



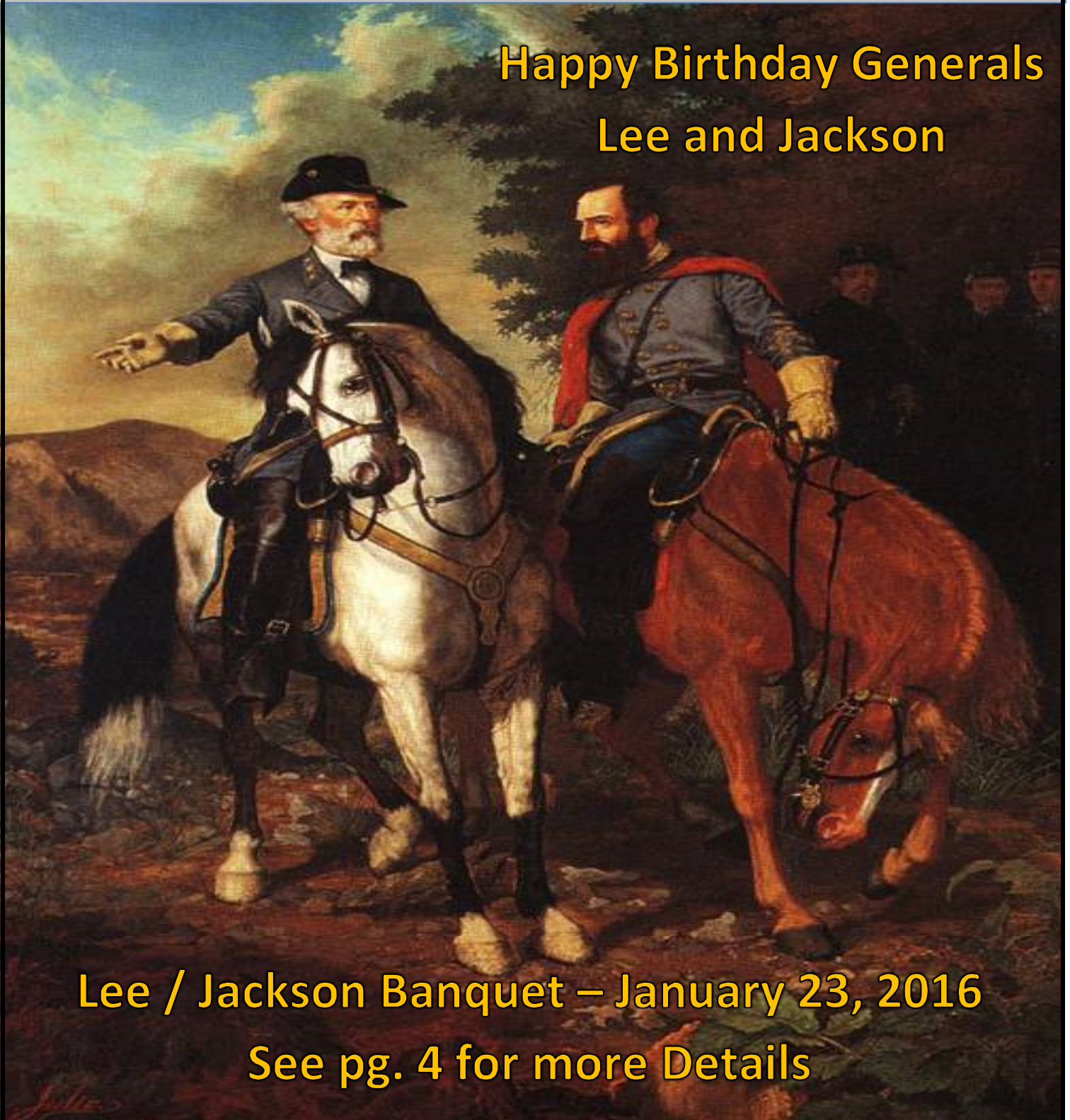
Camp Website: www.humphreys1625.com



The Delta General

Joe Nokes, Camp Commander

**Happy Birthday Generals
Lee and Jackson**



Lee / Jackson Banquet – January 23, 2016
See pg. 4 for more Details

January 2016, Volume 19, Issue 1

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

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- Camp Meeting – Thursday, January 7, 2016, 7:00 PM at 1st Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall in Indianola
- Tuesday High Noon – January 19, 2016 – Mississippi Flag Rally
- Lee/Jackson Banquet – January 23, 2016 – Indianola Town and Racquet Club – Social @ 6:00 pm; Dinner at 7:00 pm

CAMP COMMANDER

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confederate@suddenlink.net

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Brig. General Benjamin G. Humphreys
Camp #1625, SCV
website: www.humphreys1625.com

Camp News:

Commander's Report – Joe Nokes

My friends,

This is my last Commander's Report. This is a bittersweet moment. I have been pleased with all that we have accomplished in the past four years. I would like to remind you of just a few of those things that we have done together.

As a camp, we have consistently put on successful Lee-Jackson banquets every year, and this year is shaping up to be even bigger and better. Yes, there is a little bit of a shameless plug there. We need you there January 23rd; this will be a special night with a very special guest speaker.

We have men from our camp (and ladies from the Ella Palmer chapter) who are leaders at both the State and National levels. We must continue to support these men and women as they continue to do great things to honor our ancestors and to forward the cause.

