

# THE DELTA GENERAL



Brigadier General Benjamin Humphreys  
Camp 1625 - Sons of Confederate Veterans  
October 1997

**THIS ISSUE OF THE DELTA GENERAL IS SPONSORED BY 1ST LIEUTENANT COMMANDER LARRY MCCLUNEY IN HONOR OF PRIVATE JAMES W. MCCLUNEY, COMPANY F. 6TH MISSISSIPPI CAVALRY.**

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

*Membership Dues have been increased. The dues are now \$35.00 per member per year. This increase was voted on by the members present at the September meeting.*

*Dues MUST reach National Headquarters no later than 1 February 1998. In order that this be accomplished, our Camp Membership Dues MUST reach the Adjutant and Treasurer no later than 15 January 1998. If you would like to start paying your dues now, they will be received by the Adjutant and*

*held until time to submit to Headquarters. This only a suggestion. Dues can be paid anytime between now and 15 January 1998.*

## OCTOBER MEETING

*Our regular meeting will be at 7:00 p.m. 16 October 1997 at the Fellowship Hall of the First Presbyterian Church, 311 Catchings, Indianola, Mississippi. The guest speaker will be Compatriot Lamar Roberts. Mr. Roberts is the former Mississippi Division, SCV Commander and is presently serving as Commander, Mississippi Society, Military Order of Stars and Bars. His topic will be: "Captain Ike Whittaker". Commander Roberts always presents an outstanding program. He is also the owner and operator of the Gray and Blue Naval Museum in Vicksburg, Mississippi. I encourage all members and families to come out and support Commander Roberts.*

## MEMORIAL SERVICE

September 28, 1997  
Rhodes Chapel Cemetery  
By: Larry McCluney

After 97 years, the grave of Private James W. McCluney was finally honored with a headstone. On this day, descendants of James W. McCluney gathered at Rhodes Chapel Cemetery to dedicate the Military Headstone and remember their ancestor.

For four years, I have been researching my ancestors. I noticed that no marker was on James W's grave and set out to correct this error. The project began in January 1997 with ordering a headstone from the federal government and after waiting very patiently, it finally arrived in late August of this year.

At the Memorial Service, much to my surprise, forty descendants showed up to participate in the service. The cemetery was decorated with flags of the Confederacy and they fluttered beautifully in the wind that day. In the background, one could hear music from the Civil War era, setting the mood for the occasion. Private McCluney's grave was decorated with the new headstone and a Confederate Battle Flag was flying over the grave.. I was dressed in my Confederate uniform and was given the privilege of escorting Inez McCluney Franklin, the Great-Grand Daughter of James W. McCluney

The memorial service began with me reading the history of the McCluney Family and the War Record of Private McCluney.

James W. McCluney enlisted in the Confederate Army in September 1863. He was assigned to Company F, 6th Mississippi Cavalry, under Command of Colonel Isham Harrison, stationed at Columbus, Mississippi. Company F was commanded by Captain W. S. Harrington, of Houston, Mississippi. The 6th Mississippi Cavalry Regiment was part of General Nathan Bedford Forrest's Cavalry and fought at the battles for Okalona, West Point, Black Prairie, Harrisburg (Tupelo), and Brice's Crossroads. His Regiment would be consolidated with the

8th Mississippi Cavalry after the loss of Colonel Harrison at Harrisburg.

After the reading of James W.'s history, those Blood Descendants present gathered around his grave. Traditionally, a tin cup of wine was then passed around, each of them taking a drink of the wine. One drink of wine was left in the cup, this was poured on the grave, this was James' drink.

Afterwards, the family all joined together to sing DIXIE, which not only brought tears to my eyes, but to others as well.

After the song, I had the pleasure of presenting a Confederate Battle Flag to Ms. Franklin.

When the ceremony was over and everyone had left, I had a few moments to myself by James W.'s graveside to reflect upon the sacrifices that he must have made, and the hardships he must have endured when he left his home in order to defend his country and the Cause he believed in. My heart would swell with pride upon these reflections and I thought to myself, that I would always remember this day.

