrong side of the Tennessee River when flooding destroyed the bridge that was the only way for him to rejoin Sherman so General Grant placed his division under Hooker's command giving him a total of almost 10,000 men. General Grant decided that this was too many men not to put them to use so on the evening of November 23<sup>rd</sup> Hooker received orders to drive the enemy off Lookout Mountain the next day. <sup>[5]</sup>

Being entrusted with an important assignment no doubt pleased General Hooker but taking that immense rock from veteran troops who had plenty of time to prepare their defenses was going to be no easy task. The terrain on the slopes of the mountain provided a natural defense without any man-made obstacles. The assault would take place on the Western side of the mountain and the troops making the assault would have to contend with a steep, heavily wooded slope filled with ravines and large boulders. About two-thirds of the way up the mountain was a narrow belt of relatively level land, almost like a shoulder or bench, where a few small farms were located. Above this strip of land rose a sheer rock palisade of several hundred feet. On the Northern end and for a few miles on either side this palisade prevented access to the flat summit which was about two miles wide on the Southern end and narrowed to a point on the Northern end which towered about 1,800 feet above the Tennessee River. <sup>[6]</sup>

The Confederate commanders, including Generals Bragg and Longstreet, felt that the broken ground and numerous natural obstacles on the steep slope of the mountain would play a major part in defending their positions against attack, but they did not forego adding man-made works to supplement nature. There was an extensive line of defenses built up on the flat shoulder of the



mountain with rifle pits and trenches reinforced with logs across the northern end of the mountain and running along both the East and West sides. General Hooker gave an in-depth description of the Confederate defenses in his report, "A continuous line of earth-works had been thrown up, while redoubts, redans, and pits appeared lower down the slope, to repel an assault from the direction of the river." Hooker also noted that along either side on the slopes, "were rifle-pits, epaulements for batteries, walls of stone, and abatis to resist attack from either the Chattanooga or Lookout Valleys." All things considered, assaulting the Confederate positions on Lookout Mountain was going to be a serious affair. <sup>[7]</sup>

In the plan of attack as originally put together there was no thought of trying to assault General Stevenson's men on top of the mountain. Hooker believed that once his troops took control of the western slope and shoulder of the mountain around the northern end that the Confederate positions on the crest would be untenable and Stevenson would withdraw on his own. Hooker was sending two columns to attack the mountain. Brigadier General Walter Chiles Whitaker's brigade from Cruft's division would join General Geary's division at Wauhatchie and Cruft's other brigade commanded by Colonel William Grose together with Osterhaus' division was to cross Lookout Creek further to the north. Both forces were to converge on the Cravens farm at the northern end of the mountain. Once Osterhaus had crossed the creek his two brigades were to support Geary's attack with Brigadier General Charles Robert Woods' brigade joining with Colonel Grose and advancing up the slope toward the Cravens farm, while Colonel James A. Williamson's brigade remained in the valley to protect the artillery that Hooker had sent to support the attack. <sup>[8]</sup>

General Geary's command had much farther to go before reaching their assigned point to cross the creek so they left their camps at Wauhatchie around dawn and arrived at Lookout Creek about 8:30 a.m. Here Geary's division and Whitaker's brigade crossed the creek and headed toward the base of the mountain while Colonel Grose's brigade and General Woods' brigade continued north to capture two bridges near the railroad line that ran across the base of the mountain. These bridges were to be used by Osterhaus' command to cross the creek closer to the northern end. Colonel Grose's brigade quickly took control of one of the bridges away from the Confederate pickets but the firing alerted General Moore's Confederates on the lower slope who came down to positions along the railroad which, as Hooker reported, "Enabled them, without exposure, to sweep, with a fire of musketry, the field over which our troops would be compelled to march for a distance of 300 or 400 yards." <sup>[9]</sup>

With Osterhaus and Grose engaged along Lookout Creek, General Geary took advantage of the fog and mist to advance further up the valley. With three brigades of his division commanded by Colonels Charles Candy, George Ashworth Cobham and David Ireland and Whitaker's brigade Geary's men began the difficult climb up the slope of Lookout Mountain with Cobham in the lead. About an hour after they began the Federal line extended from the shoulder of the mountain down the slope facing north. Geary's troops then began to move across the face of the mountain toward the northern end and their rendezvous at the Cravens farm with Osterhaus' force moving up the slope near the northern end. <sup>[10]</sup>

General Geary's men found that it was slow going due to the broken terrain covered with trees, large rocks and ravines. One of Whitaker's men, Isaac Doan of the 40<sup>th</sup> Ohio, later wrote that when the line began moving along the face of the mountain they, "swept the slope to the northeast, descending into ravines that furrow the slope, climbing the opposite bank with infinite labor." Geary's men got to about one mile from Lookout Point, as the northern end of the mountain was called, before they met any significant resistance from General Walthall's Confederates. The defenders were significantly outnumbered and about all they could expect to do was slow the Federal assault until reinforcements arrived. For the Federals it was tough going and they were able to advance at no more than a slow walk but as Doan remembered, "We make up for lack of speed, with yells, while the opposite mountain sends back the echoing battle cry, until the rebels afterward captured said they thought there was a million of us." <sup>[11]</sup>