To be sure, we have become embroiled in some trying times these past six months or so. But we have helped lead the fight to stand the hallowed ground of freedom – yes, I said freedom – the freedom to be who we are. We have marched, picketed, petitioned, and donated time and money to these fights. Yes, that big ole Mississippi flag is flying in Greenwood, and I have seen a good many smaller flags flying in the area on my drives.

Our membership has remained consistently strong thanks to your efforts. We have inevitably lost a few members here and there, as to be expected, but you have done great things in bringing in new blood to offset this attrition.

We have gotten our camp involved in some new venues in the past few years, with some degree of notoriety and success. Trust me, there are many people out there who know who we are. And this has happened because of your hard work.

As for recruiting new blood, the bulk of our camp officers-elect have been members for 5 years or less. This shows that you have get some truly great individuals into our ranks.

As regards to our new camp officers, let me say from experience, they have their work cut out for them. They will have to lead us through the remainder of the coming State Flag fight; they will have to lead us through what is surely to continue to be a painful Reconstruction sesquicentennial. But I, for one, have all the confidence in existence that the right men are in place to do just that – to lead us successfully through the coming days. I have no other way to say it; we have some great men coming into our leadership roles in January. We need to get behind them and support them to the fullest.

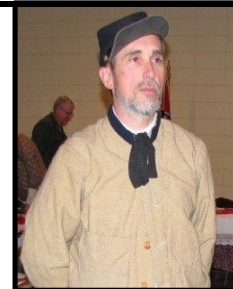
For the January meeting, we need to lock down final details for the Lee-Jackson Banquet. It will be a major event this year. We need all the input, aid, and assistance that we can get this year. True, we will have no "cooking and cleaning" responsibilities this year, so that means that we can concentrate our energy into other avenues such as decorations, color guard, etc. And also, we can have more energy to just have fun and fellowship together.

There are a multitude of things that I could continue to discuss here. But let me say that we absolutely must continue to fight for our rights and for the right to honor the legacy of our ancestors. Let me urge each and every one of you to continue to do everything in your ability to vindicate OUR CAUSE – the true cause of the Confederate soldier and what he believed.

Allow me to close by saying that I have absolutely enjoyed being Camp Commander for the BEST group of people in the Mississippi Division and in the Confederation. And let me wish each and every one of you a Happy Confederate New Year!!!

As always, I remain your humble servant. And as always, remember my friends and family: DEO VINDICE!!!!!!

Joe Nokes



Camp Meeting, December, 2015

Adjutant's Report – Dan McCaskill

7:00 pm Commander Joe Nokes called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The Meeting was opened with an invocation and blessing by Compatriot Dan McCaskill. Joe welcomed all members and guests attending the Meeting and then invited all to partake in the evening meal provided by the ladies of the Ella Palmer Chapter # 9, OCR. After the meal, Joe reconvened the Meeting. Color Sergeant Jimmy Alford led the members and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag and salutes to the Flag of Mississippi and the Battle Flag of the Confederacy and then read "The Charge" given to us by Gen. Stephen D. Lee.

Program: There was no scheduled program for the Meeting. However, we were honored to have Mr. Jeppie Baubour present to talk to us about the current fight to save our State Flag. Jeppie stressed that all members of the SCV plus people outside the SCV needed to be involved in this fight in order to win. Our opposition will have abundant help from outside the State funding their campaign. The last Flag Fight the people of Mississippi rallied around the Flag and although outgunned by the opposition, we won because everyone who loved the Flag got involved. We have to do this again. We now have Proposition 58 approved that will put the 1894 Mississippi Flag in the Mississippi Constitution making it the official flag of Mississippi and making it much harder to change in the future. Jeppie asked that all of us donate what money we could to the fight and to help get as many signatures on petitions to get Proposition 58 put on the ballot. The earliest we can get a chance to vote on 58 will be November 2018. That is why it was so important that the proposition state "1894 Flag" and not "Current Flag" because the legislature can change the Flag. Jeppie gave 10 copies of the petition form to each person present and Larry and Dan have extras. There will be a mail out to every member of the Mississippi Division member presenting our plan of attack and containing copies of the petition. If you know of an event of any nature in the near future where we can get some signatures, please inform an officer of the Camp. We need to get 90,000 signatures. Important: **DO NOT MAKE COPIES OF THE PETITION.** If you need more, request some from a Camp Office.

Announcements: "High Noon" Rally on the Capitol Grounds in Jackson, MS; January 19th from 10 am to 2 pm to show support for the MS Flag. This is the opening of the new legislature session and we need large numbers to show the legislature how much we support our Flag.

Officer Reports: 1st Lt. Commander Richard Dillon: we will have a meeting on January 7th to tie up any loose ends for the Banquet. The Lee-Jackson Banquet will be January 23rd with 1st Lt. Commander-in-Chief Tom Strain as our speaker. There will be no Meeting in February; 2nd Lt. Commander Brent Mitchell brought a potential member, Justin Griffin to the Meeting and is working on some more. Adjutant Dan McCaskill reported that the Camp has a current membership of 48 which reflects a loss of 8 members. The Camp currently has \$ 2,150.29 in the checking account and has spent only 30% of its annual budget. As Camp Editor, Larry asked if anyone was having trouble with the newsletter. As AOT Commander, Larry announced that Beauvoir is now looking for a permanent Executive Director. MOS&B was absent; MS OCR, no report; OCR President Sandra Stillman reported that the Chapter was accepting donations for raffle items for the Lee – Jackson Banquet.