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## **LIVING HISTORY PROGRAM**

September 18, 1997  
Drew High School,  
Drew, Mississippi

On September 18th, the Drew High School History Club sponsored a Living History program on the Civil War at the Drew High School Auditorium. Re-enactors and Sons of Confederate Veterans members; Henry McCabe and Larry McCluney, dressed in their Confederate Uniforms presented this program. The auditorium was decorated with Flags of the Confederacy and music from the War period was played to set the mood.

There were 300 students and faculty members attending the program. The students had just finished their studies of the War. Their teacher, Larry McCluney, felt they should get a "hands-on" experience through a living history, seeing the clothes, weapons, and equipment that was used during the War. The program was a great success. (continued next page)

*This was the third time that Henry would present the program at Drew High and educate Larry's History Students about the life of the common soldier during the War.*

*Henry honored the DHS History Club with a certificate from our SCV Camp for their part in the preservation of Southern History. In return, the students honored Henry with a certificate of appreciation for his dedication toward educating students about Southern History. (See Photo on last page)*

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### **BIRTHDAYS FOR OCTOBER**

*Among the Generals born this month were:*

*LT.GEN. William Joseph "Old Reliable" HARDEE born October 12, 1815 at Camden County, Georgia.*

*MAJ.GEN. Benjamin Franklin CHEATHAM born October 20, 1820 at Nashville, Tennessee.*

### **HERITAGE ALERT**

*In a recent article written by Gina Holland of the Associated Press the following appeared:*

**OXFORD, MISS. -- Mississippi Coach Tommy Tuberville has a message for the school's football fans: REBEL FLAGS ARE NOT WELCOME.**

*"We are trying to educate our students on what helps us and what hurts us in the stands," he said Thursday.*

*The racial connotations of the Confederate flag have been debated for years at the school. And Tuberville says he seeing more flags on campus and in the stadium during football games.*

*Since coming to Ole Miss in December 1994, Tuberville has tried to separate the university from the flag. While the school never endorsed its use, the Confederate flag was passed out at games for decades.*

*Several years ago, the university introduced to fans what has been known as the "Battle M" flag.*

*Tuberville said he has seen a good response from alumni, and it appears young students are the ones now bringing Rebel flags to games.*

*"I think a lot of people are not intentionally trying to make Ole Miss look like the bad guys," he said. "They're just basically being followers."*

*Tuberville's comments came two days before the school's homecoming game against Vanderbilt on Saturday at Vaught-Hemingway Stadium.*

*The Rebel flag on campus and at games has been blamed by coaches at some schools in the Deep South for hampering recruitment of black athletes. The flag was a rallying point for segregationists during the civil rights struggle.*

*"Waving the Confederate flag sends all the wrong messages," said Bill Ferris, director for the Center for the Study of Southern Culture and nominated to head the National Endowment for the Humanities. "It signals slavery, a part of our history that thankfully is gone. It is really not an appropriate signal for the 21st century."*

*However, some students say the flag is part of Ole Miss tradition.*

**The following is my opinion:**

*"Maybe Coach Tuberville should LEARN to coach instead of destroying Southern Heritage."*

### **TRIVIA:**

**Do you know Peyton Manning?**

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*NO, this Peyton Manning was not Quarterback for the Tennessee Vols, and never heard of Archie Who. This is 1st Lieutenant Peyton T. Manning who served as Chief of Ordnance for General James Longstreet at the seige of Knoxville, Tennessee.*

*(Courtesy CWTI Photographic History of the Civil War - Vicksburg to Appomattox)*



**To you,  
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 he loved and which you love also, and those ideals which made him glorious and which you also cherish. Are you also ready to die for your country? Is your life worthy to be remembered along with theirs? Do you choose for yourself this greatness of soul?"

"Not in the clamor of the crowded street,  
Not in the shouts and plaudits of the throng,  
But in ourselves are triumph and defeat." . . .

From a speech by  
Confederate Gen. Stephen D. Lee,  
presiding officer at the 16th Annual Reunion  
of the United Confederate Veterans,  
New Orleans, Louisiana,  
April 25th - 27th, 1906.

