

May 2015, Volume 18, Issue 5 Dedicated to the memory of Brig. General Benjamin G. Humphreys

CONTENTS

- 1. Camp & Society News
- Commander's Note p. 1
- Adjutant's Report p. 1
- Lt. Commander's Note p. 2
- SCVMC Report p. 2
- OCR Report P. 2
- MOS&B Report pp.2-3

2. Division News - pp. 3-5

- Beauvior News p. 3
- Relic Show p. 5
- 120th MS Division Reunion - pp. 6-7
- 3. National News p. 4
- National Convention pp. 10-11
- 4. Sesquicentennial Articles
- The Surrenders pp. 9, 12
- Battle of Palmito Ranch
- Jefferson Davis is Captured

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Camp Meeting Thursday, Ma 7, 2015 - 7:00 pm at the First Presbyterian Church in Indianola, MS
- June 5-7, 2015,MS Division Reunion to be held in Columbus, MS
- June 20-21, 2015, Rankin Rough and Ready Camp's Civil War Relic Show held in Brandon, MS

CAMP COMMANDER

Joe Nokes - (662) 451-7456 joenokes0128@yahoo.com

EDITOR

Larry McCluney - (662) 453-7212 confederate@suddenlink.net

The Delta General is published twelve times a year by the Brig. General Benjamin G. Humphreys Camp #1625, SCV, as a service to its members. The articles, photographs, or content of The Delta General may not be reproduced without the consent of the editor. The opinions expressed by the authors of signed articles reflect the personal views of the writers and are not necessarily a statement of the Brig. General Benjamin G. Humphreys Camp #1625, SCV policy. The Delta General reserves the right to accept or reject content.

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

Camp News: Commander's Report – Joe Nokes

My Fellow Compatriots,

- Confederate Heritage Month has come and gone. I hope this finds you all well and enjoying some much needed sunshine.
- Our Camp Memorial in Greenville went off "without a hitch", as they say. The Lord blessed us with a window of about 8 hours of sun between storms that day. Next year will mark our



20th memorial, and we have a year to make it special. I want to express my sincerest thanks to everyone who came out and took part. A couple of weeks prior, we set up a Living History at Fort Pemberton. We got a good number of students

(and their families) from Greenwood who were very impressed with our presentation. We were competing with a number of other WBTS events in the state and with many local events. Nevertheless, I again want to express my heartfelt thanks to those of you who came out and helped out.

I spoke on both of these events for the following reason: our duties to our ancestors. We honor them with our memorials. We speak and lay wreaths and venerate the fallen. And then we honor them by keeping alive their experiences. We educate the public. We live the part, we speak knowledgeably about the experiences, and we bring the fallen "back to life" for a brief moment.

We must never stop honoring our fallen. Be it a memorial with a color guard, a living history with a tent, or a friendly person with knowledge of a topic, we need to always strive to remember, preserve, and venerate our noble ancestors. I look forward to seeing you at the May meeting. And remember,

Deo Vindice, Joe Nokes

Camp Meeting, April 2, 2015 <u>Adjutant's Report – Dan McCaskill</u>

Commander Joe Nokes called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The Meeting was opened with an invocation and blessing by Camp Adjutant 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: Our guest speaker for the evening was 4th Brigade Councilman Conor Bond. Conor's program was on the "Qualities of Generals Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson. Conor touched on four qualities that both Lee and Jackson had in abundance. First and foremost was to put God first in all things you do. As everyone knows, Lee and Jackson were very Faithful to their God. The second great quality in each man was Duty. As Lee said, "Duty is the most sublime word in the English language. You can never do more and should never do less." Each man did their duty to their Country. Third quality, "Never show fear in the face of overwhelming odds." Our armies almost always faced armies of greater numbers. With our Generals showing calm in the face of those odds, they instilled confidence in the men. Fourth, each believed each person should get the best education they could. The only way a person could better themselves was through education. This is one reason why Lee ignored all offers to riches to go to Washington College to help educate the young men of the South.

<u>Announcements:</u> The Camp's Confederate Memorial Service will be Sunday, April 19th at the Greenville Cemetery starting at 3:00 pm. The Mississippi Division Confederate Memorial Service will be held Saturday, April 25th at Ole Miss. The traditional Confederate Memorial Service will be held at Beauvoir on Saturday, April 25th. There will be a Living History at Ft. Pemberton outside of Greenwood the weekend of April 11th starting at 9 am. The Division Reunion will be held in Columbus, MS the weekend of June 5-7, 2015.

Officer Reports: 1st Lt. Commander Richard Dillon announced that the speaker for our May Meeting will be Earl McCown and our speaker for June will be Nathan McCaskill who will give a report on his experiences at the 2015 Boys State. 2nd Lt. Commander Brent Mitchell was absent; Adjutant Dan McCaskill reported that camp funds stood at \$ 2,689.39 with the only budget item being spent was the 1st quarter payment to the Church. The donated money that Richard Dillon won from Capture the Yankee was deposited in the Camp Savings Account and earmarked for the Headstone Fund. As Camp Editor, Larry said he was late getting the newsletter issue out but it would be put online and in the mail by Friday. As AOT Commander, Larry reported the next Heritage Rally would be in Shreveport, LA. You could go to the National Website for more information. MOS&B had no report; MS Society OCR: no report; the Ella Palmer Chapter, OCR would be providing refreshments at the Memorial Service.

<u>Camp Business</u>: The final touches were decided on for the upcoming Confederate Memorial Service. It was reconfirmed that Reverend Kevin Franklin would be our speaker. Set-up at the cemetery would start at 2:00 with chairs provided by the Stillmans. Flags will be placed on the grave sites Saturday afternoon by Dan and Larry will be bringing the Flags for the Marine Color Guard. With no other business coming before the Camp, the business meeting was adjourned and the meeting turned over to the OCR ladies for the raffle. Richard Dillon won the puzzle and Sandra Stillman won the bracelet. Dan McCaskill dismissed the Meeting with a word of prayer. Attendance for the evening was 21.

Continued on page 2 . . .

1

Continued from page 1 . . .