Camp Business: With the anticipated numbers for the Lee-Jackson Banquet, there was a need to select a new site for the Banquet. Larry reported that the Greenwood Country Club was booked and Dan McCaskill reported that the Deer Creek Town and Racquet Club in Leland was available. After a brief discussion, the Racquet Club was selected. There will be a cost for this year's Banquet which will be held to \$ 25 per plate. The meal will buffet style with the meats being roast beef and pork tenderloin with all the fixings. Invitations will be mailed with times and other details.

Each year, the Camp presents the Hunley JROTC Award to a deserving cadet at Greenwood High School. This year's nominee is Mike Hopson. Larry presented his qualifications and made a motion to accept the nominee. Richard Dillon 2nd the motion and it passed unanimously.

Camp Officer elections were held and here are the results for the new Officers who will serve the Camp for the next two years:

Camp Commander.....	Richard Dillon	1 st Lt. Commander.....	Brent Mitchell	2 nd Lt. Commander.....	Jimmy Alford
Adjutant.....	Larry McCluney	Color Sergeant.....	George Brumfield		

Congratulations to these men and they will be sworn into their respective office at our Lee-Jackson Banquet. The Meeting was turned over to the ladies of the Ella Palmer Chapter for the raffle. I have to apologize for failing to record the results of the raffle. The Meeting was dismissed with a word of prayer from Dan McCaskill. Attendance for the evening was 13.

Lt. Commander's Report – Richard Dillon

For our January meeting we will be finalizing plans on the Lee/Jackson Banquet which will be held on Saturday, January 23, at the Leland Town and Country Racquet Club. The Social hour begins at 6:00 PM and dinner at 7:00 PM. Our speaker for the night will be Lt. Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Confederate Veterans Thomas Strain, Jr. We will also honor our Hunley Award recipient as well as installing new officers for the 2016-2018 administration.

Ella Palmer, OCR Report: Sandra Stillman, President

Dear Ladies,

First off, Happy New Year and I hope 2016 will be a prosperous one for everyone. January 7th is our scheduled meeting date. Some of this time will be spent finalizing plans for the Lee-Jackson Banquet. Yep! It's that time of year again and time is needed to plan for this event, because we want it to be very special. Please keep in mind possible decorating ideas and contributions for the annual raffle. If, at any time, you have ideas to share, please contact me at 662-347-2782.



Mechanized Cavalry Report

Men of the 1G:

Over the years our Division and other state Division's dates have been in conflict with our Mechanized Cavalry Annual. This has been brought up at the last two Officers Call including the one at Arkansas last week. The SCVMC is now working with all States that have MC Annuals scheduled so that the dates will be changed to not conflict with our Division Annuals. We have more 1G members in the Division leadership than ever and that is where we need to be as SCV members. If I am not mistaken Mississippi Division Annual is always the first weekend of June and the Mechanized Cavalry Annual for 2016 will be 15-18 June 2016 at Cedar Key Florida, so start making plans for both now. Budget your time and money for these two events next year starting today even if you have to miss other events.

The 2015 Mechanized Cavalry Annual in Arkansas was great! As far as I know everyone made it through the week without any accidents and safe at home now. There were a few breakdowns but all were taken care of. 1G was well representative with 7 members. The following are the scheduled Annuals..... 2016 Florida (15-18 Jun 2016 at Cedar Key Florida); 2017 North Carolina 2018 South Carolina; 2019 Texas



Brig. - Gen. Benjamin G. Humphreys, Camp # 1625

Sons of Confederate Veterans

Cordially Invites You, Your Family, and Friends

To Attend Our 20th Annual Lee - Jackson Banquet

Celebrating the Births of

Gens. Robert Edward Lee & Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson

Saturday Evening, January 23, 2016

At the Deer Creek Town & Racquet Club

500 Racquet Club Road; Leland, Mississippi

Social Hour: 6:00 pm; Dinner: 7:00 pm

The Evening Entertainment Includes a Raffle for Prizes,

Buffet of Roast Beef & Pork Tenderloin Dinner

and Guest Speaker

Lt. Commander-in-Chief Tom Strain

Sons of Confederate Veterans



Cost: \$ 25.00 for Adults

\$ 12.50 for Children Under 12

Attire: Going to Church, Period Dress Encouraged

Reservations & Remittance must be received by

January 19, 2016

Please Make Payment Payable to "SCV"

Mail to: Dan A. McCaskill

205 Cypress Street

Leland, MS 38756

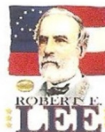
For Questions Contact one of the below:

Dan - danmccas@tecinfo.com; 662-822-1096 (cell)

Missy Stillman - mis_gator@yahoo.com ; 6629312090

Annette McCluney - confederate@suddenlink.net; 662-4440262

Sandra Stillman - sstillman@aol.com; 6623472782



Mississippi Division News:

Buy One Now . . . Show Your Pride in Your Southern Heritage

Gentlemen,

Beginning July 1, 2015 you can now get the original issue Division License plate design for your car again. Simply take the photo attached to this email and show it to the person where you renew your vehicle license plate and request this design. You can use the initials CV along with the picture to let them know which one to get. The additional cost is still \$31 added to your tag's cost.

If you wish to keep the tag with the Beauvoir design you can. The Department of Revenue does not make you turn them in like other tags. However, none of the money from the old Beauvoir tag will go to Beauvoir. They have received permission for their own tag. You would need to contact the people at Beauvoir to find out how to get that tag if you wish to run it on your car.

