

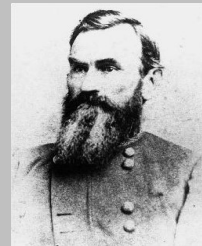


The Delta General

Camp Website: www.humphreys1625.com

November, Volume 24, Issue 10

Dedicated to the Memory of Brigadier General Benjamin G. Humphreys



In this Issue:

- HISPANIC CONFEDERATE HERITAGE
- BATTLE OF NASHVILLE

Commander's Comments—Larry McCluney

Compatriots,

Fall is upon us and before you know it, so will the Holiday Season. Let us not forget the many Thanksgivings that our ancestors missed far from home as we enter this period of family and giving thanks for our many blessings. Soon, December will bring forth our election time for new officers so during our November meeting, that will be the subject of discussion. Those interested in running for office should attend and express their interest. We also need to tie up all loose ends for our Lee and Jackson Banquet which is January 22, 2022. Richard Garcia has been secured to be our guest speaker for the Banquet and we really need to promote him throughout our Camp as well as the Division. For those who do not know, Richard will be speaking on Confederate Hispanics that served during the war. Richard was also featured in one of the films I commissioned when I was Lt. Commander-in-Chief for recruiting purposes.

Also, the OCR will take donations for raffle prizes for the Lee/Jackson Banquet. Please consider this for they provide meals for our meetings.

Please bring a friend or potential recruit at our to our November 6 meeting. As we gather to carryout our Camp's business. We hope to see you there.

Adjutant's Report—October 2, 2021—Dan McCaskill

6:00 pm: The Meeting was called to order by Adjutant Dan McCaskill. Due to the lower than normal attendance, all protocols were suspended.

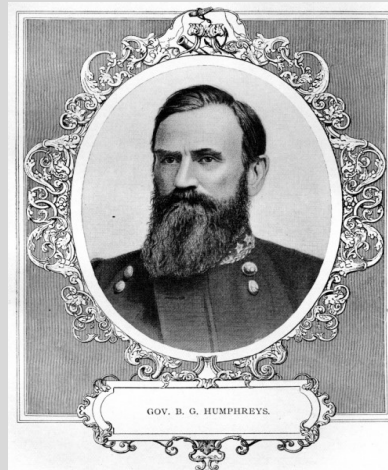
Officer Reports: Adjutant Dan McCaskill reported during the last membership renewal cycle, the Camp lost four members but gained one transfer for a net loss of three members. The members we lost are Sid Aust, Johnny Gaugh, Zach Kiker and Sammy Rose. Anyone wishing to contact these men are welcomed to do so. The member gained is Michael Anthony from Clarksdale. Financially, the Camp is in excellent condition. To date, we have spent \$572.40 of the Camp Budget which represents 53% of that budget with three months to go in this fiscal year. The current account balance is \$1,461.79 of which \$299.50 is Heritage Defense and \$120 is in the new Confederate Headstone Fund. At this writing, I am waiting for all recent dues checks to clear the account before moving all the Camp's accounts to Planters Bank and Trust Company in Leland. All other Officers were absent.

Upcoming Event: On October 9 th the General Executive Council will be holding their Fall Meeting at Elm Springs, Columbia, TN starting at 8:30 am. Any SCV member in good standing is welcome to attend. On October 16-17th, Beauvoir will be holding its annual Fall Muster Reenactment for the benefit of Beauvoir.

Camp Business: Adjutant Dan McCaskill informed those present that the Camp will be electing new Officers at our December Meeting and that anyone interested is welcome to announce their candidacy. Michael Anthony expressed an interest in the 1st Lt. Commander office but did not make a commitment. Arrangements for our upcoming Lee-Jackson Banquet on Saturday, January 22, 2022 needed to be discussed at our November Camp Meeting. Also, keep in mind our Confederate Memorial Service on Saturday, May 7, 2022 which is the day before Mother's Day. Lastly, the Camp is having a fund raising to purchase a Confederate Headstone for a Veteran who died in Greenville shortly after the fall of Vicksburg. Since Confederate Veterans do not qualify for "Memorial Headstones" according to the VA's lawyers, we have to purchase a headstone. The purchase price will be around \$450 which equates to a \$10 donation per member to reach our goal. Any member wishing to donate \$10 or more dollars can mail their donation to me at 205 Cypress Street; Leland, MS 38756. To date \$120 has been raised.

Program: The program for the evening was quite simple. I played a short slideshow of the Gen. Forrest reinterment for those who were unable to attend. With no other business coming before the Camp, I adjourned the Meeting at 6:35 pm.

Attendance: 5, down 70% from last Meeting.



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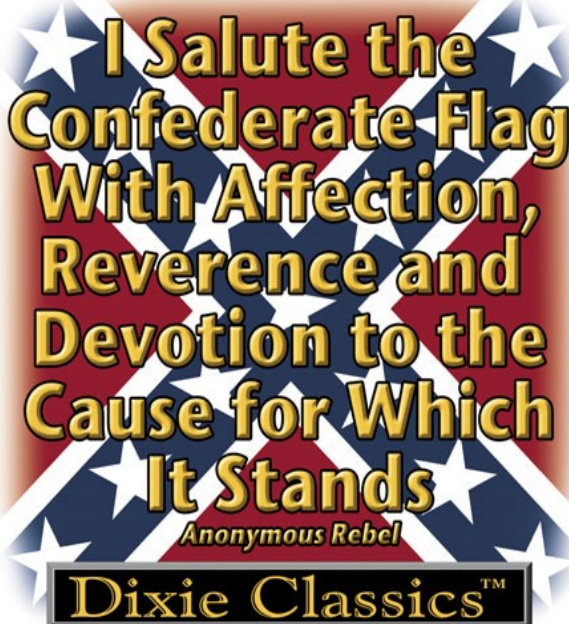
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Confederate @suddenlink.net