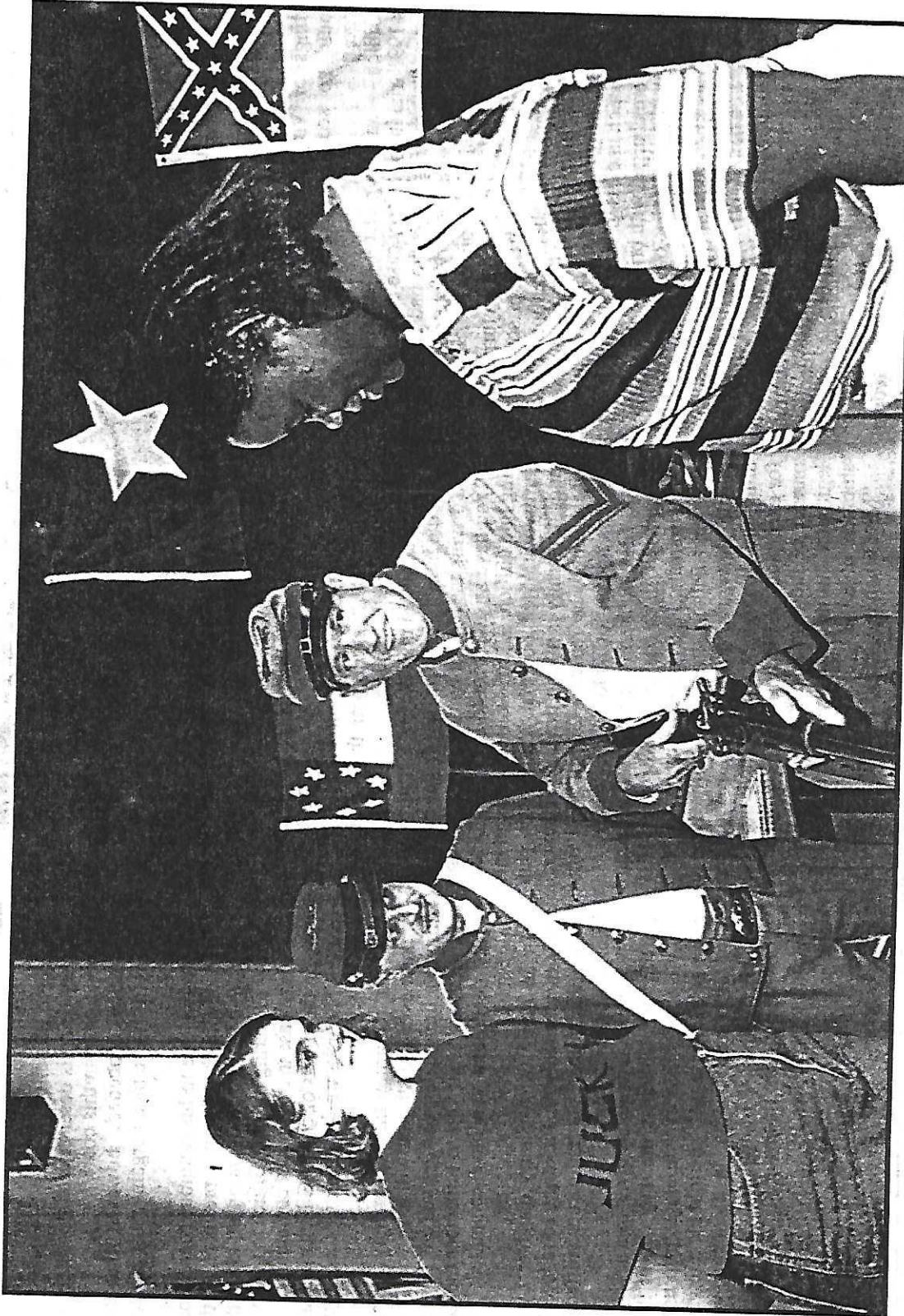


Photo by W.P. Moses

## Tangible history

Drew High School History Club members Juliet Neal (left) and Denise Potts (right) look over the equipment and clothing representing a period of American history. Civil War reenactors Larry McCluney (second from left) and Henry McCabe wear the uniforms of the 1st Mississippi Light Artillery, Company C. The program was presented at Drew High School.