As in the past money raised from the sale of the Division License plate will go to restore the battle flags in the possession of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History.



1G Mechanized Cavalry Meeting

The 2016 1G State Meeting will be held at Lake Tiak O'Khata in Louisville but we will be at the Raven Hall Annex this time. It is the next building on the right from where we met last year. If you wish to stay the night we have rooms blocked at Raven Hall just tell the front desk you are with the Mechanized Cavalry. We will put something at the driveway to help you find it. Meeting will start at 1pm. We plan to have snacks to munch on and will have supper afterwards. Bring your beverage of choice and any snacks you wish to share. Look forward to seeing a large turnout. If you have anything to bring up at the meeting let me know as soon as you can. We want to have a productive meeting but will try to keep it short for those who have to leave early. For those who will be staying overnight we will have breakfast at the Restaurant as usual Sunday morning. This will be an open meeting and all Mechanized Cavalry members are welcome to attend along with spouses/girlfriends but not both.....

Steven Gunner Rutherford

Captain SCVMC1G Mississippi

2nd Lt. Commander Tippah Tigers Camp 868

Lt. Commander MOSB Nathan Bedford Forrest Chapter 100



HIGH NOON RALLY

Tuesday, January 19, 2016

10am to 4pm

**South Steps of the Capital
in Jackson, MS**

**This rally is for the preservation of
the State Flag of 1894.
Speakers are scheduled throughout
the day!**

**MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD,
CITIZENS OF MISSISSIPPI!!!!**



*121st Mississippi Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans
and the 22nd Mississippi Society, Order of Confederate Rose Reunions
Beauvoir*

June 10-12, 2016 in Biloxi, Mississippi
2016 REUNION REGISTRATION FORM



SCV MEMBER NAME: _____ CAMP: _____

OCR MEMBER NAME: _____ OCR CHAPTER: _____

ADDRESS: _____

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

GUEST'S NAME FOR BADGE: _____

SCV EARLY REGISTRATION (PRIOR TO DECEMBER 31st, 2015)*****QTY. _____ (X'S) \$30.00 _____

SCV REGULAR REGISTRATION (JAN. 1st, 2015 TO MAY 22nd 2016)*****QTY. _____ (X'S) \$35.00 _____

SCV LATE REGISTRATION (POST-MARKED ON OR AFTER MAY 23rd 2016)*****QTY. _____ (X'S) \$45.00 _____

OCR REGISTRATION ON OR BEFORE MAY 22nd, 2016, \$10.00 EACH. AFTER MAY 23rd, 2016 \$15.00***** _____

ADULT SATURDAY NIGHT AWARDS BANQUET*****QTY. _____ (X'S) \$20.00 PER ADULT _____

CHILD'S PLATE (12 AND UNDER) SATURDAY NIGHT AWARDS BANQUET****QTY. _____ (X'S) \$12.50 PER CHILD _____

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

VENDOR TABLE (AS SPACE IS AVAILABLE, COMPLETE ATTACHED FORM)

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

LAST HOME OF PRESIDENT JEFFERSON DAVIS SATURDAY AFTERNOON TOUR
(DONATIONS ACCEPTED AT LOCATION)*****QTY. _____ **FREE TO REGISTERED ATTENDEES!**

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

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

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

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

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

No refunds to be distributed for cancellations on or after June 01, 2016.

For your convenience, ALL events will be held at Beauvoir

Host hotels

South Beach Biloxi
1735 Beach Blvd
228-456-9003/888-599-7093
www.sbbeachhotel.com
discount code: JDPL

Regency Inn & Suites
11969 Bobby Eleuterius Blvd
D'Iberville, MS 39540
228-396-1570
regencyinnbiloxi@yahoo.com
discount code: Beauvoir

Reunion Contact Information:

Host Camp Commander:
Jessie Sanford
Jessiesanford101@comcast.net
Phone: 601-447-1929

Make Checks Payable to:

LTG Nathan Bedford Forrest
1353

**Mail Registration Form
and Payment To:**

Jessie Sanford
106 East 6th ave
Petal, MS 39465

**Reunion Program
Advertisements:**

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

Please submit
advertisement information
and order form prior to
May 1st 2016.

Information From Division Commander

Gentlemen:

We have great news. The MS Division website has now been taken over and being controlled by the Division. Updates and the JDL Newsletter linked; research links and camp information updates are being updated. Also information about the Mississippi Guardian Program and member information page is being added. If you see anything that needs changing or corrected click on the "contact" link and let us know.

Louis Preston Foley
Mississippi Division SCV Commander
E-mail: msdivcommanderlou@gmail.com

News From Division 1st Lt. Commander Chuck Bond

Gentlemen :

A Mississippi Heritage Hero deserves our appreciation and recognition. We are fortunate that Mr. Raphael Sanchez has offered his service to our mission in keeping our beloved Mississippi Flag. Raphael is not a member of the SCV, nor is he eligible.

In June, just days after noted and powerful Mississippi politicians called for the changing of our flag by this upcoming legislature, Mr. Sanchez, on his own, started an online petition to the Honorable Phil Bryant concerning the flag. It was a huge success.

Raphael immediately became an active and productive member of the Coalition to Save the State Flag. The first time I met him was when he spoke at the Mississippi Heritage Campaign rally on the steps of the Mississippi Capital in July.