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Guardians needed

Everyone knows the atmosphere in this country where it comes to anything Confederate. Last summer we saw how vulnerable our Memorials were to the rioters. Sadly, it has spread to the cemeteries the place where the left wants all the Memorials moved. In the past few weeks, the Sleeping Lion Memorial to the Confederate dead in Oakwood Cemetery in Atlanta, GA has been removed. Our Confederate Dead and our Memorials are at risk to removal and vandalism. This why we need Guardians to watch over our Memorials and burial sites of our Confederate Dead. Most of our members live in Counties with Confederate Memorial Monuments and all live near a cemetery where Confederate Dead are buried. The Mississippi Division has the MS Division Guardian Program for burial sites where a person adopts a burial site or several sites and watches over the site ensuring it is properly cared for. The Division now has the MS Division Monument Guardian Program. With this program, a person signs up to keep watch on a Memorial. There is a contact person to report any vandalism and/or threats of removal. If anyone is interested in either or both of these programs, please contact me by either email: danmccas@tecinfo.net or cell phone: 662-822-1096. One or two people cannot be everywhere. It takes a group effort. This is one way you can live The Charge given to the Sons by Gen. Stephen D. Lee.

Chaplain's Corner—Earl McCowen

From the Chaplain's pen (Nov.2021)

It is estimated that over 100,000 Confederates and somewhere between 100,000 and 200,000 Union troops accepted Christ during the war; roughly ten percent of the men engaged. There are many accounts of the change that took place in the men, both during the war and afterwards, as a result of the many revivals and movement of the Holy Spirit.

One chaplain recounted the sight of changed hearts at Chimborazo

hospital in Richmond, Virginia: "No sight could be more touching that to stand near the chapel and see the wounded and the pale convalescents hobbling and creeping to the place of worship at the sound of the bell."

A Floridian by the name of Major P. B. Bird, when mortally wounded in the trenches of Richmond near the end of the war, considered his relationship with the Lord and said, "But for leaving my wife and children, I should not feel sad at the prospect of dying. There is no cloud between God and me now."

Soldiers often talked of their mothers. During one prayer meeting, a young soldier cried aloud "O that my mother was here!" When asked why he wanted to see his mother, he replied "Because she has long been praying for me, and



now I have found the Saviour." Another wounded Christian soldier asked a friend to "Tell my mother that I read my Testament and put all my trust in the Lord...I am not afraid to die."

J. W. Jones, traveling through the South after the war, spied a crippled veteran working in a field, guiding a plow with his one good arm. Recognizing him as a man he had known in the war, he stopped to talk to him and provide some encouragement. This particular young man had left college and a promising career when the war broke out, had been wounded in battle, and was baptized by Jones during the war. Jones says, "to see him thus, then, his hopes blighted, his fortune wrecked, and his body maimed for life, deeply touched my heart...I shall never forget how the noble fellow, straightened himself up, replied with a proud smile: "Oh, Brother Jones, that is all right. I thank God that I have one arm left and an opportunity to use it for the support of those I love."

Such is the story of one changed heart. It is typical of many men that lived through our nation's greatest conflict, and met the Lord Jesus Christ along the way.

Please note I gathered some of this article from Gordon Leidner of Great American History.

Local News of Interest in Our Area Mississippi County Chooses New Site for Confederate Monument

Supervisors in one Mississippi county have chosen a new site for a Confederate monument after more than a year of discussion.

GREENWOOD, Miss. (AP) — Supervisors in one [Mississippi](#) county have chosen a new site for a Confederate monument after more than a year of discussion, but the site will need state approval and it's unclear how much the move will cost.

The stone monument with multiple Confederate soldiers has stood since 1913 outside the Leflore County Courthouse in Greenwood, and it's one of about 50 Confederate monuments on public property in Mississippi. The majority-Black Leflore County supervisors voted in June 2020 to move it to a less prominent spot — a decision made amid international protests over racial injustice after police in Minneapolis killed a Black man, George Floyd.

Supervisors voted Monday to move the monument to Fort Pemberton Memorial Park, the Greenwood Commonwealth reported. That is a Civil War battle site on land now owned by the county, and it is about 3.5 miles (5.5 kilometers) west of the courthouse.

