

# IN THE TRENCHES

A NEWS LETTER OF THE  
LT GENERAL JOHN C. PEMBERTON CAMP 1354  
VICKSBURG MISSISSIPPI  
SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

March 2016 Issue

Edward Campbell

Commander

Eddy Cresap

Editor

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Confederate Heritage Month  
is coming

In the Month of April.

As part of the celebration  
bring in a new member

## **Commander's Column**

I hope that all of you are enjoying the early Spring like weather that we are having, but I am certain that we are not finished with Winter. Our March 1 meeting will be our own Larry Holman , who will do the 2nd part of his previous program on "Civil War POW Camps". We are in for a great meeting so please come and bring a friend. We have many other great speakers to look forward to as the year moves on. Please put Feb. 27 on your calendar as we need strong arms to prepare for movement of about 50 headstones of soldiers from a site in Brookhaven to a more permanent resting place. At our March meeting, I have also invited Jeppy Barbour to come and discuss the status of our Petition on the state Flag. We will also need volunteers to work the polls getting signatures on March 8, the day of our Presidential Primary. April will be Confederate Heritage Month with our Spring Flee Market being held on April 23 and our Confederate Memorial Day service held the next afternoon April 24 at Soldier's Rest. I would like to thank everyone for all of your hard work and support of the organization and please bring a friend.. Anyone interested in going to state Convention, needs to let us know so that Larry can do the Credentials. I am definitely going to state, not certain yet about National.

## **Upcoming meetings**

Our meetings are on the first Tuesday of each month starting at 7:00 pm. Our meeting location is 216 Miller Street in the Disabled American Veterans building. Our website contains direction to the meeting location. Visitors are always welcome. Bring a visitor to our next meeting. Thanks to Commander Edward for providing great programs.

Below are the list of upcoming meetings and speakers

<i>Date</i>	<i>Speaker</i>	<i>Topic</i>
March 1	Larry Holman	POW part 2
April 5	Larry McCluney	General Beauregard
May 3	Donnie Kennedy	TBA
June 7	None	Davis birthday and convention prep
July 5	Dr David Harrison	Confederate Surgeon
August 2	Dr Michael Trotter	Dr Tichner and Confederate Heritage
Sept 6	Paulette French	10th Mississippi

## **Upcoming Special Activities**

We must put details in place for our Confederate heritage month memorial service on April 24 and our presence in the Vicksburg flea market on April 23.

## **February Meeting**

On a stormy Tue night, our meeting was started with prayer, pledges and salutes. We had 4 guest at our meeting Morgan Gates, Freddie Geter, Randall Martar and Henry Melsheimer. If you know these gentleman give them a call and invite them back. As always Sam was a wonderful source of information and we are blessed with his presence. Commander Campbell updated us on heritage violation. Eddy sang "The Night They Drove Old Dixie Down " and led the camp in Dixie. Phil Barlow was presented his membership certificate .The meeting was closed with prayer.

## **John C. Pemberton on Facebook**

Thanks to Sid Johnson, Larry Holman and Jeff Cartwright, the John C. Pemberton camp has a facebook page. It looks real good, thanks guys. Now we have to learn how to use it to our advantage in educating the uninformed on the true history of our cause. Ask your friends to checkout our page.

## **I was taught in school**

Daddy, At school today the teacher told us that the South in the civil war was fought by evil men to keep negroes in slavery. How can that be true if you always talk about how brave your grandfather was and you fly a Confederate flag at our house.

Son, The origins of that war are very complicated and the history books were written by the North who won the war. It is the job of the families of those who fought for the South to see that the true history of those brave Confederates are remembered properly and truthfully.

First of all to ask the question what was the cause of the Great War to Prevent Southern Independence is the wrong question to ask. I think of the issue in three questions.

Question number 1.. Why did the Southern States leave the union. The idea of secession was as old as the country itself and had been espoused by different states when the national government did not do things in the States best interest. In fact, when several of the states joined the union they reserved the right to leave the union whenever they wanted. The question of secession in the Southern States was answered by citizens of the states as they voted. I am sure some people voted to leave the union to protect their property (slaves). But if you look at that reason with clarity you will find that slavery was imbedded in the United States Constitution and there were not enough states that would have voted to end slavery. Also as some of the states left the union, a constitutional amendment was proposed and passed by the congress to never abolish slavery. This was proposed as an attempt to bring the southern states back into the union. No states returned. After reading the true history most people understand that the north wanted to use Southern taxes to build a Northern economy. The South felt they should be able to control their own taxes. Does this theme sound familiar.