The right of the Confederate line stretched down the slope and the flank was woefully undermanned. At the time that Geary's men were making slow but steady progress across the face of the mountain, Osterhaus and Grose had also been making progress against the enemy along the creek. Once the second bridge was useable Grose's troops moved forward and closed with General Moore's defenders in their front at the base of the mountain about 11:30 a.m. Grose later wrote that his men moved forward, "As fast as the men and officers could climb (for all were on foot), sweeping everything before them." As Geary's men were approaching the northern end of the mountain Colonel Candy's brigade that had been advancing along the base of the mountain came up to join the fight. Hit in the front by Grose's men and the flank by Candy's troops as they moved north the Confederate line facing downhill was pushed back into a prepared line of works that Geary noted as being, "Formidable in natural defense and seemingly impregnable with rocks, stone, and earth breast-works, surrounded by tangled slashings." <sup>[12]</sup>

Even though it was clear that the Federals were superior in numbers Walthall decided to make a stand on the western slope rather than falling back to the stronger positions on the northern end of the mountain. But after pulling in troops from other locations on the mountain Walthall's men still could not stop the determined men in blue. General Geary stated that the brigade commanded by Colonel David Ireland joined by the 29<sup>th</sup> and 111<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Regiments, "hurled themselves upon their flank with furious effort. Our fire was delivered in continuous volleys." Geary also noted that, "The ardor of our men surprised and stultified the enemy, and we punished him severely in his irresolution." Walthall's Mississippians tried their best to stem the Federal attack but they were simply overwhelmed and around noon the defenders who were able to get away fell back to the northern end of the mountain. <sup>[13]</sup>

On the shoulder of the mountain near the northern end the Confederates had built their strongest defensive works near the small farm owned by Robert Cravens. It was imperative that the Federals be kept from getting around the point of the mountain to the eastern side where they would have access to the flank of the Confederate positions on Missionary Ridge. The battle for Lookout Mountain would be won or lost at the Cravens farm. The Confederate defenses consisted of rifle-pits and stone walls supported by artillery that could sweep the ground in the front from which an attack would come. Another advantage for the defenders was that the slope of the mountain around the farm was even steeper than further down the western side, making it even more difficult for Grose to advance from below, especially with enemy fire coming down on them from above. <sup>[14]</sup>

Walthall's remaining troops occupied the works near the Cravens farm while General Moore's remaining troops manned a line from the farm down the slope. Walthall's left was in position almost against the palisade to prevent the Federals from gaining that flank but it made little difference. The Federal soldiers came on relentlessly, attacking the entire Confederate position, jumping over logs and climbing over boulders to close with the enemy, Geary at and near the shoulder and Grose from the slope. The Confederate artillery quickly became useless in the close quarters of the confused fighting and the gunners ended up joining the infantry on the lines. General Moore tried to hold his line on the slope but when the Confederates at the farm began to falter he could not afford to take the chance of fighting Grose's men in front and Geary's men on his flank at the same time, so he pulled his men out with some falling back around to the



eastern side of the mountain and others heading down to the valley below. <sup>[15]</sup>

All morning the Federal troops in Chattanooga could hear the sounds of battle coming from the western side of Lookout Mountain but because of the fog, low lying clouds, and the mountain itself nothing of the fighting could be seen from the vicinity of the town. As the morning wore on and the fighting moved north the boom of artillery and the crack of musket fire grew louder but still no one in the valley knew what was happening up on the mountain. While the troops in the valley anxiously watched and waited, suddenly a breeze came up and the fog and smoke drifted away bathing the mountain in sunlight and for a few minutes the men in the valley were treated to a wonderful sight. Around the northern end of Lookout Mountain came hundreds of Confederates and close behind them were swarms of soldiers in blue with flags whipping in the cool mountain air and rifles glistening in the sunlight. General Thomas' men exploded in joy, cheering wildly and throwing their caps in the air. One of those men was Major James A. Connolly of the 123<sup>rd</sup> Illinois who wrote his wife, "Oh! Such a cheer as then went up in the valley! Manly cheeks were wet with tears of joy."

General Hooker reported that when the air cleared and the men in the valley could see the mountainside, "Our true condition was revealed to them, their painful anxiety yielded to transports of joy which only soldiers can feel in the earliest moments of dawning victory." The celebrating did not last long as the fog and mist soon closed in again but the Union troops in the valley had seen enough. <sup>[16]</sup>

Once General Geary's men worked their way around the point of the mountain they began moving down the eastern side during the early afternoon where Confederate resistance stiffened again. On the western side the angle of the slope prevented General Stevenson's men on the summit from assisting their comrades fighting below but this was not the case on the eastern slopes and Stevenson hurried reinforcements down to assist Walthall's beleaguered troops. General Geary reported that, "about 500 yards beyond Craven's house... the enemy, already reported, appeared in heavy force." The Confederates had established a solid line of works that extended up to the palisade so there would be no more flanking attacks at this new position. It was time for a pause in the fighting that had been going on for hours already. <sup>[17]</sup>