When the Executive Committee of the Coalition decided to go ahead with making application for an Initiative to place our flag in the Mississippi Constitution to settle the heritage war, once and for all, we decided the petitioner must not be a SCV member.

Two extremely bright Southern ladies with impeccable reputations petitioned the Secretary of State and Attorney General only to be treated as second-class citizens by both. Then Raphael made his plea to the same politicians and filed the extensive paperwork in his name. Raphael refused to be pushed around and flooded both Mississippi government bureaucracies with questions and challenges. He prevailed. Raphael Sanchez is the official petitioner for INITIATIVE 58.

The achievements listed are but a few of his accomplishments to the success of our mission. Please take a minute and find a way to tell Raphael THANK YOU from the Mississippi Division SCV.

Forward the colors,
Chuck Bond

Latest From Beauvoir - Some Breaking Information

Subject: Rick Forte

I will not run for re-election to the Board of Directors. These past thirty-six years has been a HONOR of the highest degree for me.

Rick Forte

(Editor's Note: It is time and the appropriate time to express gratitude to Rick for his hard work over many years as a member of the Board and as the Chairman of the Combined Boards. The only two Board members who have served anywhere near as long as Rick are both now Emeritus members: Lamar Roberts and this editor. While Rick will say he is not the only one who worked for Beauvoir, he will admit that he has put in and sacrificed more than most. After Katrina he was there all the time. As rebuilding began, he faced and dealt with FIMA as well as others. Our point is that as he ends his years as Chairman of the Combined Boards and, from what we understand is taking a position as an Emeritus member, we encourage the members of the Division and the Board to express their thanks for a job well done.)

In addition, Greg Stewart submitted this letter to Compatriot Bill Hinson to announce to the membership.
Subject: Stewart to step aside as Director and announce for Director position, Search Committee information

Compatriots,

At the last regular (November) Board meeting at Beauvoir I announced my intention to step aside as Executive Director to clear the field for serious, trained professional for the post. The recent financial recovery of the institution makes this possible.

After 36 years of dedicated service Rick Forte is electing to go Emeritus, a position he deserves. I am therefore, announcing my intention to seek the Director position he had occupied and hope to honor his legacy. Director Alan Palmer has been tasked with heading up the Search Committee so to the extent any of you can, please pass along the information that the institution has begun the process of finding serious, trained candidates for the position of Executive Director and send them his way (cptalan61@yahoo.com). The more candidates Beauvoir has, the better off we will be. The consensus was that a three month search, at a minimum, should be enough. I am pledged to stay longer if it goes needs more time than that.

Greg Stewart



The Sons of Confederate Veterans presents the
2016 Stephen Dill Lee Institute
RECONSTRUCTION

*The following speakers have agreed
to speak in Columbia:*

Jeffery Addicott, Law Professor at St. Marys Law School
in San Antonio

Earl Ijames, Curator of the NC Museum of History
in Raleigh

Don Kennedy, author of *The South Was Right!*

Ron Kennedy, author of *The South Was Right!*

Donald Livingston, Professor Emeritus of Philosophy at
Emory University, founder of the Abbyville Institute

Egon Tauseh, Author and former Adjunct Professor of
Constitutional and Contract Law



February 5-6, 2016 – Columbia, South Carolina

The 2016 Institute will be held at the Columbia Marriott in downtown Columbia,
call 803-771-7000. Meet the Speakers reception hosted by the
Lt. General Wade Hampton Camp 273.

Registration: \$150 per person, \$125 for SCV members and family.
Includes Saturday breakfast, lunch and banquet.

Register by calling 1-800-MY-DIXIE or visit our web site at

www.stephendleeinstitute.com

~ Scholarships available for teachers and students ~

For more information visit our web site at www.stephendleeinstitute.com
or call Brag Bowling at (804) 389-3620

CDs from previous Stephen Dill Lee events are available on our website

Civil War soldier's remains finally laid to rest

Four years after his remains were discovered at a nearby Civil War battle site — and 154 years after his death — an unidentified soldier was buried Saturday morning at the Springfield National Cemetery.

More than 100 people showed up to mark the occasion at the national cemetery located at 1702 E. Seminole St., which contains graves marking both Union and Confederate casualties from the Battle of Wilson's Creek and other battles in the surrounding area.

Civil War re-enactors dressed as Union and Confederate soldiers took part in the ceremony, firing their muskets in honor of the unidentified soldier. A cannon was also fired. During the burial, a woman donning an old-fashioned black dress, hat and veil knelt down and put a rose on the soldier's grave.

"People know his sacrifice," said the woman, Janet Sing of Grovespring, after the service. The burial marks a happy ending of sorts for an otherwise odd story.

In 2011, a visitor at Wilson's Creek National Battlefield park dug up the unidentified soldier's remains after he saw them sticking out of an embankment. The park is the site of an Aug. 10, 1861 Civil War battle.

A News-Leader story from 2012 states the man who found the soldier's remains kept the bones for 10 days before turning them in to the National Park Service. Removal of any artifacts from a national park is forbidden, especially removal of human remains, Wilson's Creek superintendent Ted Hillmer told the News-Leader earlier this month.

After the remains were returned, the park service conducted an investigation of the site and found some more bones and a few artifacts. Investigators concluded the remains belonged to a soldier, but they weren't sure for what army he fought.