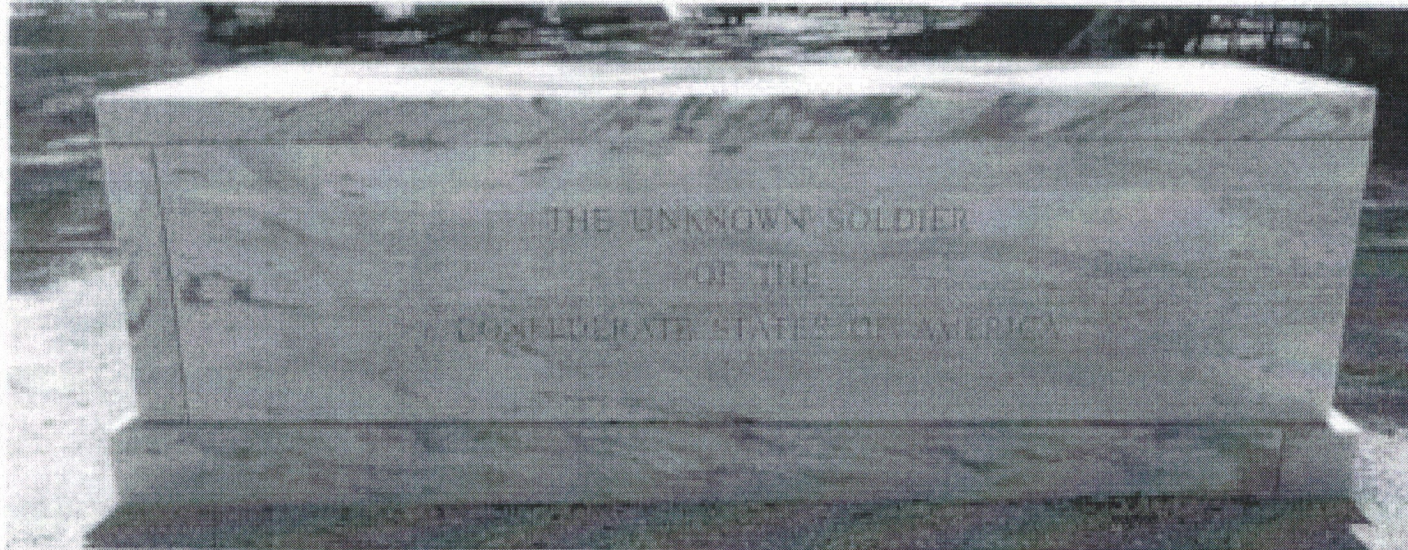
During the Battle of Fort Pemberton in March 1863, the "Star of the West," a Union boat that had been captured two years earlier by Confederate forces, was sunk in the Tallahatchie River. That blocked the passage of some Union troops who were headed to Vicksburg.

Because of that history, Fort Pemberton "would be a viable area for the monument," said Reginald Moore, president of the Leflore County supervisors.



Bricks for Beauvoir and the Tomb of the Unknown Solider

Honor your confederate Ancestors by purchasing an Ancestral Memorial Brick for \$50.00 each in the Memorial sidewalk of the Confederate Cemetery at Beauvoir. The plans for the sidewalk are nearing completion, so if you want a brick put down for your ancestor you need to get your order in soon, so as not to miss out.



Each brick that you purchase will be engraved with your ancestors rank, name, unit and company. Memorial bricks will be laid, memorializing your ancestor, in a sidewalk from the UDC Arch to the Tomb of the Unknown Confederate Solider at Beauvoir.

Detach and send in the form below to the address listed to order your bricks.

Ancestral Brick Order Form

Instructions: Use the lines as laid out no more than 15 spaces per line..You may use abbreviations when necessary. Please include your name and address, for confirmation letter. (See Sample Below)

Line 1: _____

(First and Last Name)

Line 2: _____

(Rank)

Line 3: _____

(Unit)

ORDER YOUR ANCESTOR'S BRICK TODAY!

Make Checks out for \$50.00 per brick for:

Bricks for Beauvoir

Mail to: Bricks for Beauvoir

2244 Beach Blvd

Biloxi, MS. 39531

OR

Visit our gift shop where you
can pay by cash or credit!

Example:

Pvt. JAMES W.

McCluney

6th MS CAV, CO. F

November is Hispanic Confederate Month The Tejano Tiger: Col. Santos Benavides, Confederate States of Army

Editor's Note: To Build up some excitement for our Lee/Jackson Banquet, I thought a taste of what Richard Garcia will talk about will be in order.

In 1971 the Public School System of Laredo, Texas, built a new elementary school. They named it after a Confederate officer. Not Lee, not Jackson—but Col. Santos Benavides. Today, that school still is in existence and still named for the highest ranking Mexican-American who served in the Confederate Army.

Santos Benavides, nicknamed the "Merchant Prince of the Rio Grande," was from Laredo and born in 1823. Earlier, his family had established that town and by 1856 Santos was elected its mayor. When the Civil War began, he was a Webb County judge and entered Confederate service, eventually serving in the 33rd Texas Cavalry, which later was renamed Benavides Regiment. Rising to the rank of colonel, Santos would become the highest ranking Tejano of the over 12,000 that served the Confederacy. One of his assigned duties was to maintain a safe route whereby cotton and other goods could be transported from Texas across the Rio Grande into Mexico for sale. Federal armies stationed in and around modern-day Brownsville continually attacked soldiers and merchants guarding this passageway, but for the most part were unsuccessful in eliminating it from use by the Confederate government.

Benavides had, perhaps, his finest day on March 19, 1864, when 42 of his men defended Laredo against over 200 Federals under the command of Col. Edmund Davis. The Yankees had been ordered to destroy 5,000 bales of cotton being held in the San Augustin Plaza in anticipation of shipment into Mexico. On May 24, 1864, the Texas State legislature formally thanked Benavides and his men for successfully defending Laredo on that date.

Benavides was involved in over 100 engagements and never lost. His most famous battle was at Palmito Ranch, Texas. The last battle of the Civil War, it was fought May 12-13, 1865—over a month after Lee surrendered to Grant at Appomattox.

After the war, Benavides served three terms in the Texas State Legislature and would serve as a delegate to the World Cotton Exposition/World's Fair held in New Orleans in 1884. He died in 1891 and is buried in Laredo.

Because he and many of his neighbors served the Confederacy, they became targets of Reconstruction retaliation after the Civil War. Santos and his family did not hide from this issue and became leaders of a resistance movement to this regional violence.

Santos believed in local control, but also knew that his isolated area of Texas had to be active in state and national politics in order to prosper. He never did, however, lose his sense of local independence.

Battle of Palmito Ranch TX; May 14, 1865

On May 13, 1865, more than a month after the surrender of Gen. Robert E. Lee, the last land action of the Civil War took place at Palmito Ranch near Brownsville. Early in the war the Union army had briefly occupied Brownsville but had been unable to hold the city. They established a base at Brazos Santiago on Brazos Island from which to blockade the Rio Grande and Brownsville. They were, however, unable to blockade the Mexican (and technically neutral) port of Bagdad, just below the river. The Confederates landed supplies at Bagdad and then transported them twenty-five miles inland to Matamoros to be shipped across the Rio Grande into Brownsville.