Since about 1:00 p.m. the weather had been getting worse with increasing rain and fog making it even more difficult to see much of anything. The Federal troops had achieved every reasonable objective by 2:00 p.m. and General Hooker decided it was time for his tired men to rest. During the afternoon General Geary established a line of temporary works stretching from the palisade down the slope to near the mouth of Chattanooga Creek. There was frequent firing during the afternoon and evening as Walthall received reinforcements from General Stevenson's division in the form of a brigade commanded by Brigadier General Edmund Pettus. The Federal position on the eastern side of Lookout Mountain was also strengthened by the addition of a brigade from the Army of the Cumberland commanded by Brigadier General William Passmore Carlin who did not arrive until after dark. After a long day of fighting over the rough ground on the slopes of Lookout Mountain General Geary had reason to be pleased with his men and he reported that even though they were exhausted and suffering from the cold that night, "many expressed their impatience for the coming of day that the attack might be renewed." <sup>[18]</sup>

During the night General Stevenson withdrew his troops from Lookout Mountain and moved over to the right side of the Confederate positions. General Bragg assigned most of the blame for losing the mountain to General Stevenson and although the Confederates certainly could have handled the situation better the disparity in numbers at the point of attack was too much for the outmanned Southerners to stop the determined Federal troops. Bragg had decided even before the battle that Lookout Mountain was not valuable enough to weaken other areas to make a major effort to hold the mountain so General Stevenson had to work with what he had which was clearly not sufficient. Described at the time as more like a magnificent skirmish than a battle casualties were light; Union casualties were 406 and Confederate casualties were 1,251, of which 1,064 were captured or missing.

General Grant saw control of Lookout Mountain as an almost open road to the rear of the main Confederate positions on Missionary Ridge which he did not hesitate to take advantage of. With enemy opposition now removed the next morning General Hooker's men moved down into the valley east of the mountain and in concert with the Federal assault on Missionary Ridge successfully moved against the left flank of the Confederate positions contributing to the overall Federal victory. The Union victory at Chattanooga opened the way for General Sherman's invasion of Georgia the next summer, which led to the capture of the important industrial and rail center of Atlanta and his devastating march through Georgia to Savannah.

#### Notes:

[1] Ulysses S. Grant, *Personal Memoirs of U. S. Grant*, 2 vols. (New York: Charles L. Webster & Company, 1885, 1886), 2:32-33.

[2] Grant, *Personal Memoirs*, 2: 18-19; United States War Department, *The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies* (Washington D. C.: Government Printing Office, 1880-1901), Series I, volume 30, part 4, p. 404 (hereafter O.R. I, 30, pt. 4, 404).

[3] O.R., I, 31, pt. 1, 113-5; J. S. Fullerton, "The Army of the Cumberland at Chattanooga," in *The Century Magazine*, 34, no. 1 (May 1887): 140; Oliver O. Howard, "Chattanooga," in *The Atlantic Monthly*, 38, no. 226 (August 1876): 208; Steven E. Woodworth, *Six Armies in Tennessee: The Chickamauga and Chattanooga Campaigns* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1998), 166-7.

[4] Steven E. Woodworth, *This Grand Spectacle: The Battle of Chattanooga* (Abilene, TX: McWhiney Foundation Press, 1999), 57, 60; O.R., I, 31, pt. 2, 315.

[5] O.R., I, 31, pt. 2, 32.

[6] Thomas B. Van Horne, *History of the Army of the Cumberland its Organization, Campaigns, and Battles*, 2 vols. (Cincinnati, OH: Robert Clarke & Co., 1875), 1:418; O.R., I, 31, pt. 2, 315; Woodworth, *Grand Spectacle*, 57.

[7] O.R., I, 31, pt. 2, 315.

[8] O.R., I 31, pt. 2, 718-9.

[9] O.R., I, 31, pt. 2, 315-6, 391.

[10] Howard, "Chattanooga," 213.

[11] Isaac C. Doan, *Reminiscences of the Chattanooga Campaign: A Paper Read at the Reunion of Company B, Fortieth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, at Xenia, O., August 22, 1894*. (Richmond, IN: J. M. Coe's Printery, 1894), 13.

[12] Fullerton, "The Army of the Cumberland," 142-3; O.R., I, 31, pt. 2, 392; William Grose, *The Story of the Marches, Battles and Incidents of the 36th Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry* (New Castle, IN: The Courier Company Press, 1891), 195.

[13] Woodworth, *Grand Spectacle*, 61-62; O.R., I, 31, pt. 2, 392-3.

[14] O.R., I, 31, pt. 2, 393-4; Woodworth, *Grand Spectacle*, 62.