Saturday's funeral-goers were not hung up by the uncertainty over the soldier's affiliation. "Regardless of one side or the other, it's part of our American heritage. That's the main thing," said Travis Archie of Bois D'Arc, a Confederate re-enactor. Re-enactors said Saturday's burial was unlike any other event they've had the privilege of attending. "This isn't a re-enactment. This is the real thing," said Randy Johnston of Joplin.

Sing, the woman wearing the somber black dress, said the soldier "knows peace now." Sing used to live in North Carolina and was a member of the Black Rose Society, she said, explaining the group helps honor Confederate soldiers. Sing said she was not at all deterred by the fact the soldier might have fought for the Union. "He was a soldier and he gave his life," she said.

The soldier was given a marker that reads:

Civil War Soldier

Allegiance Unknown

Battle of Wilson's Creek, Mo., Aug. 10, 1861

Reinterred Oct. 17, 2015

The man who discovered the bones, Coy Matthew Hamilton, admitted to disturbing an archaeological site and removing the remains, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office, Western District. Hamilton could have faced a prison sentence of up to two years and a fine of up to \$20,000, but instead was allowed to pay \$5,351 in restitution, which reimbursed the government's costs of repairing and restoring the site.

VAN DORN RIDES AGAIN

APRIL 8TH • 9TH • 10TH • 2016 • HOLLY SPRINGS • MS

Reenactment is being held in conjunction with the 78th annual Holly Springs Pilgrimage



In December, 1862, General Earl Van Dorn made his daring raid in North Mississippi, thus halting General Grant's advance on Vicksburg and forcing Grant to retreat back to Memphis, TN.

**Battle reenactments April 9th, Saturday and April 10th Sunday
(usual amenities)**

All units welcome • Walk-ons welcome • \$5.00 registration • Spectators \$10.00

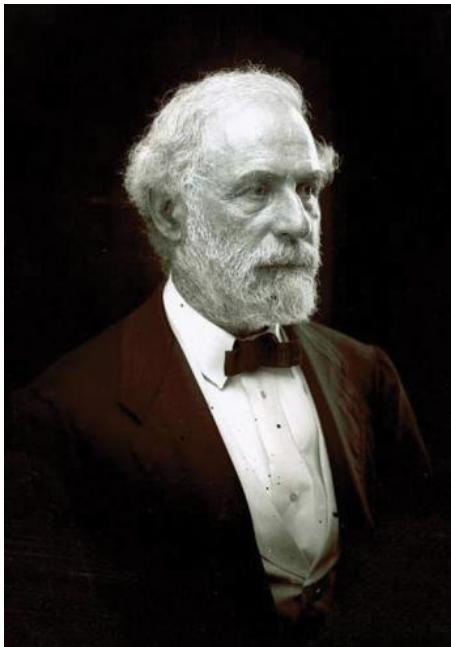
300 acres of rolling hills and a natural amphitheater for spectators

3 motels within a mile of the battle site

All proceeds go to Montrose care and maintenance.

*Historic Home and Church Tours • Hillcrest Cemetery Tours • Luncheons • Sunday Brunch
Saturday Night Dance under the moonlight at antebellum house, Montrose*

Visit www.HollySpringsPilgrimage.com or call 901-490-7275 for Tickets, Registration & Information



General Robert E. Lee – The Post War Years

After their army surrendered at Appomattox Court House on April 9, 1865, the defeated Confederates returned to their homes to face an uncertain future. The postwar prospects of Robert E. Lee, beloved commander of the Army of Northern Virginia, were no clearer than those of his men. When he left Appomattox, he began a journey that would take him away from a soldier's life in the field and eventually to Lexington, where his talent for leadership would serve him well as president of a small college.

Lee's military career, which had started at West Point many years before, had ended, and his civilian life began when he returned to Richmond and his family on April 15th. For the next two months Lee lived in a city busily rebuilding itself. That summer, he and his family escaped the chaotic atmosphere of the capital city and took up residence at Derwent, a house owned by Elizabeth Randolph Cocke west of Richmond in Powhatan County. There, Lee enjoyed life in the country and considered buying land and living out his remaining years as a farmer. Whatever happened, he had no desire to leave Virginia. "I cannot desert my native state in the hour of her adversity," he remarked to a friend. "I must abide her fortune, and share her fate."

The solitude did not last long. The trustees of Washington College in Lexington, then looking for a new president, decided that Lee was the perfect choice. He had been superintendent of West Point earlier in his military career, and more importantly, he had a very recognizable name in 1865. The college, mired in financial difficulties, needed a prominent person to help raise funds. At first Lee hesitated, but on the advice of friends and family he eventually accepted the position. He wrote to the trustees that he believed, "it is the duty of every citizen, in the present condition of the Country, to do all in his power to aid in the restoration of peace and harmony."

A new life in Lexington

Lee arrived in Lexington in mid-September 1865 and went to work immediately. Over the next five years, Washington College grew physically and financially: the A faculty increased in size from four to twenty, enrollment grew from fifty to nearly 400 students, and financial contributions poured in from both southern and northern sources. Lee's personal involvement with many of his students reflected his desire to create a new generation of Americans. In response to the bitterness of a Confederate widow, Lee wrote, "Dismiss from your mind all sectional feeling, and bring [your children] up to be American."