We had another successful Confederate Memorial Service. There were rain storms Saturday night and into Sunday morning which kept attendance down to 28. For the nineteenth time in nineteen years, it did not rain on our Confederate Memorial Service. There were 132 Flags put on the grave sites and 130 were recovered.

Lt. Commander's Report – Richard Dillon

May's speaker will be Earl McCown. Earl was the speaker at the very first Camp Meeting Lattended, and Lleft the meeting very impressed that he knew so much about his ancestors' lives during the war. I've been looking forward to his next program ever since.

June -- We need to determine a firm date as we discussed last month in order to find a speaker.

July -- Movie Night: Featured presentation Shiloh.

August -- Port Gibson Pilgrimage. We need to determine a firm date in order to reserve the pavilion at Grand Gulf Park.

Mechanized Cavalry Report: Chesley Roberts, Cpl.

I'm proud to report that the Mechanized Cavalry Captains voted to donate \$2300 to the SCV Museum to be built at Elm Springs and \$5000 to the Save Our Parks Defense Fund.

The Top Platoon held a meeting in Oxford on March 21st. Your Squad Leader, Sgt. Roberts will be informing you of upcoming rides

Don't forget -- WEAR YOUR VEST

Ella Palmer, OCR Report: Sandra Stillman, President

Dear Ladies of the OCR,

Spring is finally here! April, with its mud puddles and beautiful blooms, was Confederate History and Heritage Month. Living histories and memorial services were conducted by numerous SCV camps in our state. Our camp's memorial service was held April 19th, at Greenville Cemetary. Pastor Kevin Franklin, Glendale Baptist Church, Leland, led our service. Seemingly to me, God smiled on our honoring our Confederate ancestors. Although it had rained the night before and did rain again Sunday evening, once again the afternoon was beautiful and cloudless. The Mississippi SCV and OCR Reunion is scheduled for June 5-7th, in Columbus, MS. Ladies will be meeting Saturday morning for fellowship, sharing and a bit of business. Next camp meeting will be Thursday, May 7th. That will be "Build Your Own Dagwood Sandwich Night." OCR will bring the fixin's, but if someone brings extra chips or drinks, that would be appreciated.

Peace and Grace to all of our Roses, Sandra Stillman, President

Commander's Message:

One of the ways we can advance our cause is through public speaking. It keeps us in touch with our communities and creates greater understanding for

our perspectives on history and our heritage. It also creates an immense amount of good will. Several years ago I became a public speaker almost by accident. Or was it? For background, I have 3 granddaughters and my daughter - their mother - is a former school teacher. She had left the field of teaching several years ago to raise her 3 daughters. Later, she would return as a part time teacher's aide for the fifth grade. The fifth grade is a critical grade because it is the first time

that elementary grade students begin to study United States history. On one particular day, my daughter was aiding in a fifth grade class when the subject of the Revolutionary War first came up. She was quick to point out that her father, (that's me!), was an expert on the Revolutionary War because he belonged to the Sons of the American Revolution. Further, she said that I would e happy to speak to the class at any time.

1861

Well, when I first heard that I had been "volunteered" I was flabbergasted. I had nothing prepared on the topic and I didn't even know what the right message was for children of that age. But I was a member of the SAR color guard and I did have an authentic looking Continental Soldier's uniform. I also knew that I couldn't say NO to my daughter.

After some research I determined that the ideal topic for school children would be George Washington and the Battle of Yorktown. I have refined this presentation over the years and the kids absolutely love it. It is now in a PowerPoint format and its audiences have grown well beyond the schoolroom. I regularly give this same presentation to the DAR, the UDC, SAR, and even the MOS&B. Grown-ups love the presentation every bit as much as the kids do.

But the 5th graders are the most fun to talk to. In many cases they have no idea of how long ago the RW actually was. They also have no idea of the logistics involved to move the Continental Army from New York to Yorktown – a distance of 400 miles - in order to attack Lord General Cornwallis at Yorktown. They also don't know what a siege is. But they absolutely love the re-enactment of the surrender ceremony including the surrender of Cornwallis' sword.

The questions the kids ask are priceless. My favorite question is: Was George Washington still alive when you were younger? Another (serious) question was: Why was he so ugly? It has been so much fun to interact with these young students over the years. Of course, the number of topics that I speak about has grown over the years as well. I now have about a dozen topics for presentation. And, yes, there are some Confederate topics among them. The audiences for my presentations have varied from as little as 20 people to more than 100 people.

Continued on page 3 . . .









Continued from page 2 . . .

Speaking to our schools and to other heritage organizations is personally rewarding. It is also a lot of fun. Many of our members are gifted speakers and already speak to the same organizations that I do. I encourage others to do so. We have a unique culture at MOS&B that is quite different from other heritage organizations. It is so important for people to actually see us and hear our perspectives on history, heritage and culture. There is no better way than through public speaking engagements.



Mississippi Division News Bricks for Beauvior Update

The ancestor bricks so many have purchased are now being laid for the walkway from the UDC Arch to the Tomb of the Unknown Confederate Soldier. The picture to the right shows the walkway ready for dedication on April 25. A transition is in the process of turning the project over to Beauvior so funds can go directly to that institution.

Great News From Beauvior

Compatriots, since Beauvoir is owned by the Ms. Division Sons of Confederate Veterans I thought it only proper to update you all. Tomorrow will be one year since Greg Stewart and myself showed up on those Hallowed Grounds.

The Finance Manager's Report shows we are 67% above the prior year. Thanks to the hard work of a few dedicated Folks. A new camel has arrived to replace other that returned home. Commander Chuck Bond reminds us that as the United Secretary of War, Jefferson Davis introduced camels into the U.S. Cavalry. He also advises that Beauvoir already has a humper named **Leroy**. Stuffed baby camels are on sale in the Beauvior gift shop.

Best Wishes, Wm. Howard Jones Commander General



Beauvior's New Website

Beauvior has a new website that is up and running and it is outstanding. Take time visit and see all that is happening on their facebook page as well. http://www.visitbeauvoir.org/

Announcement for 1st Lt. Commander

Gentlemen:

It is my priviledge to announce my candidacy for 1st Lt. Commander of the Mississippi Division SCV. The Mississippi Division has the sacred obligation of fulfilling Lt. General Stephen D. Lee's "Charge". This our duty and we should do nothing less.