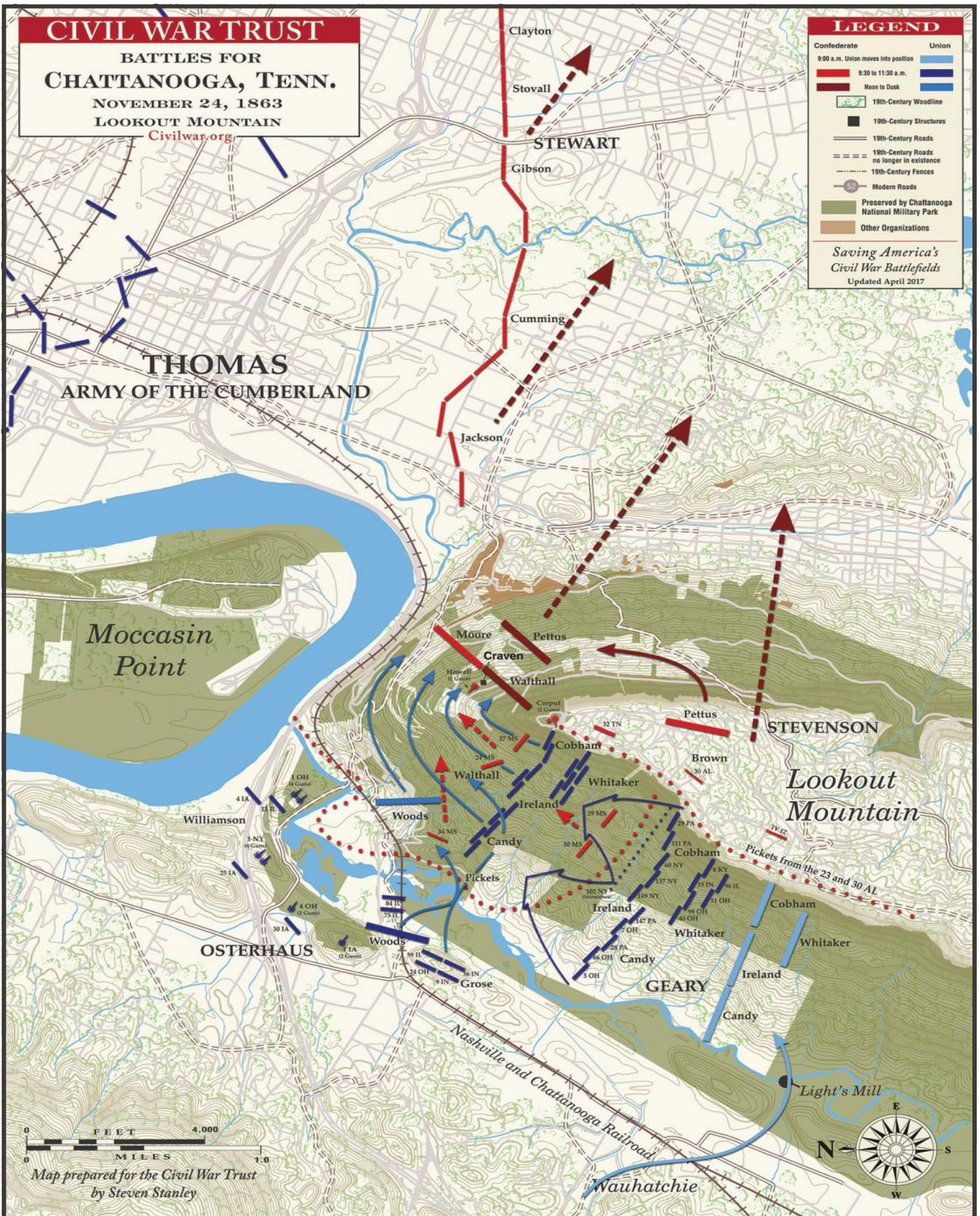
[15] O.R., I, 31, pt. 2, 394-5; Woodworth, *Grand Spectacle*, 62, 64.

[16] Fullerton, "The Army of the Cumberland," 143; Howard, "Chattanooga," 214; O.R., I, 31, pt. 2, 317.

[17] O.R., I, 31, pt. 2, 396; Woodworth, *Grand Spectacle*, 64.

[18] O.R., I, 31, pt. 2, 317, 397-9; Fullerton, "The Army of the Cumberland," 143.







## The Battle for Missionary Ridge, November 25, 1863

Bragg had a strong natural position on Missionary Ridge. His right, or "strategic," flank was held by 14 brigades in Hardee's corps. Breckinridge had nine brigades with which to cover a two-and-a-half-mile front opposite Grant's center. Three parallel lines of entrenchments had been laid out and partially completed. One line was along the base of the ridge; another had been started about half-way up the slope; and a third was along the crest.

Grant established his headquarters on Orchard Knob 24 Nov., and about midnight sent word to Sherman to resume his attack at dawn. Hooker was ordered to continue his advance to Rossville Gap.

Ewing's division (of Sherman's force) attacked south; the brigade of Corse, reinforced by a regiment of Lightburn, spearheaded the advance, while the brigades of Cockerill, Alexander, and Lightburn were initially to hold the hill taken the day before. Morgan Smith's division advanced along the eastern slope, maintaining contact with Corse on his right. Along the western slope the brigade of Loomis was to advance with two brigades from John Smith's division in support.

Corse moved out under heavy fire and took some high ground about 80 yards from the enemy's main position. From this base he launched repeated assaults for over an hour without success. The forces on his left and right gained ground, thereby relieving some pressure, but were not able to achieve any permanent lodgment. Federal batteries (Callender, Wood, and Dillon) did what they could to support the infantry, but the terrain and the close fighting were such that they could not render effective assistance. Corse was severely wounded about 10 A.M. The fighting on this flank continued with varying results until about 3 P.m.