Now Question number 2, why did the North invade the south? If you read the Yankee documents at the start of the war it is obvious they invaded the South to force them back into the union so they would retain control of the tax money raised in the South.

Now Question number 3. Why did the South fight. It is a very simple answer, The South fought to protect their homes, families and churches.

## **State Flag Petitions, Stand Fast Mississippi**

Thanks to Bryan Skipworth for leading us in this effort.

This petition, if successful, will place initiative 58 on the ballot in 2018.

Initiative 58 will place on the ballot an amendment to the Mississippi State Constitution which would make the State flag of 1894 the official flag of the state of Mississippi. This would forever take the state flag decision out of the hands of weak kneed politicians.

If you have not turned in any State Flag Petitions bring them to the March meeting so they can be turned in and counted. This is our strategy to protect our state flag for "ever".

## **Southern Gentleman's Brown Bag Lunch Club**

Like minded individuals gather every third Tue of the month for a Brown bag lunch and pleasant conversation. You pick what is in your brown bag for lunch and what you want to talk about. No protocol, agenda, or speaker just good fellowship. This next event will be on March 15 at high noon at 216 Miller Street in the Disabled Veterans Building. The John C.

Pemberton Sons of Confederate Veterans will be the host for the luncheon. Ladies are welcome. SCV memberships is not required. This is one of the high points of my month.

## **McRaven House**

On Saturday March 12th and Sunday March 13th, there will be a Living History at the Very Historic McRaven House in Vicksburg MS. We need all Uniformed Confederates and Living Historians to attend this Event which will be held on the Grounds surrounding the House. The 12th and 13th Weekend is kicking off McRaven's Pilgrimage so this will be a Very Big Event and we have been asked to do a Confederate Living History there that weekend as I know there will be other Events going on in and out of State but anyone that is not planning on attending these other Events we need you there for this Event !! Please let Trent Lewis, (trentlewis603@yahoo.com) know if you would like to attend this Event as he needs a headcount of who all can make it , thank you !!

## Poet' s Corner (Thanks Joel)

### Mississippi

This state in Dixie, is called Mississippi  
And known for its hospitality  
Life abounds in quaint little towns  
That are stepped in history

There's green fields and rolling hills  
With lakes and rivers too  
Sandy beaches by water that reaches  
out to a sky of blue

Honeysuckle vines and tall pines  
And Magnolias so green  
A soft breeze thru live oak trees  
It peaceful and serene

Good music prevails on blue trails  
And night spots everywhere  
Famous faces in unique places  
And festivals' here and there

There's finger licking fried chicken  
And watermelons so sweet  
Ice-cream homemade in the shade  
Is special Southern treat

Everywhere there'll be things to see  
And folks here are great  
Its worth the delay to spend the day  
In the Magnolia state

by Joel Bailey

## **Chaplains Corner Thanks Bryan**

In his second epistle to the Corinthians, the apostle Paul penned the following: But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: in whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them (4:3- 4). We also have his witness from his first epistle to that same church wherein he wrote: For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God. For it is written , I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent... hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world (1:18-20)? Both passages are in harmony with our Lord's offering of thanks to the Father when he said: I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes (St. Matthew 11:25). The Bible tells us in other places that God's truth has been hidden from the worldly and profane. In the Book of Daniel we read ... and none of the wicked shall understand (12:10b). In Colossians, the apostle Paul noted that the mystery of God; and of the Father, and of Christ was hidden in Christ (2:2-3) for as Matthew Henry noted, "The treasures of wisdom are hidden not from us, but for us, in Christ." The Bible warns us that the wicked will seek to use their membership within the body of Christ to bring in all sorts of false teachings (St. Matthew 24:4-5, 11). In our modern world, they have been peddling the false doctrine of inclusivity, or that all persons regardless of their faith in Christ will be accepted of God at the last. Actually, the inclusive nature of salvation is limited to those who have embraced God's only begotten Son. As Scripture explicitly states, ...for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved and that name is Jesus Christ (Acts 4:10-12). For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive (I Corinthians 15:22); And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins: wherein in time past ye walked according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh... and were by nature the children of wrath... (Ephesians 2:1-3). In sum, those who are merely Christian in name only possess no capacity to do works that are pleasing to God because they do not have the Spirit of God within them. As the apostle Paul noted in Romans 8:8-9, So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God. But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. The errant belief of "God loves everyone and will