We should be focused on working with our membership to make the Mississippi Division SCV the very best it can be.

I have been blessed to hold an SCV office since 1995. My service has been on the Camp, Brigade, Division, Army of Tennessee and now on the National level as Historian-in-Chief.

The duties of the 1st Lt. Commander are clearly spelled out in our Mississippi Division Bylaws. I know the expectations of the office and truly believe I have the experience, knowledge and ability to serve you best.

DEO VINDICE, Chuck Bond <u>dixiedad007@gmail.com</u> 601-316-8221



3

Members and Friends of the Division

After many months at Beauvoir as the acting Executive Director, I have become well acquainted with issues at the institution and their likely causes. In fact, I think about them every day.

What I have gleaned from my time at Beauvoir is that the problems of the Beauvoir Foundation, the Jefferson Davis Presidential Library contractor bankruptcy (and resulting Hartford suit), the poorly executed 2012 and 2013 Christmas at Beauvoir programs, and the MDAH Porch Restoration costs are not the result of any acts or omissions of any current Board member. Those events unfolded as a perfect storm that I am certain would have shaken any institution, regardless of the individual board members. The one thing they could control as a board, they did, by demanding Beauvoir Foundation accountability and results from the Executive Director, who promptly left.

It is my considered opinion that any bylaw proposal that would alter the composition of the Board by geographically awarding slots would: Significantly dilute the power of each Division member to elect every Board member, and

Not result in the best set of persons to act as the Board (in fact, make it even harder to assemble the best team)

We have an obligation as Division Members to examine the candidates for Board slots and make determinations about their ability and commitment to deliver expertise, general or specific. Nothing absolves us of this responsibility. The lure of a new rule that will magically fix a problem is an old seduction. Worse, at the risk of sounding conspiratorial, it may not even be as benign as that.

This Division has held onto Beauvoir through two coup attempts in my twenty years by persons who would reinterpret Jefferson Davis and your ancestor in a way you would not like. The proposal that would reduce the board to a size where only three people have to "forget" the Charge should give us all pause.

I strongly urge each of you to vote down or table any proposal that dilutes your Beauvoir influence or makes an outside takeover as easy as three votes.

ON ANOTHER NOTE:

In 2000, Governor Musgrove appointed a State Flag Commission to "consider" the idea of a new State Flag. I was a young Division member then, not an insider, still not, in my mind. I assumed that any Mississippi Division member would be opposed to altering our flag and would work diligently to prevent it. Of course the whole commission was a charade and came up with an alternative, as expected. What I did not expect was the response from more than one member in senior leadership as our counter offense became better organized and people around us had a chance to say things unguarded. Over time it became to clear to me that more than one of them were embarrassed by the upstart members who were insisting on a real fight. Here is the ugly truth: The commission alternative was, in fact, a negotiated compromise, probably worked out well before the commission met the first time and some Mississippi Division leaders were at that table but at some point knew not to attempt to silence us and reveal themselves.

I am saying that to say this: You have important Division Leadership positions about to be filled. Be certain you speak to every candidate about their firm positions, on the Battle Flag, State flag, and any other important issue, and get them on the record.

Greg Stewart University Greys

National SCV News Confederate Heritage Rally 2015 - Shreveport, La - May 30, 2015

Dear Mississippi Compatriots,

I hope that you are all aware of the the upcoming SCV Sesquicentennial Event/Confederate Heritage Rally that will be held May 30th in Shreveport, La. This is the last of these events, but the first one to be held in the Army of Trans-Mississippi! The link to the event website is at the top and bottom of this message.

Please allow me to make a personal request to my brothers in Mississippi. We need you to turn out for this. The SCV and Confederate Heritage has been in the news a lot lately. This event gives us the chance to show the public that we are still here and still care about our Heritage. We can make a statement that day. This maybe the last chance we will have for a while to show our support in a large public event.

Maybe more that any other division, Mississippi has born the brunt of political correctness. But you have Stood Fast in protecting your Flag and Heritage! I believe Mississippi will be ready on May 30th!

Cross the river and make a statement!

Deo Vindice Chuck McMichael Past Commander in Chief Sons of Confederate Veterans.

The parade steps off at 1:00 PM. If your interested in hotels, the Host Hotel:

Hilton Garden Inn Shreveport Bossier City 2015 Old Minden Rd Bossier City, LA 71111 (318) 759-1950

King and Queen rooms are \$129, Suites \$139, breakfast included - use code- SCV 2015

While there maybe some less expensive options available, please note that we have used this hotel before and found it Confederate friendly.





The Delta General | May 2015, Vol. XVIII, Issue V

5

120th Mississippi Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans and the 21st Mississippi Society, Order of Confederate Rose Reunions June 05-07, 2015 in Columbus, Mississippi www.genbarksdale.org		
SCV MEMBER NAME:CAMP		
OCR MEMBER NAME: OCR O	CHAPTER:	
ADDRESS:		
PHONE: (TITLE:	
GUEST'S NAME FOR BADGE:		
SCV EARLY REGISTRATION (PRIOR TO DECEMBER 31ST, 2014)************************(TY(X'S) \$30.00		
SCV REGULAR REGISTRATION (JAN. 1ST, 2015 TO MAY 22ND 2015)******************QTY(X'S) \$35.00		
SCV LATE REGISTRATION (POST-MARKED ON OR AFTER MAY 23RD 2015)*********QTY. (X'S) \$45.00		
OCR REGISTRATION ON OR BEFORE MAY 22ND, 2015, \$10.00 EACH. AFTER MAY 23RD, 2015 \$15.00*********		
ADULT SATURDAY NIGHT AWARDS BANQUET********************************QTY(X'S) \$30.00 PER ADULT		
CHILD'S PLATE (12 AND UNDER) SATURDAY NIGHT AWARI	OS BANQUET****QTY(X'S) \$15.00 PER CHILD	
ANCESTOR MEMORIAL (COMPLETE ATTACHED FORM)*****************QTY(X'S) \$10.00 EACH ANCESTOR		
VENDOR TABLE (AS SPACE IS AVAILABLE, COMPLETE ATTACHED FORM)**QTY(X'S) \$20.00 EACH TABLE		
REUNION PROGRAM ADVERTISEMENT (SEE BELOW RATES / COMPLETE ATTACHED FORM)************************************		
STARKVILLE CIVIL WAR ARSENAL MUSEUM SATURDAY AF (DONATIONS ACCEPTED AT LOCATION)************************************	TERNOON TOUR ********QTYFREE TO REUNION ATTENDEES!	
STEPHEN D. LEE HOME AND MUSEUM AFTERNOON TOUR (DONATIONS ACCEPTED AT LOCATION)********************************QTY FREE TO REUNION 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, 2015. ***For your convenience, ALL events except for the optional tours, will be held on-site at the host hotel***		
Barksdale's Reunion Contact Information Headquarters Hotel:	Make Checks Payable to: Reunion Program Advertisements:	
Recommend rooms be reserved ASAP as it is summer and they will become booked. ASK for the SCV Rate. Host Camp Commander: Jim Strickland, Jr. jmsj@cableone.net Phone: 662–570–1581	SCV Camp 1220 \$100.00 for Full Page \$50.00 for Half Page \$25.00 for Quarter Page and Payment To:	
Courtyard MarriottHost Camp Adjutant:1995 6th Street North Columbus, Mississippi, 39701Shawn Kyzer camp1220adjutant@yahoo.com Phone: 662-722-1738	Please submit 2015 MS Division Reunion P.O. Box 404 Aberdeen, MS 39730 Please submit advertisement information <u>and</u> order form prior to May 1st 2015.	
The Delta General May 2015, Vol. XVIII, Issue V 6		