Meanwhile, Hooker's advance had been delayed four or five hours (Steele) in rebuilding the bridge the Confederates had destroyed over the Chattanooga and in removing other obstructions. It was late afternoon before he was in a position to threaten Bragg's left flank. Bragg, in the meantime, had reinforced his right with the divisions of Cheatham and Stevenson.

Showing outstanding generalship, Grant did not make the error of throwing troops from his center into the planned frontal attack before some decisive results had been achieved on the flanks. Sherman's situation, however, was critical, and the original plan had to be modified. At 10 o'clock he made Howard's two divisions (XI) available to reinforce Sherman's left. A new Federal attack gained some ground, but was driven back by a counterattack which routed the brigades of John Smith (on the right). The brigades of Corse and Loomis then drove the Confederates back into their original positions.

Continuing to reinforce the left, Grant at 12 o'clock ordered Baird's division to move from the right of Indian Hill to reinforce Sherman. Baird arrived behind Sherman's position, was told he was not needed, and then moved to a position on Wood's left. He formed in line at 2:30 (Van Horne).

Hooker, in the meantime, had started attacking the Confederate left. The 27th Mo. (1, 1, XV), deployed as skirmishers, rushed into the gap at Rossville. The rest of Wood's brigade headed for high ground on the right of the gap, and Williamson's (2, 1, XV) moved up on the left. The Confederates withdrew, leaving a considerable quantity of supplies. By this time the bridge was completed and the rest of Hooker's forces reinforced the leading brigades. Hooker sent Crufts division along the ridge and Geary and Osterhaus on his left and right, respectively. The 9th and 36th Ind. (3, 1, IV) spearheaded an assault that started crushing Bragg's left flank.

Grant now saw that even though Sherman's envelopment had failed he must make a final effort before dark. Between 3 and 4 P.m. (Van Horne) the long-awaited six cannon shots signaled the assault. The divisions of Baird (XIV), Wood, and Sheridan (both IV), and Johnson (XIV) were on line from left to right.

"I felt no fear for the result," wrote a Confederate brigade commander later, "even though the arrangements to repel the attack were not such as I liked.... I think, however, that I noticed some nervousness among my men as they beheld this grand military spectacle, and I heard remarks which showed that some uneasiness existed, and that they magnified the host in their view to at least double their number." (Manigault, who commanded a brigade in Hindman's [Anderson's] Division, quoted by Alexander.)

Grant had intended that the troops halt after taking the first line, and reorganize. Much to his consternation, Grant saw the troops capture the first line and then press on immediately for the summit. The attackers had found out that lingering in the initial position would subject them to murderous fire from the crest, and that the safest thing was to charge up the hill. This they did on their own initiative, turning it into a "SOLDIERS' BATTLE." Grant is reported to have asked Thomas and Granger: "Who ordered those men up the hill?" Unable to find the answer he said: "Someone will suffer for it, if it turns out badly." (Alexander; B. & L., III, 725.) The commanders actually tried to stop this advance. Turchin's brigade (1, 3, XIV) was halted; Wagner's brigade (2, 2, IV) was called back from an advanced position (Van Horne).

Bragg had made several mistakes in his defensive dispositions. He had split his forces, putting half at the bottom of the hill with secret orders to fire a volley when the enemy got to within 200 yards, and then to withdraw up the slopes (Alexander). Many men apparently were not informed of this plan, and defended the first line even when others had pulled back. A Confederate engineer had taken his instructions literally when told to put the final line on the highest ground. This line was along the geographic or topographic crest instead of the "military crest" (the highest place from which you can see and fire on an approaching enemy). The attackers, therefore, found "dead space" through which they could advance under cover, and came forward in about six separate lines of approach. Footholds were established at various places, and enfilade fire from these penetrations destroyed the Confederate strong points that had been able to resist the frontal assault. As for which regiment reached the crest first, it would be difficult to find a regimental historian who recorded that his own unit was the second. "... there is no room to doubt that General Wood's division first reached the summit," writes Van Horne. Sheridan was the only division commander who maintained enough cohesion in his unit to pursue; he took a large number of guns and prisoners, and came very close to capturing Bragg, Breckinridge, and a number of other high-ranking officers. The final assault had lasted about an hour; 37 guns and 2,000 prisoners were taken (Steele).