not cast any ‘good’ person into Hell” begs the question that “If such be true, then why did God offer up his only begotten Son on that rude cross?” Those who are born again of the Holy Ghost understand that our Lord came to save sinners, not those who consider themselves good apart from his atoning work. The reference to an unbeliever as being “good” is nowhere found within the pages of Scripture; and even our Lord said that there is none good, save one, that is, God (St. Luke 18:19). Satan has never missed an opportunity to deceive humanity, especially when there is a chance of upsetting the faith of those who have been regenerated in Christ Jesus. In more recent times, he has employed the unequal yoke of ecumenical associations as a weapon of mass deception. Through these seemingly harmless enterprises, he has won over many weak or carnal Christians by convincing them through his agents within the mainline churches that it is God’s will for them to “compromise” and “dialogue” with those outside the body of Christ apart from a sound Christian witness. But compromise by its nature will require at least one party to give up something in the supposed hope of gaining something else. And what are the usual and expected items to be sacrificed by Christians in any compromise with the infidel? In every case they are the tenets of sound Christian doctrine. Folks, biblical doctrines matter, for it is through them that our relationship with the Godhead and our fellowship as Christians is affirmed and sealed. Sound biblical doctrines have been paid for not only in the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, but in the blood of countless Christian martyrs who stood up for the truth of God’s word in the face of all sorts of persecutions. If we have any understanding of the truth of Jesus Christ, we ought to be filled with thanks to God for the sacrifice of those who went before us in the faith. In that light, should we not exercise great care in preserving what has been handed down to us? Should we not resist the Devil and his pernicious followers who are merely wolves in sheep’s clothing peddling their false gospel of inclusion (St. Matthew 7:15)? Absolutely! It is important for each of us as born-again believers to resist the temptation to follow after those whose earthly credentials have given them a figment of godly wisdom, but whose hearts are the same as those of the scribes and Pharisees of our Lord’s day. Just as those evil men hid behind their monikers of piety and religion, so do their contemporaries within the Christian Church. The modernists are ashamed of the risen Lord whose name they bear because his true nature does not fit within their jaded and compromised definition of the Christian faith. We must ever be watchful and on our guard against their offers of “compromise” and “dialogue”. You can count on their master sending them to us, and so we must be ready at all times having donned our spiritual



armor. We need to know what is in our bibles and not what is in the latest book by “Rev./Mr. or Ms. So-in-So.” We need to keep our hearts focused on the truth of God’s word written and not on the pronouncements of “Bishop This-or-That.” We need to hear the truth of God’s word from a believing minister and not sit Sunday after Sunday in a church where God’s word is twisted and tortured by “Rev./Pastor Mr. or Ms. Such-in-Such” who would not know the living Christ if he suddenly appeared before him (or her). It is my hope that each of you will seek to develop a lively faith in Jesus Christ as your Saviour and Lord. That you will devote time out of your day to Bible study and prayer. And further, that you will keep to God’s word written and steer clear of all who will not follow it. May the God’s peace be with you always.

Let us pray,

Holy Father, who has given the free gift of salvation to all who believe on thine only begotten Son; keep us from all deception, and give us hearts to resist until the end; so that at the last, we need not be ashamed to stand before thy Son and give an account of our lives in thy service; for this we ask in the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **How do we become relevant**

In today's world of political correctness, with the associated removal of all things Confederate, how do we have an impact on the discussion. First we must understand the final vision of the haters, remove from sight all things Confederate. Then we must understand the tactics they use to get to the "final solution". They rely on the lack of true historical knowledge of the people they try to influence. They convince people that the symbols of Southern Heritage are hateful to a segment of the population and do not promote inclusion. They do not win with a sweeping victory but rely on small victories one at a time relying on compromises that are challenged with new demands after the compromise is in effect. Politicians being politicians only look out for their next election and will do nothing to compromise their ambition. In today's world, it appears the kiss of death is to be charged with being a racist. Therefore in general, they will not stand with us. They only understand votes and donations. If you do not have a significant impact on these two things you have no impact on politicians. The true haters are driven by a cause and will never give in, reaching them is near impossible. We must first reach those with Confederate blood who have been made to be ashamed of their Confederate blood. We must build the numbers who believe in our cause so that we can impact an election

## **What Did They Say**

You do not have to rely on books written by Yankees and those with southern blood under their influence, to find the true history of the South. They lie and perpetuate the fairy tale passed off as true history. Find and listen to what the Confederate veterans said:

"I have thus endeavored to give some of the facts and reasons which justified the Southern people in attempting to withdraw their allegiance from a government openly hostile to the rights of their State and people in order to form for themselves a government friendly to those rights.