On behalf of the Membership and Staff of the General William Barksdale Camp 1220 located in Columbus, Mississippi; you are cordially invited to attend the:



120th Mississippi Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans and the 21st Mississippi Society, Order of Confederate Rose Reunions

Held June 05-07, 2015 in historic Columbus, Mississippi!



Sesquicentennial Article on the War for Southern Independence:

SCV IRON CROSS GRAVE MARKERS

A Great Tribute to Wrap up the Sesquicentennial!

The Southern Cross of Honor, also known as the "SCV Iron Cross," will always be the defining symbol to honor the graves of Confederate Veterans.

Each marker is a two-sided solid cast iron replica of the medal and measures 14" x 14" plus a ground spike 14" long and weighs approximately 17 pounds. These high-quality castings will weather to a natural surface rust but require no long-term maintenance. SCV Iron Cross grave markers are cast exclusively by **Clarksville Foundry** – one of the South's oldest, on-going metal foundries dating to 1847 – that cast cannons and munitions for the Confederacy.

Over the years, thousands of these markers have been placed on Confederate graves; however, thousands more are deserving of this sacred tribute.



ORDERING:

This offer is exclusively for SCV Camps. Receive a 25% discount upon ordering a minimum of 10 grave markers directly from the Frank P Gracey Camp 225 Commander, Don Horton. Retail price: \$108.50 per marker; Discounted price: \$82 per marker (plus shipping). Larger volume discounts available. Shipping is bulk freight FOB Clarksville, TN (calculated per order and destination).

For further information or to place an order, please contact Don Horton at (931) 542-0140 or by email: drhorton40@bellsouth.net

Individual units can be purchased on the National SCV website: www.scv.org

The SCV Iron Cross of Honor... A Durable Memorial that Will Last for Generations

Surrender at Citronelle - Citronelle, Alabama End of the War in the East

The last major Confederate army east of the Mississippi ended its fight beneath an oak tree at Citronelle, Alabama on May 4, 1865.

Realizing that all hope was lost, Confederate Lieutenant General Richard Taylor came to agreement with Union Major General E.R.S. Canby. The surrender at Citronelle ended significant combat east of the Mississippi River.

Even after the surrender of General Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia at Appomatox<u>Court House</u>, fighting continued as three major campaigns went forward. In North Carolina, General Joseph E. Johnston had yet to surrender to Sherman at <u>Bennett Place</u>. In Alabama and Georgia, Southern troops resisted <u>Wilson's Raid of 1865</u>. On the Gulf Coast, the fighting of the <u>Mobile Campaign</u> continued to rage.

The key actions of the latter campaign took place at Spanish Fort on April 8 and Fort Blakeley on April 9. With these important East Shore defenses in Union hands, Mobile was evacuated by its Confederate defenders and fell to Union troops on April 12, 1865.

Over the weeks that followed, the armies of Generals Taylor and Canby continued to eye each other as each commander absorbed news of disasters coming in from other fronts. Taylor was the hard-fighting son of U.S. President Zachary Taylor while Canby was a career army officer. Each man was prepared to do his duty.

Taylor knew the Confederacy was about to fall and was honest with his men about the situation:

It was but right to tell these gallant, faithful men the whole truth concerning our situation. The surrender of Lee left us little hope of success; but while Johnston remained in arms we must be prepared to fight our way to him. Again, the President and civil authorities of our Government were on their way to the south, and might need our protection. Grantingthe cause for which we had fought tobe lost, we owed it to our own manhood, to the memory of the dead, and to the honor of our arms, to remain steadfast to the last. This was received, not with noisy cheers, but solemn murmurs of approval... - Lt. Gen. Richard Taylor, CSA (Destruction and Reconstruction, p. 222).

Inspired by Taylor and his subordinates - Generals Nathan Bedford Forrest and D.H. Maury - the men of the Confederate army remained steadfast. Then came news from North Carolina that Generals Johnston and Sherman had agreed to a truce.

Requested by those generals to negotiate a similar ceasefire, Taylor and Canby agreed to meet at the Magee Farm in the community of Kushla north of Mobile. There on April 29 they agreed to a truce while they awaited the decisions of their governments on the terms agreed to by Sherman and Johnston.

Two days later they learned that the U.S. government had disavowed the honorable terms offered Johnston by Sherman. Canby regretfully notified Taylor that their ceasefire would end in 48 hours. The fate of his men now rested on Taylor's shoulders. Having learned of the capture of President Jefferson Davis in Georgia and of Johnston's final surrender to Sherman at Bennett Place, he decided to bring the war east of the Mississippi to an end:

...Bank stocks, bonds, all personal property, all accumulated wealth, had disappeared. Thousands of houses, farmbuildings, work-animals, flocks and herds, had been wantonly burned, killed, or carried off. The land was filled with widows and orphans crying for aid, which the universal destitution prevented them from receiving. - Lt. Gen. Richard Taylor, CSA (Destruction and Reconstructionp. 236).