Lee's tireless devotion to his duty as president of Washington College eventually took its toll on his health. The outward signs of the heart condition that had plagued him since the Civil War grew more apparent, and in the spring of 1870, on the advice of the faculty, he travelled south on vacation. Less than a month into the next school year, on September 28, 1870, he suffered a massive stroke. Two weeks later, on October 12, Robert E. Lee died in his home on the college campus.

California Wanted to Join the Confederacy?

On July fourth 1861, Major J.P. Gillis made a public display of his support of colonial secession from the British Empire as well as Southern secession from the United States by parading in the streets with a Confederate flag of his own design. He drew cheers from a large crowd of onlookers, but two men named Curtis Clark and J.W. Biderman assaulted him and "captured" the Confederate flag. What makes Gillis and his flag noteworthy is the fact that this took place in Sacramento, California.

It might come as a surprise to some Americans that Southern traditions and ideas spread very far west during the latter part of the nineteenth century. The state of California was no exception. During the famous Gold Rush, the state received many Southern immigrants who brought with them, not slavery, but a culture of localized government, low tariffs, and individual sovereignty. Even with this generality in mind, it still may come as a surprise to some readers that California was as much as a hotbed for secessionist activity as other Southern states that never completely made it into the Confederate government, like Maryland or Kentucky. But there is indeed a unique Confederate experience that existed with residents of The Golden State.

Southern culture had been present in California during its early statehood, for example Senator William M. Gwin, a native from Tennessee, held a strong influence on California politics and championed the economic and social policies of that were held by Democrats in the South. Southern sympathy extended into the Californian executive as John Weller, who served as a governor from 1858-1860 supported the secession movement. As the prospect of the Southern states leaving the Union became more likely, Governor Weller made known his support for an independent Pacific Republic which would include California and Oregon. This proposed nation had support from many California citizens. A senator named Joseph Lane from Oregon also advocated for the independence of the Pacific states. The republic as proposed by Weller would probably have been neutral in the War Between the States, advocating only for the interests of the West, but the act of secession as a right was very clear for Governor Weller. However this first plan for California independence would never bear fruit as when the war started, the Federal government was quick to make sure that it would not lose control over the resources of California, or its access to the Pacific Ocean.

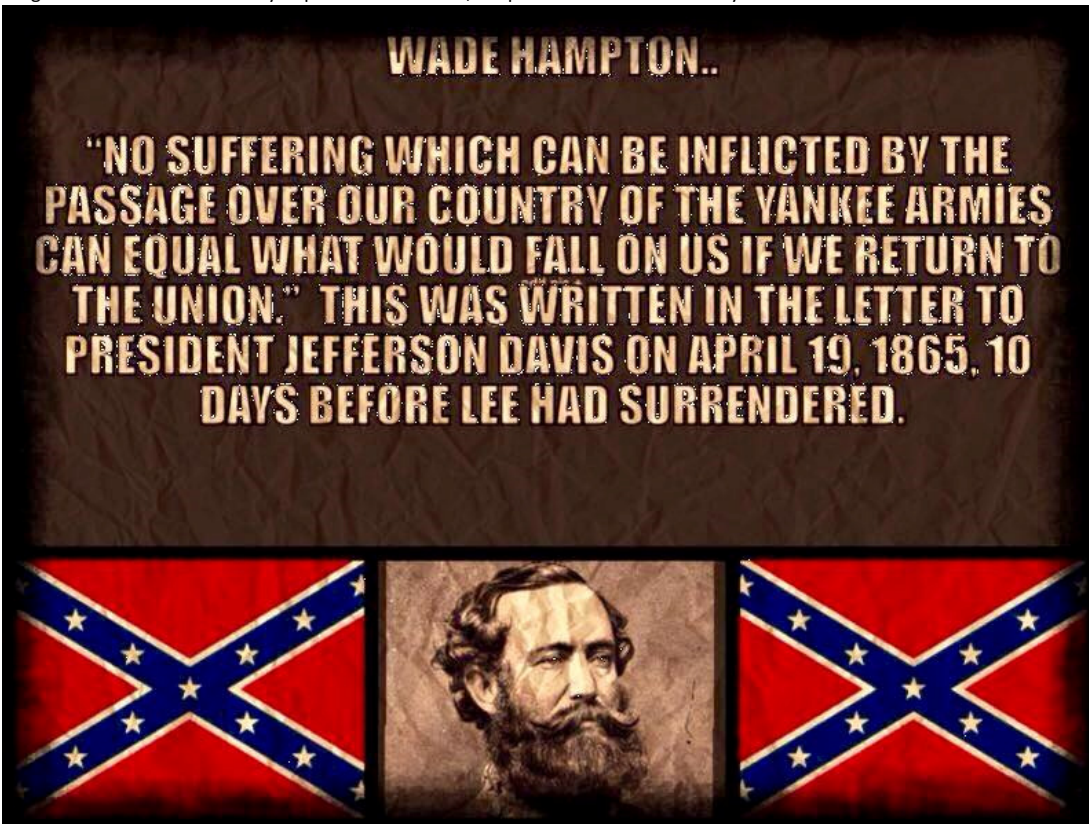
There was a continuous support for the Confederacy that was present in California throughout the war. Some would travel east to join the war; others persisted in having California join the Confederacy as a state. One example of this latter form of support can be shown with A.J King, the undersheriff of Los Angeles County. A.J (Andrew Jackson) King was a native to Georgia who came West in 1852, and was a supporter for the Confederate States of America at the beginning of the split between Northern and Southern States. King was a leader for the secessionists in El Monte which was a major hotbed for Southern support in California. King was responsible for publicly displaying a lithograph of General Beauregard to a crowd of people, stating to U.S Marshal Henry D. Barrows that he thought that the Confederate government was "the only constitutional government we had", and for attempting to organize a militia unit called the Monte Mounted Rifles that would aid the Confederacy. King was successful in having Governor Downey send firearms for the formation of the Monte Mounted Rifles, but Federal soldiers intervened, thus preventing the creation of a possible Californian Confederate militia group.