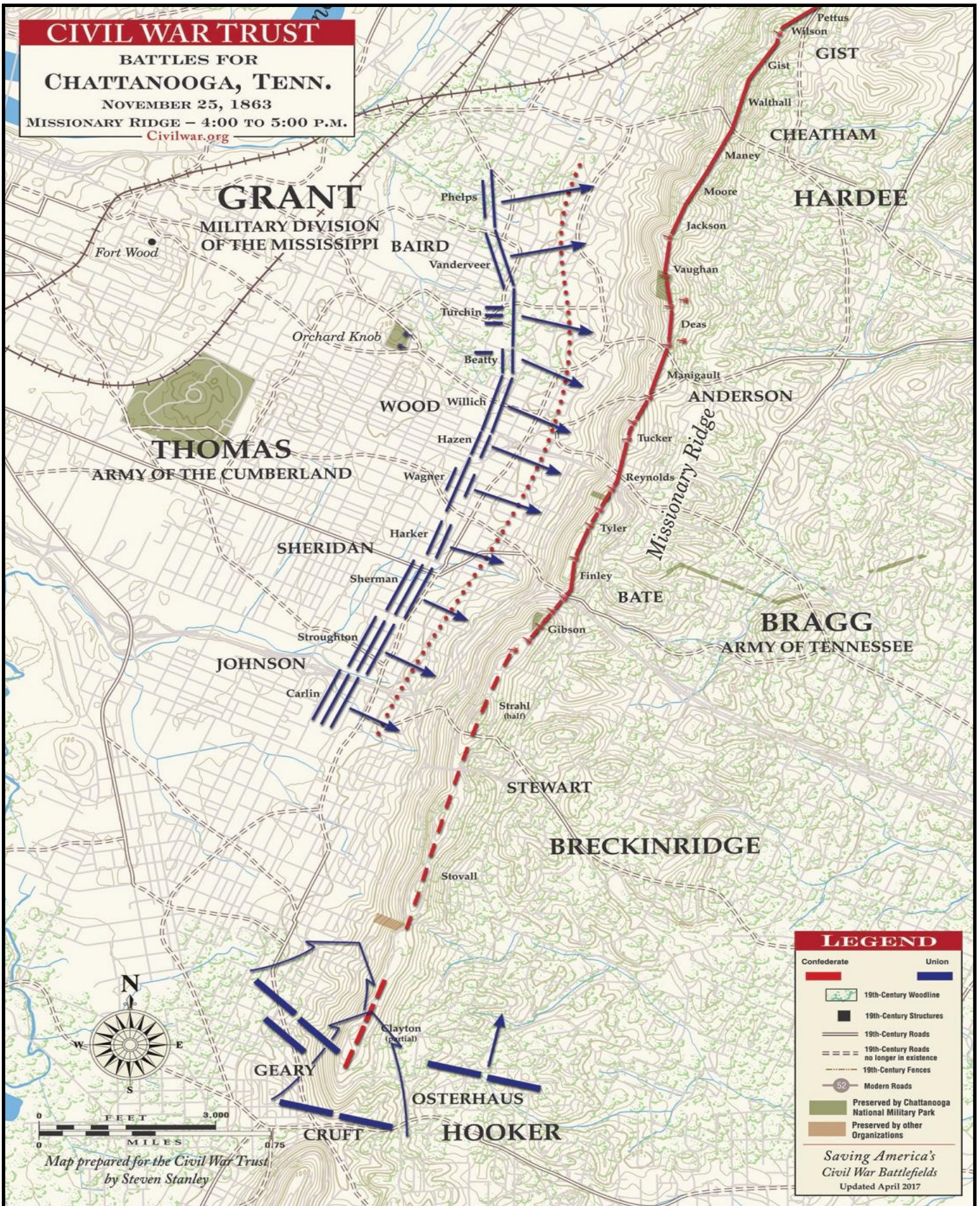
Hooker, meanwhile, was rolling up the left. Many Confederate units panicked, but Grant was unable to pursue effectively. The Confederates rallied on a ridge about 500 yards to the rear. Cleburne continued to hold Sherman after the firing had died out along the rest of the line. Bragg withdrew that night toward Dalton, while Hardee's corps covered the rear.

The loss of Chattanooga was a severe blow to the dying Confederate cause. A vital line of lateral communications was lost, and the stage was set for Sherman's move to split the Confederacy further by his Atlanta campaign and march to the sea.



**Assault on Missionary Ridge**

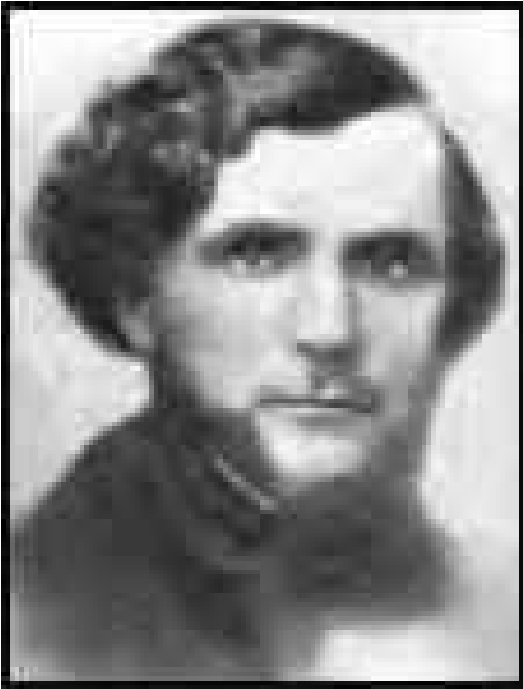






## **Brigadier General Richard Griffith: A Patriot, Hero, and Martyr**

By Forrest Lamar Cooper (taken from Mississippi Magazine, May/June 2012)



**The only known photograph of Confederate States of America brigadier general Richard Griffith. He was killed on June 29, 1862 at the age of 48. first Baptist Church (now Galloway Memorial United Methodist Church) is where Griffith worshiped prior to the war. Beyond the church is Griffith named in honor of the famous general.**

choice, not birth. He, like C.S.A. General John C. Pemberton, commanding officer in charge of the defense of Vicksburg, was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. His father died when he was a young boy, and his mother and he moved to Ohio, where he later graduated from Ohio University with high honors. Upon graduation, he moved to Vicksburg and accepted a position as a schoolteacher. When the Mexican War began, he was quick to volunteer and served throughout the conflict as adjutant of the 1st Mississippi Rifles. It was there that he met and became friends with Colonel Jefferson Davis.