The two generals met at Citronelle in Mobile County on May 4, 1865. The town takes its name from the citronella plant and was founded in 1811. It was selected as the meeting point due to its location on the railroad between Canby's headquarters at Mobile and Taylor's in Meridian, Mississippi.

General Taylor wrote after the war that the terms offered by General Canby were "consistent with the honor of our arms." Men with horses could keep them, officers would retain their sidearms, the Confederate soldiers would be paroled and Taylor would retain control of railways and river steamers to help them get home.

The agreement was reduced to writing and Taylor signed it using a pen fashioned from a steel point attached to a twig and dipped in ink. The Confederacy was so destitute that real pens could no longer be found.

The surrender at Citronelle brought the War Between the States (or Civil War) east of the Mississippi to its end. The Confederates were paroled over the coming weeks and General Canby helped his former enemy reach his home in New Orleans.

Acting partially on advice from Taylor, General Kirby Smith laid down his arms at Galveston, Texas on June 2, 1865. His surrender ended the possibility of a continuation of the war west of the Mississippi, although it was not until June 23 that Brigadier General Stand Watie surrendered at Doaksville in what is now Oklahoma. The last Southern general to lay down his arms, Watie was the only American Indian to achieve such rank in either army.

His military career at an end, General Taylor wrote his memoirs after the war and was active in Democrat Party politics. He died in New York on April 12, 1879, and was buried in Metairie, Louisiana. General Nathan Bedford Forrest said of him, "He's the biggest man in the lot."

General Canby remained in the U.S. Army after the war and was killed while trying to reach a peace agreement with the Modoc Indians of California. He was shot and his throat was cut by Modoc chiefs on April 11, 1873. His body was returned home for burial in Indianapolis, Indiana.

The site where Lieutenant General Richard Taylor surrendered to Major General E.R.S. Canby is now preserved as a small park in Citronelle, Alabama. Located near the south end of Centre Street, it offers no facilities but features markers and picnic tables. Displays on the surrender can be seen at the nearby Citronelle Historical Museum.



Lt. Gen. Richard Taylor, CSA The son of President Zachary Taylor, General Taylor was the hardfighting Confederate leader that drove back the Union's Red River Campaign.



Maj. Gen. E.R.S. Canby, USA General Canby was killed at a peace conference by Modoc Indian warriors seven years after he negotiated Taylor's surrender at Citronelle.

9



SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

120th National Reunion July 15-19, 2015 Richmond, Virginia

Hosted by the Major General J.E.B. Stuart Camp #1343

NameTitle/P	Position	
SCV Camp Name & Number		
Personal AddressCity &	StateZip Code	
Home PhoneDaytime	e Phone	
EmailSpouse's t	Name	
Guest Name Guest Name	ime	
Registration is required of all members attending Reunion. Guests do not pay registration	on but must pay for meals and events.	
Registration and Meals		
Early Registration (Before April 1, 2015)	Qtyx \$ 40.00 = \$	
Late Registration (After March 31, 2015)	Qtyx \$ 60.00 = \$	
Extra Reunion Medal	Qtyx \$ 35.00 = \$	_
Numbered Special Edition Reunion Medal(Limited to 150 Medals)		
Reception at Museum of the Confederacy (Wednesday)	Qtyx \$ 25.00 = \$	
Chaplain's Breakfast (Thursday)	Qtyx \$ 25.00 = \$	**
Heritage Luncheon (Thursday)	Qtyx \$ 30.00 = \$	**
Forrest Cavalry Breakfast (Friday)	Qtyx \$ 30.00 = \$	**
Awards Luncheon (Friday)	Qtyx \$ 35.00 = \$	**
J. E. B. Stuart Breakfast (Saturday)	Qtyx \$ 25.00 = \$	**
Debutante Luncheon (Saturday - free for Debutante, female-only guests \$28.00)	Qtyx \$ 28.00 = \$	**
Grand Ball and Banquet (Saturday)	(\$65.00 Single / \$120.00 Couple) = \$	**
Tours and Performances		
Appomattox Tour (Tuesday, includes box lunch - 4 hr. round trip)	Qtyx \$ 90.00 = \$	
Cemetery Tour Part 1 (Thursday - Hollywood, Huguenot Springs)	Qtyx \$ 40.00 = \$	
Battlefield Tour 1 Led by Robert E. L. Krick (Thursday - Gaines' Mill)	Qtyx \$ 40.00 = \$	
Ladies Tour Part 1 (Thursday - Richmond as Confederate Capital)	Qtyx \$ 40.00 = \$	

Theatrical Production – "Reflected Glory: Letters to Anna" (Thurs.)Qtv	yx \$ 10.00 = \$
Cemetery Tour Part 2 (Friday - Shockoe, Jewish Confederate, Oakwood)Qty	/x \$ 40.00 = \$
Battlefield Tour 2 Led by Robert E. L. Krick (Fri Frayser's Farm / Malvern Hill)Qt	yx \$ 40.00 = \$
Ladies Tour Part 2 (Friday - Richmond as Confederate Capital)Qt	x \$ 40.00 = \$
Theatrical Production – "Reflected Glory: Letters to Anna" (Fri.)Qt	yx \$ 10.00 = \$
Ride Around McClellan Tour (Saturday)	Qtyx \$ 55.00 = \$
North Anna Battlefield Tour (Sunday)Qty	yx \$ 40.00 = \$
Appomattox Tour (Sunday, includes box lunch - 4 hr. round trip)Qty	x \$ 90.00 = \$
Ancestor MemorialQty	/x \$ 10.00 = \$
Total Amount Enclosed	\$

Medals are available while supplies last. Each registrant receives one Reunion Medal. The purchase cost of extra Reunion Medals will be refunded if supplies run out. Special Edition Medals are numbered 1-150 and numbers will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. If you would like a specific number(s), please make a note on your registration form. Meals and tours may not be available for at the door registrations.