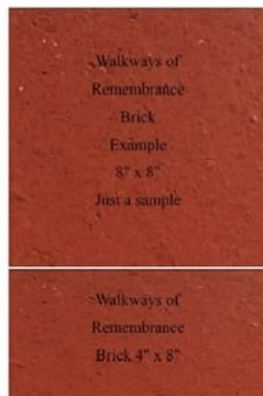
In February 1865 the Union commander at Brazos Island, Col. Theodore H. Barrett, reported to his superiors that his base was secure from attack and that with permission he could take Brownsville. The superiors refused to sanction the attack. Instead, Maj. Gen. Lewis Wallace sought and received Lt. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant's permission to meet the Confederate commanders of the Brownsville area, Brig. Gen. James E. Slaughter, commander of the Western Sub-District of Texas, and Col. John Salmon (Rip) Ford, commander of the southern division of Slaughter's command, at Port Isabel on March 11, 1865, in hopes of arranging a separate peace. Wallace promised no retaliation against former Confederates so long as they took an oath of allegiance to the United States. Anyone who preferred to leave the country would be given time to gather up property and family before doing so. An informal truce was arranged while Ford and Slaughter sent Wallace's proposals up the chain of command, and Wallace informed Grant that the rebels in Texas would soon be surrendering. Slaughter's superior in Houston, however, Maj. Gen. John G. Walker, denounced Wallace's terms and wrote a stinging letter to Slaughter for having listened to them in the first place. The commander of the Confederate Trans-Mississippi Department, Lt. Gen. Edmund Kirby Smith, was not ready to abandon

the cause either. On May 9, 1865, he told the governors of the western Confederate states that despite Lee's surrender, his own army remained, and he proposed to continue the fight.

The Confederates in Texas were aware of the fate of the Confederacy's eastern armies. On May 1, 1865, a passenger on a steamer heading up the Rio Grande towards Brownsville tossed a copy of the New Orleans *Times* to some Confederates at Palmito Ranch. The paper contained the news of Lee's surrender, Lincoln's death, and the surrender negotiations between Johnston and Sherman. Within the next ten days several hundred rebels left the army and went home. Those who remained were as resolute as their commanders to continue the fight in Texas. The federals, meanwhile, had received an erroneous report that the southerners were preparing to evacuate Brownsville and move east of Corpus Christi. In light of this intelligence Colonel Barrett ordered 250 men of the Sixty-second United States Colored Infantry and fifty men of the Second Texas United States Cavalry (dismounted) to cross to the mainland from Brazos Island at Boca Chica Pass to occupy Brownsville. Carrying five days' rations and 100 rounds of ammunition per man, the Union troops crossed over to the coast at 9:30 P.M. on May 11, 1865. Under the command of Lt. Col. David Branson, this detachment marched all night and reached White's Ranch at daybreak. There Branson's men halted and tried to conceal themselves in a thicket along the Rio Grande. The camp was spotted by "civilians" (probably Confederate soldiers) on the Mexican side of the river. Realizing that any hope of surprising the Confederates was lost, Branson immediately resumed his march toward Brownsville.

At Palmito Ranch the federals encountered Capt. W. N. Robinson's 190-man company of Lt. Col. George H. Giddings's Texas Cavalry Battalion, which skirmished briefly with the Union force before retiring. The federals, too, fell back to a hill overlooking the ranch to rest and cook dinner. Camping for the night, the Union troops remained undisturbed until 3:00 A.M., when Robinson's company reappeared. Colonel Ford, at Fort Brown, had ordered Robinson to maintain contact with Branson's column and promised to reinforce him as soon as possible. Under pressure from Robinson, the federals fell back to White's Ranch, from where Branson sent a courier to Brazos Santiago asking Colonel Barrett for reinforcements. Barrett himself arrived at 5:00 A.M. on May 13, 1865, with 200 men of the Thirty-fourth Indiana Infantry, bringing the Union strength up to 500 officers and men. Under Barrett's command the column moved on Palmito Ranch once more, and a "sharp engagement" took place in a thicket along the riverbank between Barrett's 500 troops and Robinson's 190 Confederates. The outnumbered but persistent southerners were soon pushed back across an open prairie and beyond sight, while the exhausted federals paused on a small hill about a mile west of Palmito Ranch. At three that afternoon, Colonel Ford arrived to reinforce Robinson with 300 men from his own Second Texas Cavalry, Col. Santos Benavides's Texas Cavalry Regiment, and additional companies from Giddings's battalion, as well as a six-gun battery of field artillery under the command of Capt. O. G. Jones.