Our people were not responsible for the war; it was forced on them. They were not rebels or traitors. They simply acted as patriots, defending their rights and their homes against the lawless and revolutionary action of a dominant and reckless majority."

John Regan CSA Postmaster General

portion of a speech before the R. E. Lee Camp, at Fort Worth, Texas.,  
April 19, 1903.

## **Cooper's Well Stones**

The Pemberton Camp is coordinating with others in the third brigade to set about 50 stones in one of the lots we control in Cedar Hill. There men died at Mississippi Springs and were buried at Cooper's well. These stones have laid on the ground for 15 years waiting for a home.

## **What did they say. a letter Home**

Thanks to Malcolm Allred for this letter

My grandfather served the Confederacy under North Carolina General J. Johnston Pettigrew. He died at the battle of Gettysburg. I will let his thoughts written to my grandmother just a couple of weeks prior to that battle, to speak for themselves.

"My lovely wife, I do miss you, and the life we have there on the small plot of land god has given us. more and more it seems that my thoughts are drifting back to there to reside with you. Yet as badly as I desire to be back home, it is for home for which I deem it best for my presence here with these other men. The proclamation by the Lincoln administration six months prior may appear noble. Were I here in these conditions, simply to keep another man in bondage, I would most certainly walk away into the night and return to you. God knows my heart, and the hearts of others here amongst me. We know what is at stake here, and the true reason for this contest that requires the spilling of the blood of fellow citizens. Our collective fear is nearly universal. This war, if it is lost, will see ripples carry forward for five, six or seven generations. I scruple not to believe, as do others , that the very nature of this country will be forever dispirited. That one day, our great great grandchildren will be bridled with a federal bit , that will deem how and if they may apply the gospel of Christ to themselves, their families and their communities. Whether or not the land of their forefathers may be deceitfully taken from them through taxation and coercion. A day where only the interest of the northern wealthy will be shouldered by the broken and destitute bodies of the southern poor. This my darling wife, is what keeps me here in this arena of destruction and death"

Jefferson Smith

## **Confederate Birthdays in March**

General Braxton Bragg 22 March 1817

Lt General Wade Hampton 28 March 1818

## **Wirt Adams**

Wirt Adams was born in Frankford Kentucky on March 22, 1819. In 1825 he and his family moved to Natchez Mississippi and then returned to Kentucky to attend school at Bardstown college. When he graduated from college in 1839, he enlisted as a private in the army of the Republic of Texas. After the Texas revolution, he returned to Mississippi, where he lived in Jackson and Vicksburg Mississippi. Here he pursued banking, farming and served in the Mississippi House of Representatives. After Mississippi seceded from the union, Adams acted as commissioner to Louisiana and helped them in leaving the union. When Jefferson Davis was forming his cabinet, he offered a post to Adams who turned down the offer. After he settled his business interest, he formed the Wirt Adams cavalry regiment. He and his men joined General Johnston in the Kentucky line where they covered the Confederate retreat from Kentucky to Nashville. His men were engaged at Shiloh, campaigns in northern Mississippi, and was dispatched to Natchez area where he was engaged in observing troop movements during the Vicksburg campaign. During Grierson's raid, he tangled with the Yankee raiders and joined Johnston's Army of relief. After the fall of Vicksburg, he was promoted to Brigadier General in command of a brigade. This regiment then harassed Sherman Yankee invaders as they marched to Meridian. Near the end of the war, he operated with General Forrest and surrendered near Ramsey Station, Alabama. After the war he returned to Vicksburg, Jackson area where he served as State revenue agent and postmaster. He died on May 1, 1888 after a personal encounter with a journalist and is buried in Greenwood Cemetery in Jackson Mississippi.