**Note: To guarantee meal tickets, registration must be received by July 1, 2015.

Make Checks Payable to: SCV Reunion 2015

Mail Registration To: SCV Reunion 2015...PO Box 29814...Henrico, VA 23242-0814 Contact the Double Tree by Hilton Richmond-Midlothian at 804-379-3800 (rates are \$109.00 per night) Ask for the "SCV Reunion Special Rate". All prices are subject to state and local taxes. For more information contact Edwin Ray, Committee Chairman - 804-517-6587 or jray250443@aol.com or JEBStuartCamp@Gmail.com.

Reunion Website: http://www.jebstuartcamp.org/2015reunion Camp Website: http://www.jebstuartcamp.org/



The Major General J.E.B. Stuart Camp #1343 is honored to host the 120th National Reunion in 2015 in Richmond, Virginia. We encourage you to sign up for a tour of the Old Dominion State while you are visiting with us. If we can do anything to make your trip more memorable, please contact us atJEBStuartCamp@Gmail.com and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

The Confederate Armies Surrendered Piecemeal

Department of Alabama, Mississippi and East Louisiana Commanded by Lieutenant General Richard Taylor Surrendered on Thursday, 4th May

Richard Taylor, son of former United States President Zachary Taylor, commanded the administrative entity called the Department of Alabama, Mississippi and East Louisiana and under his command were some 10-12,000 Troops.

By the end of April 1865 Mobile, Alabama had fallen and news had reached Taylor of the meeting between Johnston and Sherman with this in mind Taylor agreed to meet with Major General Edward R. S. Canby for a conference a few miles north of Mobile, Alabama. On the 30 April both officers agreed a 48 hours' truce, terminable after 48 hours' notice by either party. The two parties now retired Canby to Mobile, Alabama and Taylor to Meridian, Mississippi.

Two days later Taylor elected to surrender, which he did on 4 May at Citronelle, Alabama, some 40 miles north of Mobile, Alabama. Under the terms Taylor retained control of the railway and river steamers to help transport his men as near as possible to their homes. He stayed at Meridian until all had been paroled and the last man sent on his way then he went to Mobile there joining Canby, who took him, by boat, to his home in New Orleans, Louisiana. (These forces included that of Nathan Bedford Forrest who's troops surrendered on 9th May at Gainesville, Ala.)

Later he grew to regret not having tried a guerrilla warfare as he was to say 'At the time, no doubts as to the propriety of my course entered my mind but such have since crept in.'

Confederate District of the Gulf Commanded by Major General Dabney H. Maury Surrendered Friday, 5th May

With the fall of Spanish Fort and then that of Fort Blakely on 9 April, both defended the approaches to Mobile, Maury, on the 12 April, began to withdraw his troops, which he declared an open city. His intention was of trying to join the remains of the Army of Tennessee, then in North Carolina. He withdrew his men to Meridian, Mississippi. Hearing of Johnston's surrender to Sherman on April 26 prevented this option. At Meridian he became a Divisional Commander under Richard Taylor. While there he awaited word on the negotiations to surrender the troops of the Department of Alabama, Mississippi, and East Louisiana, under Taylor. He surrendered the Mobile's garrison of 4,000+ troops, along with those sent him by Taylor, on 5 May at Citronelle,



Alabama. And on the 8 May after an emotive last address they surrender their arms. 'We shall lay down the arms which we have borne for four years to defend our rights-to win our liberties. We have borne them with honor, and we only now surrender to the overwhelming power of the enemy, which has rendered further resistance hopeless and mischievous to our own people and cause. But we shall never forget the noble comrades who have stood shoulder to shoulder with us until now, the noble dead who have been martyred, the noble Southern women who have been wronged and are unavenged, or the noble principles for which we have fought.'

Georgia State and Militia Troops Commanded by Governor Joseph E. Brown Surrendered Sunday, 7th May

Georgia had supplied over 100,000 troops to the Confederate armies but also maintained their own troops within the State and with collapse all around him of Confederate forces Governor Brown surrenders these State and Militia troops to General James H. Wilson.

Department of South Georgia and Florida Commanded by Major General Samuel Jones

Surrendered Wednesday, 10 May

Having commanded the District of South Carolina from March 4, 1864, until January, 1865, 'Sam' Jones appointed to the command of South Georgia and Florida, with his headquarters at Pensacola. Newly appointed to the command he had the unenviable task of immediately ordering the heavy guns and ammunition sent to Mobile, with other supplies to Montgomery, to destroy all boats, including gunboats. Also to destroy all machinery, this included the sawmills, be they in public or private hands, that might be useful to the Federals forces.

On the night of the 9 May all troops, except the cavalry who stayed behind to set fire to everything, marched out and on the 10th the General surrendered approximately 8,000 troops. He did this to Brigadier General Edward M. McCook at Tallahassee, the only Confederate state capital east of the Mississippi that was not captured by military action.

Northern Sub-District of Arkansas

Commanded by Brigadier General Meriwether Jeff Thompson

Surrendered on Thursday, 11 May

On hearing of the surrender of other Confederate forces Thompson, nicknamed the "Swamp Fox", a native Virginian with a strong military tradition, surrendered the 7,454 men that were under his command at the time at Jacksonport, Arkansas to Major General Grenville Mellen Dodge.

Confederate Forces North Georgia Commanded by Brigadier General William T. Wofford Surrendered on Friday, 12 May

Wofford arranges with Brigadier General Henry M. Judah for the surrender of some 3000 to 4000 Confederate soldiers, most of whom were Georgians.

Negotiations, and the surrender, were conducted at Kingston, GA. Wofford's headquarters were at the McCravey - Johnson home on Church St. with Judah's headquarters at Spring Bank, the home of the Rev. Charles Wallace Howard, 2 miles north of Kingston.

After the surrender rations were supplied to the Confederate soldiers by the Federal forces.

Battle of Palmito Ranch

The Battle of Palmito Ranch was the last land battle of the American Civil War. It took place in the extreme southern tip of Texas, near Brownsville. The main events of the battle took place on May 12-13, 1865; though, as you will see, the very first and very last troop movements took place on May 11 and 14 respectively.