With mounted cavalry and artillery, Ford had the perfect force to deal with Barrett's infantry on the flat, open land around Palmito Ranch. Hidden by a group of small trees, Ford's men formed their line of battle. At 4:00 P.M. Jones's guns began to fire. After a brief bombardment, Robinson's men attacked the Union left near the river, while two other companies of Giddings's battalion struck its right. At the same time, the rest of Ford's men charged the enemy center. The southern assault came as a great surprise, and the Union line rapidly fell apart. Barrett later reported that "Having no artillery to oppose the enemy's six twelve-pounder field pieces our position became untenable. We therefore fell back fighting." Ford remembered it differently when he wrote in his memoirs that Barrett "seemed to have lost his presence of mind" and to have led his troops off the field in a "rather confused manner." Forty-six men of the Thirty-fourth Indiana were put out as skirmishers and left to be captured as the federals fell back toward Brazos Island. Only by deploying 140 men of the Sixty-second Colored in a line running from the Rio Grande to three-quarters of a mile inland did the Union troops slow the Confederate attack enough to allow the northerners to get away. Ford wrote that the battle from its beginning had been "a run," and demonstrated "how fast demoralized men could get over ground." The Confederates chased the federals for seven miles to Brazos Island. There the routed Union troops were met by reinforcements, and Ford's men ceased their attack. "Boys, we have done finely," said Ford. "We will let well enough alone, and retire." The action had lasted a total of four hours. Confederate casualties were a few dozen wounded. The federals lost 111 men and four officers captured, and thirty men wounded or killed. Ironically, at the same time as the battle of Palmito Ranch, the Confederate governors of Arkansas, Louisiana, Missouri, and Texas were authorizing Kirby Smith to disband his armies and end the war. A few days later federal officers from Brazos Santiago visited Brownsville to arrange a truce with General Slaughter and Colonel Ford.



Walkways of Remembrance

Bricks and Pavers For the Walkways for the

General Headquarters for the Sons of Confederate Veterans at Elm Springs

and the

Confederate Museum at Elm Springs

Remember and honor your Confederate Ancestor, a family member or any cherished memory with the purchase of a Memorial Brick to be laid for a walkways at the General Headquarters for the Sons of Confederate Veterans and the Confederate Museum at Elm Springs.

Brick sizes:

The 4” x 8” brick will allow 3 lines with 21 characters (including spaces) per line and will cost \$50.

The 8” by 8” brick will allow 6 lines with 21 characters (including spaces) per line and will cost \$100.

Layout for 4” x 8” brick with 3 lines max and 21 characters per line max (including spaces) \$50

Layout for 8” x 8” brick with 6 lines max and 21 characters per line max (including spaces) \$100

Make checks payable to SCV and write “Bricks” in the memo line. Please fill out this form and mail to:

SCV, P.O. Box 59, Columbia, TN 38402

Credit card payments are available by calling 1-800-MYSOUTH and contacting Merchandising.

Please include all your contact information so we can contact you.

Name: _____

Address/City/State/Zip: _____

Phone number: _____

Email address: _____



Friends of The Confederate Museum at Elm Springs Annual Membership Application

All memberships are tax-deductible and include the E-Newsletter.

_____ Yes, I want to join the Friends of The Confederate Museum at Elm Springs

_____ Is this a Corporate Membership?

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email address: _____

Membership Levels & Benefits

Longstreet Level: \$25

- Membership for one
- Unlimited Tours of Elm Springs

Judah P. Benjamin Level: \$50

- Family Membership
- Unlimited Tours of Elm Springs

Patrick Cleburne Level: \$100

- Family Membership
- Unlimited Tours of Elm Springs
- 10% Gift Shop Discount

N. B. Forrest Level: \$250

- Family Membership
- Unlimited Tours of Elm Springs
- Unlimited Tours of The Confederate Museum
- 10% Gift Shop Discount
- Free Elm Springs Hat or T-Shirt

Robert E. Lee Level: \$500

- Family Membership
- Unlimited Tours of Elm Springs
- Unlimited Tours of The Confederate Museum
- 15% Gift Shop Discount
- Free Elm Springs Hat and T-Shirt

Jefferson Davis Level: \$1000

- Family Membership
- Unlimited Tours of Elm Springs
- Unlimited Tours of The Confederate Museum
- 20% Gift Shop Discount
- Free Elm Springs Hat, T-Shirt and Polo

Please check the following membership level:

_____ Longstreet Level

_____ Judah P. Benjamin Level

_____ Patrick Cleburne Level

_____ N. B. Forrest Level

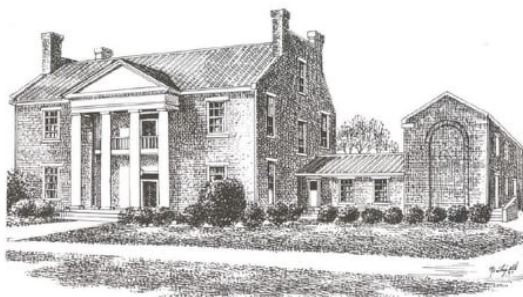
_____ Robert E. Lee Level

_____ Jefferson Davis Level

Please make checks payable to Sons of Confederate Veterans and mail to:

Sons of Confederate Veterans, P. O. Box 59, Columbia, TN 38402

If paying by credit card, please call (931) 380-1844 or email at exedir@scv.org



Friends of Elm Springs

Annual Membership Application

All Proceeds go to the restoration and maintenance of the Home
Elm Springs built in 1837

All Memberships are tax-deductible and include the E-Newsletter

_____ Yes, I want to join the Friends of Elm Springs

_____ Is this a Corporate Membership?

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email address: _____

Membership Levels & Benefits

Elm Tree Level: \$25

- Membership for one
- Unlimited Tours of Elm Springs

Cool Spring Level: \$50

- Family Membership
- Unlimited Tours of Elm Springs

Todd Family Level: \$100

- Family Membership
- Unlimited Tours of Elm Springs
- 10% Gift Shop Discount

Susan Looney Level: \$250

- Family Membership
- Unlimited Tours of Elm Springs
- Unlimited Tours of The Confederate Museum
- 10% Gift Shop Discount
- Free Elm Springs Hat or T-Shirt

Abram Looney Level: \$500

- Family Membership
- Unlimited Tours of Elm Springs
- Unlimited Tours of The Confederate Museum
- 15% Gift Shop Discount
- Free Elm Springs Hat and T-Shirt