On April 18, 1861, five days after the War for Southern Independence began, as per a narrative written by W. A. Montgomery of Edwards about the Raymond Fencibles: "the men of the company dressed in their new uniforms

of gray made by the patriotic ladies of Raymond assembled in the presence of a multitude of spectators to receive the beautiful flag of the company likewise made by the ladies of Raymond. "Eleven days later these brave young men boarded a train at Bolton, where after a change in Jackson they were the first to arrive at Corinth."

During that first week in May: "the Raymond Fencibles, along with the Vicksburg Sharpshooters, the Sardis Blues, the Lawrence Rifles, the Pettus Relief, the Charlie Clark Rifles, the Claiborne Guards, and the Satartia Rifles were organized into the 12th Mississippi

As the summer of 1862 approached, Mississippi patriots with more than a year of war forced upon them began to accept that the conflict would not be as brief as many had hoped. It was a turbulent time of incredible anxiety. Southerners were beginning to understand the plight of their grandfathers and great-grandfathers during the first War for Independence. With the reality of Manassas, Ball's Bluff, Big Bethel, Yorktown, and a dozen other combats behind them, the smell of battle and the odor of death were becoming more commonplace as the blood of Mississippians began to seep into the soil of Virginia,

Only eighteen months earlier, the state's first unit of volunteers, the Fencibles, mustered in Raymond in Hinds County. Their leader, Richard Griffith, a powerfully built man who only a few months before President Lincoln initiated the war, was appointed U.S. Marshall of the southern district of Mississippi. Prior to that he had successfully served two consecutive terms as state treasurer. Griffith and other southern leaders like him expressed concern over belligerent remarks, innuendos, and even threats coming from the mouths of radical northern senators and congressmen advocating a change in the U.S. Constitution to reflect socialist views. This new mindset, formulated in eastern Europe beginning in the 1830s, had found fertile ground in New England.

Starting in 1859 and continuing into 1861, a number of radical social reformers' had formed militia units—employed in raiding, murdering, and 'plundering large areas of the state of Missouri. Federal authorities took little action to stop the grievous injustices. As a result, southern governments began to take serious steps towards protecting their rights and property.

When the state of Virginia—George Washington's home and where the ideals upon which the nation was founded—was invaded by radical John Brown on October 16, 1859, Southerners viewed this as more than a wake-up call. Many saw what would become the

nation's greatest crisis as the South's "War for the Constitution." With their heritage and their trust in the U.S. Constitution under siege, thousands of Southerners—including more than 8,000 Mississippians—hurried to Virginia and prepared to fight.

Richard Griffith was a Mississippian by



**Griffith's gravestone in Jackson's Greenwood Cemetery (above) has the notable sharp peak as markers of Confederate soldiers often do. Griffith's funeral was held in the Confederate white house (left) in Richmond, Virginia, June 30, 1862. His service was attended by president Jefferson Davis, members of his cabinet, and hundreds of mourners.**



alamy stock photo



Regiment." At that time, Richard Griffith was elected colonel, and six months later he was promoted to brigadier general and placed in command of a brigade of four Mississippi Regiments serving in eastern Virginia.

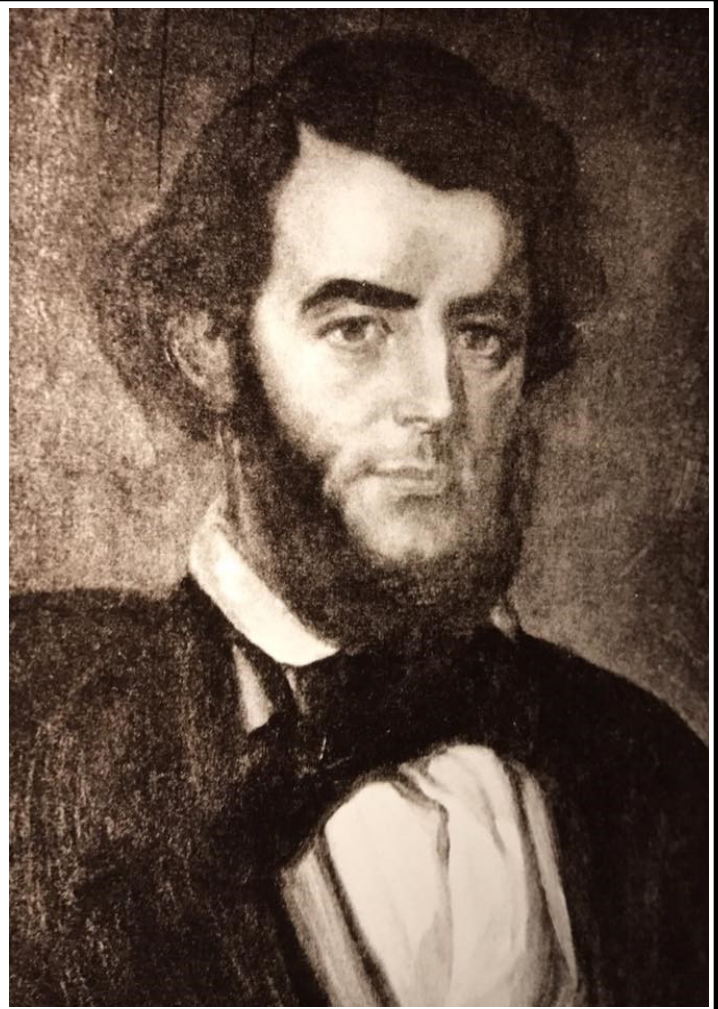
On June 26, 1862, Lincoln's military commander, General George B. McClellan, with an army of 105,000 men, the largest American army ever to this point, launched a series of engagements against the city of Richmond at the Seven Days Battle. 'It was an all-out effort to end the war against the independence minded Rebels. But, it was not to be. On the fourth day of the attack, C.S.A. General Robert E. Lee seized the opportunity to assault the Union's rear guard at Savage Station using forces under the command of Major General John Magruder and Brigadier General Richard Griffith. The action developed more slowly than Lee had planned. Nevertheless, the Federals were forced to retreat, abandoning 2,500 wounded comrades in the process.