By the time the Battle of Palmito Ranch took place, the war was long over. On April 9 Lee surrendered at Appomattox Court House. On April 15 Lincoln died after being shot the night before by John Wilkes Booth. Booth was shot and killed on April 26; the same day General Joseph E. Johnston surrendered to General Sherman. On May 4 General Richard Taylor surrendered to General E. R. S. Canby. On May 9 President Johnson declared an official end to the war, and on May 10 Jefferson Davis was captured.

So why was there a battle at Palmito Ranch? Well... That is a whole other story.

First, let me introduce you to the two commanders in this battle Colonel Theodore H. Barrett of the Union forces and Colonel John S. "Rip" Ford of the Confederate forces. Colonel Barrett commanded nearly 2,000 men on Brazos Santiago Island at the mouth of the Rio Grande. Colonel Ford was based at Brownsville, Texas; and his command - due to desertion as the war drew to a close - had only 625 men fit for duty at the beginning of April and no doubt lost many more by early May.

Captain William N. Robinson served under Colonel Ford and commanded two camps between Brownsville and Brazos Santiago Island. One was a small outpost at White's Ranch and the other his main camp nearer Brownsville at Palmito Ranch.

As May 1865 rolled around everyone in southern Texas knew that the war was essentially over. In March Colonel Ford communicated with Union Major General Lew Wallace concerning the possibility of a truce in southern Texas. Although no formal agreement came of it, a sort of gentlemen's agreement to end hostilities was observed.

However, in mid April, the commander of Brazos Santiago Island, Colonel Robert B. Jones, resigned his post and headed home. He was replaced by Colonel Barrett...

Colonel Barrett was an interesting case. He had served as an officer in the Union Army since 1862, but he had never seen action. Some say the entire cause of the Battle of Palmito Ranch was Barrett's need for, "a little battlefield glory before the war ended altogether." I tend to agree, because there doesn't seem to be anything else for him to gain from this battle.

Anyway, that is the setup. Now lets take a look at what went down...

In the early morning hours of May 11 Colonel Barrett issued orders that set in motion the final battle of the American Civil War...

Under those orders, Lieutenant Colonel David Branson, of the 62nd US Colored Infantry, mustered 250 of his men, with their officers at the north end of Brazos Santiago intending to cross to the mainland at Port Isabel in a steam boat under cover of darkness and a coming storm. However, the steamer broke down and they had no way to cross.

Branson then ordered his men to return to camp while he searched for another way to make the crossing. He finally gathered enough small boats to get his men and supplies across. Due to the storm he decided to go to the southern end of the island for a shorter passage across to Boca Chica. Along the way he picked up 50 volunteers and 2 officers from the Union 2nd Texas Cavalry. These men were cavalry in name only as there were no horses available for them to ride...

Before making the crossing, each man was issued 5 days rations and 100 rounds of ammunition; and by 9:30 p.m. Branson finally had his force of 300 men on the mainland.

Using two mule-drawn wagons to carry extra supplies, Branson and his men set out immediately. Their target was the first rebel outpost at White's Ranch...

They reached and surrounded White's Ranch at roughly 2 a.m. on May 12. Unfortunately for them, their surprise attack surprised no one. Why? Because there was no one there to surprise, the rebels had all pulled back to Palmito Ranch only a few days earlier.

By this time his men had been up for nearly 24 hours, and Branson knew there was no way he could reach Palmito Ranch in time to surprise the rebels before daybreak. So, he decided to move a little farther inland and had his men take cover and sleep, "in a thicket and among weeds on the banks of the Rio Grande one mile and a half above White's Ranch."

At this time, the French controlled the area on the Mexican side of the Rio Grande, and by eight or nine in the morning their patrols had spotted the Union troops hiding along the river. This information soon found its way to the Confederate troops north of the river, and french troops suddenly began appearing across the river from Branson and his men.

Despite having lost the element of surprise, Branson gathered his men and pressed on towards Palmito Ranch.

Captain Robinson's force at Palmito Ranch was fairly small due to the fact that much of the Confederate cavalry was spread out trying to find grass for their horses. Despite the warning from the French, he was unable to defend his camp atop Palmito Hill and was forced to retreat.

Branson and his men took the camp along with a few sick prisoners and supplies. There they stopped to rest and eat before continuing on. Robinson immediately sent word to Colonel Ford of the loss of Palmito Ranch and the fact that he was badly outnumbered. Ford ordered Robinson to hold on as best he was able while he rounded up some of the scattered cavalry forces in the area and came to his aid.

Robinson, however, was unwilling to wait idly for re-enforcements. Instead, he gathered all the men that he could - believed to be less than 100 - and launched a daring attack on Palmito hill that afternoon. Branson, despite outnumbering Robinson by roughly 3-1 felt his position was "indefensible" and began to retreat.

Branson fled all the way back to White's Ranch. Once his men were dug in there he sent word to Colonel Barrett concerning his situation... When he got Branson's message, Barrett took 200 men of the 34th Regiment of Indiana Infantry, made the crossing at Boca Chica, and joined Branson at White's Ranch at daybreak on the morning of May 13.

Barrett ordered Branson to set out towards Palmito Ranch immediately, Barrett's men made some breakfast and followed roughly half an hour later. As they advanced Branson and his men drove Robinson's small force in front of them. While Branson continued to push Robinson back past Palmito Ranch Barrett's men returned to the ranch to burn all the supplies that had been left behind.

Finally, in mid-afternoon Ford arrived to re-enforce Robinson. This brought the Confederate force up to about 300 men and 6 pieces of field artillery to face Barrett's roughly 500 men.

First, Ford tried to trap Barrett in a bend of the river, but the Union forces saw the flanking attack and were able to respond quickly enough to keep a way of escape open. At this point Barrett began to fall back slowly continuing to skirmish with the Confederate forces.

After about an hour, Ford finally got off a couple shots with his artillery. Despite the fact that the artillery fire was largely ineffectual, it caused quite a bit of alarm among Barrett's troops since they had no idea there were any big guns in the area. When more of the artillery joined the firing, Barrett immediately started his men to the rear on the double quick.

He fled in such a hurry that he left only the 50 men of the 2nd Texas Cavalry to serve as a rear guard, even though each man had only a few of his original 100 rounds of ammunition after two days of fighting. Nearly half of these men - including their officers - were captured as Barrett left them behind.