Frank Armstrong Level: \$1000

- Family Membership
- Unlimited Tours of Elm Springs
- Unlimited Tours of The Confederate Museum
- 20% Gift Shop Discount
- Free Elm Springs Hat, T-Shirt and Polo

Please check the following membership level:

_____ Elm Tree Level

_____ Cool Spring Level

_____ Todd Family Level

_____ Susan Looney Level

_____ Abram Looney Level

_____ Frank Armstrong Level

Please make checks payable to Sons of Confederate Veterans and mail to:

Sons of Confederate Veterans, P. O. Box 59, Columbia, TN 38402

If paying by credit card, please call (931) 380-1844 or email at exedir@scv.org

National SCV News:

Join the Confederate Legion

Membership fees & donations support the Southern Victory Campaign

- Individuals and organizations can join. Membership in the Sons of Confederate Veterans is not required.
- Businesses, associations and S.C.V. camps can join.
- An individual member can organize an independent Confederate Legion group and name it whatever he/she likes.
- Members are expected to follow moral standards, obey the law, and participate in the Southern Victory Campaign.
- Credit cards and checks are accepted. Credit card payments can be recurring.
- Payments are tax deductible because the S.C.V. is a 501 (c) (3) entity.
- Members receive an ID card, certificate, access to support and communications. Most of all, you get the satisfaction of knowing you're part of the offensive!

Dues and donations are used to mount a two-prong offensive that we call the Southern Victory Campaign. It's led by the Heritage operations Committee of the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

Phase One of the campaign offensive involves direct action by the Heritage Operations Committee of the S.C.V. Prong Two involves direct action by individual and group members of the Confederate Legion.

Objectives include:

- Reestablishing public support for the principles of liberty held by the founders of the United States and the Confederate States of America.

Rebuilding respect for the Confederate States of America that preferred to leave the Union rather than abandon the principles of liberty like the Northern states were doing under Leftist influences of that day and age.

For those interested in more information on how you can help "Make Dixie Great Again" go to <https://www.makedixiegreatagain.com/>



Every Monday Night on Facebook at 7:00 PM Central time and on Thursday Nights at 7:00 PM for Look Around the Confederation



1862 THANKSGIVING DAY PROCLAMATION BY CSA PRESIDENT, JEFFERSON DAVIS

President Jefferson Davis, Confederate States of America, made the following Thanksgiving Day proclamation in 1862. His first such proclamation, "a day of fasting, humiliation and prayer," had been issued in 1861. It was not until two years later that Abraham Lincoln copied Davis and announced the first official Thanksgiving Day in the North.

To the People of the Confederate States:

Once more upon the plains of Manassas have our armies been blessed by the Lord of Hosts with a triumph over our enemies. It is my privilege to invite you once more to His footstool, not now in the garb of fasting and sorrow, but with joy and gladness, to render thanks for the great mercies received at His hand. A few months since, and our enemies poured forth their invading legions upon our soil. They laid waste our fields, polluted our altars and violated the sanctity of our homes. Around our capital they gathered their forces, and with boastful threats, claimed it as already their prize. The brave troops which rallied to its defense have extinguished these vain hopes, and, under the guidance of the same almighty hand, have scattered our enemies and driven them back in dismay.

Uniting these defeated forces and the various armies which had been ravaging our coasts with the army of invasion in Northern Virginia, our enemies have renewed their attempt to subjugate us at the very place where their first effort was defeated, and the vengeance of retributive justice has overtaken the entire host in a second and complete overthrow. To this signal success accorded to our arms in the East has been graciously added another equally brilliant in the West.

On the very day on which our forces were led to victory on the Plains of Manassas, in Virginia, the same Almighty arm assisted us to overcome our enemies at Richmond, in Kentucky. Thus, at one and the same time, have two great hostile armies been stricken down, and the wicked designs of their armies been set at naught.

In such circumstances, it is meet and right that, as a people, we should bow down in adoring thankfulness to that gracious God who has been our bulwark and defense, and to offer unto him the tribute of thanksgiving and praise. In his hand is the issue of all events, and to him should we, in an especial manner, ascribe the honor of this great deliverance.

Now, therefore, I, Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederate States, do issue this, my proclamation, setting apart Thursday, the 18th day of September inst., as a day of prayer and thanksgiving to Almighty God for the great mercies vouchsafed to our people, and more especially for the triumph of our arms at Richmond and Manassas;

and I do hereby invite the people of the Confederate States to meet on that day at their respective places of public worship, and to unite in rendering thanks and praise to God for these great mercies, and to implore Him to conduct our country safely through the perils which surround us, to the final attainment of the blessings of peace and security.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Confederate States, at Richmond, this fourth day of September, A.D. 1862.

Message from AoT Commander, Jimmy Hill

Men of the Army,

A lot has happened since my last writing. We have seen the statue of General Lee come down in Virginia, American citizens left behind on foreign soil and finally the reinterment of LT. General Nathan Bedford Forrest and his wife Mary Ann at Elm Springs. If you were there you witnessed a funeral befitting the General and his wife. Commander in Chief McCluney told us it would be a day of Remembrance, Reverence and Respect and it was. It was an honor being a pallbearer and it was also an honor being there with so many like minded men and women who came to pay their respects. There was a feeling of unity amongst us in attendance as this accomplishment unfolded. Many said it would never be done. They were proven wrong. When our membership works together, great things can happen.