During the battle, General Griffith, as noted by medical doctor Jack D. Welsh in his book Medical Histories of Confederate Generals, "fell from his horse, mortally wounded by a Federal artillery shell. A fragment of the shell struck Griffith on the inside of the [left] thigh." According to an eyewitness, "a shell struck the railroad section house just in front of the troops and exploded; a fragment was distinctly seen passing overhead before it struck Griffith. Borne off the field by members of his staff, he was transported to the home of a banker in Richmond, where he died that night. His body was transported to Jackson, Mississippi, and buried eight days later in the city's Greenwood Cemetery.

The loss of General Griffith was much lamented by many, including his long-time friend Jefferson Davis. Of the fighting at Savage's Station he wrote, "Our loss was small in numbers, but great in value. Among others who could ill be spared, here fell the gallant soldier, the useful citizen, the true friend and Christian gentleman, Brigadier General Richard Griffith. He had served with distinction in foreign war, and, when the South was invaded, was among the first to take up arms in defense of our rights."<sup>[4]</sup> Later in the war, a group of soldier-musicians called "The McLaws Minstrels," serving under Lafayette McLaws and formerly under General Griffith, would play at a theater in Fredericksburg. They charged a modest admission fee, the proceeds from which were used to erect a monument in the Mississippi State Capitol in honor of their fallen commander.

His portrait hangs in Beauvoir, the Jefferson Davis Home and Presidential Library, and a copy of that portrait hangs in the Mississippi Hall of Fame in the Old Capitol Museum. Three blocks from the museum, East and West Griffith Streets are named after him.

Looking back, it is easy to understand why there were not enough Mississippi soldiers on hand to defend their own homes. Obviously, the logic was to stop invasions at the border. Therefore, the majority of early volunteers traveled north into Virginia and Carolinas in a desperate effort to defend the southern states from invasion by Union forces. It is well to remember that, at the time, President Lincoln and his cabinet purposefully did not officially recognize the Confederate States of America as an independent nation. Lincoln also, personally and arrogantly, refused to acknowledge Jefferson Davis as the president of the Confederate States. Consequently, he would not negotiate any terms with the Confederacy's Ambassadors. These facts suggest that Lincoln never pursued



**Copy of the portrait of Richard Griffith that hangs in the Old Capital Museum's Mississippi Hall of Fame.**

peace, only war. He believed that numerically he would win and that his liberal government would be stronger than ever.

In September of 1900, Colonel Theodore Roosevelt, who would become America's 26<sup>th</sup> president a year later, mentioned this topic in a speech at Grand Rapids, Michigan, saying, "In 1864, on every hand Lincoln was denounced as a tyrant, a shedder of blood, a would-be dictator, a founder of an empire."



**At right, Griffith's widow, Sal-lie Ann Whitfield, their son Benjamin (mayor of Vicksburg), his wife Cora and their seven children.**

## 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 to:

Bricks for Beauvoir  
Mail to: Bricks for Beauvoir  
2244 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





## Tension on Missionary Ridge

Young soldiers are pictured being sent to the firing line to defend a position where a major battle is taking place. Every man knows he might not come

out alive or without serious injury. The young volunteers of yesterday are becoming veteran soldiers.



### Collecting Wages from the Paymaster

A private in the Union army received \$13 a month in wages, a Confederate private, \$11. When enlistment declined, bonuses were offered by the Federal and state governments. Young soldiers soon learned, however, that army pay was not as

regular as had been promised. Some men were not paid for months on end. Here we see a pay line in the camp of a lucky regiment whose paymaster arrived in time for payday.



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## **Charge to the Sons of Confederate Veterans**

"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."

LT. GENERAL STEPHEN DILL LEE, COMMANDER GENERAL,  
UNITED CONFEDERATE VETERANS, NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, APRIL 25, 1906.