If fact, Barrett left so quickly, that he left behind roughly 80 of the men who were defending against Ford's flanking maneuver to keep the path of retreat open. These men were surrounded and captured by Ford's forces.

His retreat was so quick that some of his men could not keep up. Some tried to swim the river to safety, but most of these were driven back by French fire from the other shore. Roughly another 30 men were captured as a result of not being able to keep up with Barrett's "precipitous" retreat. According to a witness's account, Barrett promised his troops they would turn and fight at Palmito Hill, but instead he kept them on the retreat at top speed. Ford's troops kept up the pursuit; but, as they reached the narrow Boca Chica Peninsula, they were no longer able to flank the Union forces. From then on they simply followed behind harrying the retreat with musket and artillery fire.

As darkness fell, the first Union troops reached the boats; and - ignoring orders to allow the wounded in first - clambered aboard to make good their escape. At this point, Ford, who was not even within sight of the boats, was content to let them go without further pressure. So there was no real reason for such panic.

Ford turned his men and began to head back towards Brownsville, but was met by his superior Brigadier General James E. Slaughter who thought they should continue to pressure the enemy. Therefore, the Confederates moved forward and renewed the skirmish with the Union rear until the last of the Union troops turned and headed for the landing and their boats. Slaughter kept his men moving forward, but he did not press the attack... Thus, the final shots of the Civil War had been fired!

Barrett succeeded in getting his men back on Brazos Santiago Island by about 4 a.m. on May 14. Afterwards, Colonel Ford put his losses at "five or six wounded."

Reports of Union casualties vary widely but respected historian Jerry D. Thompson estimates Barrett's forces suffered roughly 4 killed and 12 wounded.

These numbers don't seem too bad for two days of fighting, but - when you consider the fact that the war had been over for a month and that there was no good reason for Barrett's attack - it does seem a high price for such a pointless battle.

Private John J. Williams (left), of the 34th Indiana, was shot and killed in the fighting late in the afternoon of May 13. Thus, he has the dubious distinction of being the last man to die in the American Civil War.

Many of the officers who served under him in this battle, thought Barrett's efforts were less than impressive. Therefore, many blame him not only for causing the battle, but also for losing to a badly outnumbered enemy.

In attempt to shift the blame for his disastrous performance, Barrett brought charges against one of his officers, Lieutenant Colonel Robert G. Morrison. During a court-martial on these charges Colonel Ford was called by Morrison's defense and provided the shaming testimony that Barrett had fled - on the double quick, no less - before a force which was a little over half the size of his own. The court absolved Morrison of any responsibility for the Union defeat in the Battle of Palmito Ranch.

Twelve days after the Battle of Palmito Ranch, General Edmund Kirby surrendered Confederate forces in Texas to General E. R. S. Canby. Many Confederate officers from Texas - including Ford and Slaughter - fled to Mexico after Kirby's surrender.

Confederate Colonel Santos Benavides led 100-150 Hispanic troops in the Battle of Palmito Ranch. As a Colonel, he was the highest ranking *Tejano* officer in the Confederate Army during the American Civil War.

Jefferson Davis captured

Jefferson Davis, president of the fallen Confederate government, is captured with his wife and entourage near Irwinville, Georgia, by a detachment of Union General James H. Wilson's cavalry.

On April 2, 1865, with the Confederate defeat at Petersburg, Virginia imminent, General Robert E. Lee informed President Davis that he could no longer protect Richmond and advised the Confederate government to evacuate its capital. Davis and his cabinet fled to Danville, Virginia, and with Robert E. Lee's surrender on April 9, deep into the South. Lee's surrender of his massive Army of Northern Virginia effectively ended the Civil War, and during the next few weeks the remaining Confederate armies surrendered one by one. Davis was devastated by the fall of the Confederacy. Refusing to admit defeat, he hoped to flee to a sympathetic foreign nation such as Britain or France, and was weighing the merits of forming a government in exile when he was arrested by a detachment of the 4th Michigan Cavalry.

A certain amount of controversy surrounds his capture, as Davis was wearing his wife's black shawl when the Union troops cornered him. The Northern press ridiculed him as a coward, alleging that he had disguised himself as a woman in an ill-fated attempt to escape. However, Davis, and especially his wife, Varina, maintained that he was ill and that Varina had lent him her shawl to keep his health up during their difficult journey.

Imprisoned for two years at Fort Monroe, Virginia, Davis was indicted for treason, but was never tried– the federal government feared that Davis would be able prove to a jury that the Southern secession of 1860 to 1861 was legal. Varina worked determinedly to secure his freedom, and in May 1867 Jefferson Davis was released on bail, with several wealthy Northerners helping him pay for his freedom.

After a number of unsuccessful business ventures, he retired to Beauvoir, his home near Biloxi, Mississippi, and began writing his two-volume memoir *The Rise and Fall of the Confederate Government* (1881). He died in 1889 and was buried at New Orleans; four years later, his body was moved to its permanent resting spot in Richmond, Virginia.





The Delta General Larry McCluney, Editor 1412 North Park Dr Greenwood, MS 38930

We are on the Web! www.humphreys1625.com



Celebrate the Sesquicentennial with a visit to the home of our founder!







The Stephen D. Lee Home & Museum 316 7th Street North, Columbus, Mississippi

There probably is not one member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans who has not heard of Lieutenant General Stephen Dill Lee. However, there are probably very few that realize that he, like four other Confederate Generals, adopted Columbus, Mississippi as his home nor that his final resting place is Friendship Cemetery in Columbus.

Many personal items of S.D. Lee are in the museum as well as furnishings and decorative items given by his family. One room houses a wonderful collection of original Civil War artifacts including Robert E. Lee's spurs, a flag thought to be of the 43rd Mississippi Regt. and a drum from the 42nd Alabama Regiment. A larger-than-life portrait of N.B. Forrest is also in the museum.

It was the first property in Lowndes County to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is a Mississippi Landmark. The Lee Foundation maintains the house solely with revenue from event rentals and tours as well as from donations.

SCV members may tour at no charge.

Open Fridays 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. or by appointment, call 662-435-2368.