Gentlemen, we must work together to build our camps. The feeling that our Confederate ancestors were right has not changed and we should always work to preserve their memory and the Cause for which they fought. Unfortunately we have enemies outside and inside the organization that want to tear us down. The ones on the inside cause dissent within the ranks through the spreading of malicious lies and innuendo. I have written about them before. I cannot put my finger on why they choose to do so other than like a child that cannot get their way, they throw a temper tantrum until they do. In this case, these are grown ups who either didn't get elected to an office they were seeking, don't like the current leadership, don't like the policies adopted or their ego didn't get massaged enough. Other than those reasons it comes down to they hate the SCV and will do whatever they can do to hurt the organization. They use the different social media sites to spread their attack and they pick up converts by telling their half truths and outright lies. We have to fight back. Call them out when you find out what they are doing. Maybe we should have a wall of shame. I guess in a way we do. I hope when they meet their ancestor in the after life they can look them in the eye and explain why they did what they did.

On a more positive note. Fall is the time we see more camps in action. The weather is nicer and there are plenty of festivals and other events to set up at to get our message out. If we want to grow it takes a one on one personal approach to a potential member. If you set up at a festival or other event you need material to hand out but you also need some people who are knowledgeable about the SCV and our purpose to have that discussion. I have always been a believer in setting goals. Set a realistic goal for your Camp or Division, track the progress and report the results along the way to your members. The Tennessee Division did this not long ago and set a new Division record for membership.

I am asking for your ideas on what you think the SCV should focus on in the near future. This is your organization, Councilman Jones and myself are your representatives on the GEC. To often we hear no one listens; believe me when I say we are listening. Share your thoughts and ideas with us. Nothing is off limits as far as an idea. Whether we can implement it or not is up for debate, but we cannot see if it works if we are never told.

The Confederate Museum is acquiring new items. Recently they received on loan the flag of Union Colonel Abel Streight, who surrendered it to General Forrest at Cedar Bluff, Alabama. We also have received the casket used in the 1904 burial of General Forrest and the remains of the wooden casket for his wife. We need more. If you have a lead on items please contact Executive Director Adam Southern, Lt. CIC Jason Boshers or myself to give us the information. Also please continue to support the museum financially. This is our museum and we are committed to pay for it and control the narrative. Small donations add up to large amounts.

I have been asked before about why I include all of the flyers asking for donations in the newsletter. I know you feel bombarded but there is a simple answer. If you don't know about these projects you can't contribute. Some people feel the need to donate to a certain area because their ancestor enlisted from that state; sometimes the monument being protected or restored is a memorial to the unit your ancestor fought and possibly died with. For others it is because their Division is sponsoring the project. All are good reasons. Donate if you can, big or small it will be appreciated.

Our next issue will come out in January. Send me your events that will occur in January, February and March and I will be happy to advertise them for you. One more thing, this newsletter is sent out on Constant Contact to all of the Division Commanders and most of the Communication officers. They should be forwarding it on to the Brigades and / or Camps for overall distribution. If you have members who are not getting it then please add them to your email list.

Jimmy Hill Commander, AoT

The Battle of Franklin, November 30, 1864

Battle of Franklin - Background:

In the wake of the Union capture of Atlanta in September 1864, Confederate General John Bell Hood regrouped the Army of Tennessee and launched a new campaign to break Union General William T. Sherman's supply lines north. Later that month, Sherman dispatched Major General George H. Thomas to Nashville to organize Union forces in the area. Outnumbered, Hood decided to move north to attack Thomas before the Union general could reunite with Sherman. Aware of Hood's movement north, Sherman sent Major General John Schofield to reinforce Thomas.

Moving with VI and XXIII Corps, Schofield quickly became Hood's new target. Seeking to prevent Schofield from joining with Thomas, Hood pursued the Union columns and the two forces squared off at Columbia, TN from November 24-29. Next racing to Spring Hill, Schofield's men beat off an uncoordinated Confederate attack before escaping in the night to Franklin. Arriving at Franklin at 6:00 AM on November 30, the lead Union troops began preparing a strong, arc-shaped defensive position to the south of the town. The Union rear was protected by the Harpeth River.

Hood, Schofield decided that the position would be abandoned if the Confederates did not arrive before 6:00 PM. In close pursuit, Hood's columns reached Winstead Hill, two miles south of Franklin, around 1:00 PM.

Battle of Franklin - Hood Attacks:

Establishing his headquarters, Hood ordered his commanders to prepare for an assault on the Union lines. Knowing the dangers of frontally attacking a fortified position, many of Hood's subordinates attempted to talk him out of the assault, but he would not relent. Moving forward with Major General Benjamin Cheatham's corps on the left and Lieutenant General Alexander Stewart's on the right, the Confederate forces first encountered two brigades of Brigadier General George Wagner's division. Posted half a mile forward of the Union line, Wagner's men were supposed to fall back if pressed.

Disobeying orders, Wagner had his men stand firm in an attempt to turn back Hood's assault. Quickly overwhelmed, his two brigades fell back toward the Union line where their presence between the line and the Confederates prevented Union troops from opening fire. This failure to cleanly pass through the lines, coupled with a gap in the Union earthworks at the Columbia Pike, allowed three Confederate divisions to focus their attack on the weakest part of Schofield's line.

Battle of Franklin - Hood Wrecks His Army:

Breaking through, men from Major Generals Patrick Cleburne, John C. Brown, and Samuel G. French's divisions were met by a furious counterattack by Colonel Emerson Opdycke's brigade as well as other Union regiments. After brutal hand-to-hand fighting, they were able to close the breach and throw back the Confederates. To the west, Major General William B. Bate's division was repulsed with heavy casualties. A similar fate met much of Stewart's corps on the right wing. Despite the heavy casualties, Hood believed that the Union center had been badly damaged.