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There was however, a secessionist militia that was successful in its formation. The Los Angeles Mounted Rifles were organized in the March of 1861 and were dedicated supporters of California sovereignty. It was one of many militia groups that formed at the beginning of the war in California; the petition for its formation was signed by influential members of the Los Angeles community. Some of these men were Joseph Lancaster Brent, a lawyer and former member of the state legislature who would go on to become a brigadier general for the Confederacy and Jose Antonio Sanchez, a leader for the large Mexican community in Los Angeles. The company serves history as a true representation of Southern California, amongst its members were Caucasians born in both the North and the South, European immigrants, and Hispanics. In fact, ten percent of the men who were listed on the Muster Roll had Spanish surnames. Some of these men were veterans of the Mexican-American War, of both sides, such as private Carman Frazee had fought with Jefferson Davis' 1st Mississippi Rifles and the second lieutenant of the company, Tomas Sanchez who was a lancer in the Mexican army. The L.A Mounted Rifles would be led by a man named Alonzo Ridley, who was one of the famous "49'ners" that had come to California seeking riches. When the war began, the Rifles understood that it would be very difficult to aid the Confederate cause whilst in California, so they decided to travel east. Ridley led his men across the desert and into Texas. It was these Californian men who escorted Albert Sidney Johnston into Confederate territory, where he could take up his career as a general. Many of the units' members could not make the journey and either stayed behind in California or made the trip at a later time. Such a man was the aforementioned Joseph Lancaster Brent, who would become the only Confederate general who was a California citizen. Those who did make it to the Confederacy would be scattered into different areas of the Southern army. For example, Captain Alonzo Ridley became a member of Johnston's staff and served by his side until Johnston's death at the Battle of Shiloh. The Los Angeles Mounted Rifles should be recognized as nearly a perfect cross section of the Californian population that supported the Confederacy; a mix of well-educated high standing members of society and middle class individuals that sought to protect and preserve the self-determination of their communities. In addition to the men of the Mounted Rifles, were individual attempts to enfranchise the Confederate cause. Individuals attempts like those of Asbury Harpending. Born in Kentucky, Harpending traveled to California in and would make a fortune in mining. He supported the South at the onset of war and wanted to do his best to serve the Confederacy. In his own words, "it would have been hard to find a more reckless secessionist than myself." Harpending was part of a plan to take control of San Francisco in order to establish the Pacific Republic that was previously mentioned. That plan didn't come to pass, so Harpending decided to attack Union gold shipments. Harpending attained letters of marque from the Confederate government at Richmond in 1863 and outfitted a schooner called the J.M. Chapman that would be used to raid gold leaving from California that was carried aboard Union ships. Harpending met with as much success with this plan as the Pacific Republic, Union officials discovered the plan and the schooner was boarded by the U.S navy. Harpending was arrested but later released on a pardon granted by Abraham Lincoln in 1864.

These histories are but some of the legacies of the Confederates of The Golden State. Even these few examples of a unique population and geographic location could not be recorded in full with this work alone. Hopefully this under developed part of history will have more minds analyze it in the future. Though California secession didn't amount to independence in the West, the legacy of Californian rebels is important to Southern history. Without the Los Angeles Mounted Rifles' timely departure to the East, it's possible that Albert Sidney Johnston wouldn't have reached the Confederacy until much later, if at



all. The strong Southern sympathy in the West would last well after the war, and Southern traditions would flourish as best as they could in the Western states. It is also important for historians to make note of the fact that California had a high level of secession activity, in similarity with other border states during the war, but that California was not a slave state, providing evidence that secession was not instigated exclusively by slave owners. Many men would remain as essential members of their communities after the war, the outspoken secessionist A.J King remained the undersheriff of Los Angeles County throughout the entire war, serving as a testament to the enduring Confederate support of Californians.

To conclude with the rest of the story of the flag of J.P Gillis, an event that gives history a unique quarrel of a Confederate symbol. J.W Biderman stitched "Rebel flag. Captured 4 July 1861. By Jack Biderman" onto

the banner. As far as it is known at this time, Major Gillis never recovered his flag and throughout the long years from then to now, the flag ended up on display at the California State Capitol Museum. The flag itself is in deserving of recognition as the only known Californian Confederate flag. Its design mirrors the Stars and Bars that served as the first national flag of the Confederacy. It bore two red bars with one white one in between them and a blue canton positioned in the upper left corner. But Gillis' flag bore seventeen stars and were uniquely arranged instead of the circular formation of the Stars and Bars. The stars can be assumed to represent the fifteen Southern states that were displayed in early secession flags with California and Oregon as the final two additions. The flag serves as a symbol that may leave onlookers, with a powerful sense of 'what might have been' with regards to the success of Californian secession.

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**Mississippians have already had
a discussion about the state flag.**

Mississippi
Governor
Phil Bryant

**It was put to a vote and an
overwhelming majority chose to
KEEP THE FLAG**