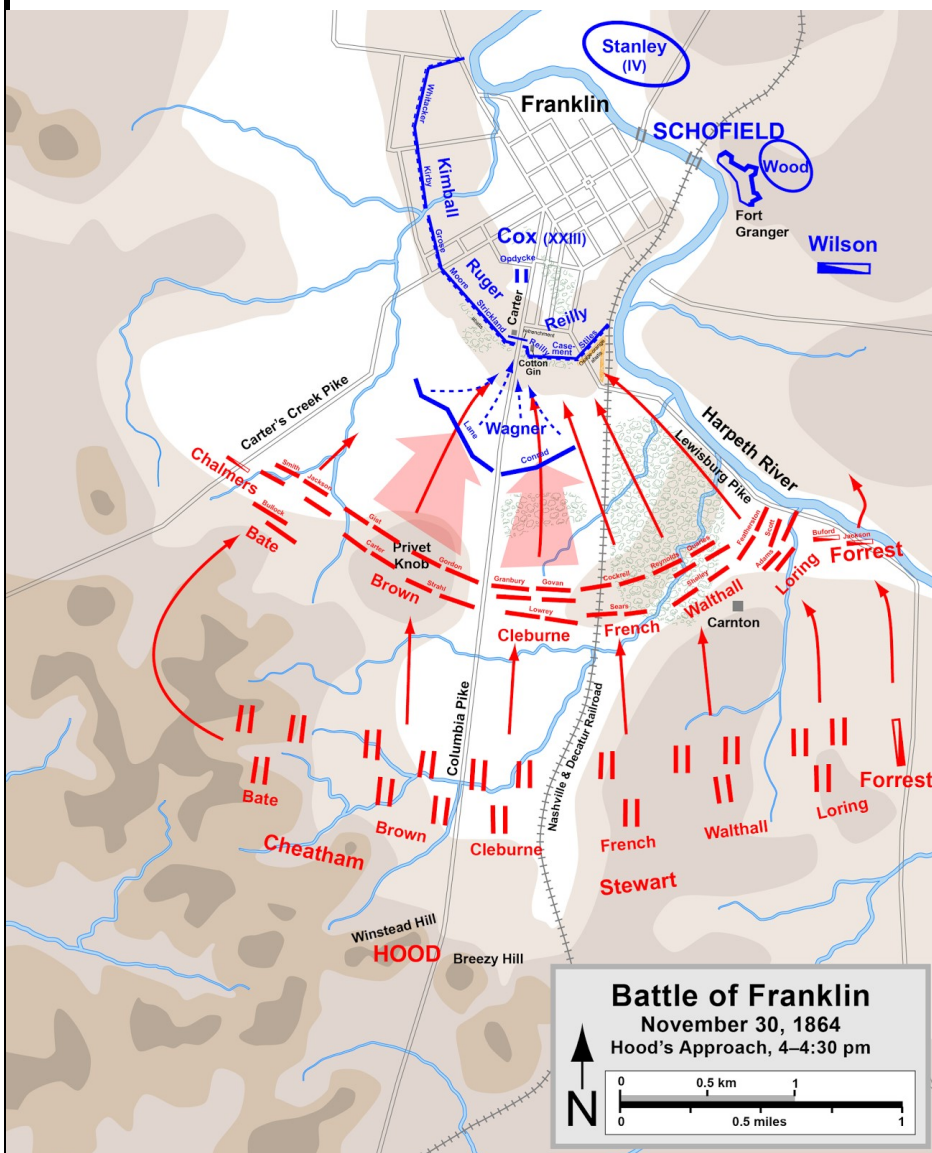
Unwilling to accept defeat, Hood continued to throw uncoordinated attacks against Schofield's works. Around 7:00 PM, with Lieutenant General Stephen D. Lee's corps arriving on the field, Hood selected Major General Edward "Allegheny" Johnson's division to lead another assault. Storming forward, Johnson's men and other Confederate units failed to reach the Union line and became pinned down. For two hours an intense firefight ensued until Confederate troops were able to fall back in the darkness. To the east, Confederate cavalry under Major General Nathan Bedford Forrest attempted to turn Schofield's flank but were blocked by Major General James H. Wilson's Union horsemen. With the Confederate assault defeated, Schofield's men began crossing the Harpeth around 11:00 PM and reached the fortifications at Nashville the next day.

Battle of Franklin - Aftermath:

The Battle of Franklin cost Hood 1,750 killed and around 5,800 wounded. Among the Confederate deaths were six generals: Patrick Cleburne, John Adams, States Rights Gist, Otho Strahl, and Hiram Granbury. An additional eight were wounded or captured. Fighting behind earthworks, Union losses were a mere 189 killed, 1,033 wounded, 1,104 missing/captured. The majority of those Union troops that were captured were wounded and medical personnel who remained after Schofield departed Franklin. Many were liberated on December 18, when Union forces re-took Franklin after the Battle of Nashville. While Hood's men were dazed after their defeat at Franklin, they pressed on and clashed with Thomas and Schofield's forces at Nashville on December 15-16. Routed, Hood's army effectively ceased to exist after the battle.

The assault at Franklin is frequently known as the "Pickett's Charge of the West" in reference to the Confederate assault at Gettysburg. In reality, Hood's attack consisted of more men, 19,000 vs. 12,500, and advanced over a longer

distance, 2 miles vs. .75 miles, than Lieutenant General James Longstreet's assault on July 3, 1863. Also, while Pickett's Charge lasted approximately 50 minutes, the assaults at Franklin were conducted over a span of five hours.



Battle of Franklin - Schofield Turns:

Entering the town, Schofield decided to make a stand as the bridges across the river were damaged and needed to be repaired before the bulk of his forces could cross. While repair work commenced, the Union supply train slowly began crossing the river using a nearby ford. By noon, the earthworks were complete and a secondary line established 40-65 yards behind the main line. Settling in to await

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