## **Shiloh 2016**

On April 9, 2016 at 11:00 a. m. at the Mississippi Monument at Shiloh we will be having a event to honor all Mississippi soldiers that fought at The Battle of Shiloh. This is a Mississippi Division Sons of Confederate Veterans and Mississippi Division United Daughters of the Confederacy event. Since the SCV and UDC did not get the reconnection that we should have on October 10 we are having this event to do what we did not get to do in October. All speakers that day will be SCV and UDC members. Mr. Grady Howell will be the guest speaker, he will be speaking about the 6th Mississippi at Shiloh. After that we will laying flower wreaths on the Confederate burial trench in Rhea Field, a musket salute, and someone playing taps. We would like for all SCV camps and UDC chapters to lay a wreath. This is the burial trench that we think that most of the 6th Mississippi soldiers are buried in. We need reenactors for a color guard and for the musket salute. For all reenactors we have a place for you to camp that is not on the park, it is close to where the Confederates camped the night before the battle.

Thanks,  
Buddy Ellis  
1st. Lt. Commander  
Col. W. P. Rogers Camp 321  
Corinth, Mississippi

## **Division Training Day Schedule**

A training day will be held on 12 March 2016 at the War Memorial Bldg in Jackson, MS. Below is the agenda:

10:00 AM - Opening prayer, pledges to flags and welcome by Louis P. Foley, Sr, Division Commander. First speaker will follow immediately afterwards.

- Marc S. Allen: planning for special events (gun shows, annual division reunion, etc) and petition form training.

11:00 - Ron Stowers: camp adjutant duties and responsibilities.

Break for lunch immediately following. Bring your own or can be obtained locally.

1:00 PM - Bill Latham: brigade commander duties and responsibilities.

Closing statements and dismissal.

## **Dates from the Division Commander**

1 Lt. Commander Chuck Bond will be in charged of Confederate Flag Day at Beauvoir -0305-2016 . Any one who can help contact him at [dixiedad007@gmail.com](mailto:dixiedad007@gmail.com)

2. Joe Abbott ,Chairman of the Heritage Committee ,Ms. SCV will be holding a very important meeting at Lake TiakOkhta 02-27-2016 at Louisville. Marc Allen our public Affairs Officer will go over some of the mistakes being made on these petitions We want a large turnout and we want at least a representative. from the groups who are involved in saving our State Flag to be there.

3. Leroy Waller will be Chairman of the Candidates Credentials Committee. . This Committee consist of our 5 Councilmen. We have their names on our web page.

4. The 4th Brigade Johnston -White Picnic and our Executive Council meeting will be held in Forest Mississippi - 03-26-2016 at the Mississippi American Legion Post on Hwy 80 West. The Picnic will start at 9.30 am and our E.C. Meeting will begin at 1.30pm. The East Ms. Greys Camp 1666 of the 4th Brigade is sponsoring our Picnic And as usual Pot Luck is the order of the day . Any one who would like to place proposals on the Agenda contact Chief of Staff Mike Wooten [pftr72@aol.com](mailto:pftr72@aol.com) -deadline 03-24-2016.

5. Gentlemen we are trying to update our speakers bureau. If you are interested in becoming a speaker and have a good program contact Aide- de- Camp Chris Merck at [chris@merckteam.com](mailto:chris@merckteam.com).

6. If you want to place news , or activities that evolve around our camps and SCV send these articles to Commander Allen Terrell acterrell@cableone.net for the Jefferson Davis News Letter. Subject matter— for the spring edition dead line for sending- 02-27-2016.

7. In closing Gentlemen ,like I said earlier last year,we are in a fight . We need to get these petitions to Chuck Bond ,address is on the form and they need to be filled out accurately.

Keep the Flag Flying.

Ms. Division Commander-SCV

Louis P. Foley

### **Relic Show**

The Great War to prevent Southern Independence Relic show will be in Brandon Mississippi on June 18th and 19th 2016. For contact info email Tim Cupit at timcupit@comcast.net

### **John C. Pemberton Camp Website**

Go to <http://scv-camp-1354.com/> to view our website. Thanks to our Webmaster Bill Fryer. Bill is creating a "Wall of Honor" for our ancestors. Check it out on the web site and add your ancestor. Also find directions to our meeting location You will also find about three years of archived newsletters

### **Flag Restoration**

In many cases the old veteran's battle flags are our last physical link to their valor. Many of their flags are in possession of the State of Mississippi Archives and History. There they are rotting away to dust. It is up to us as decedents of these brave men to preserve their battle flags for our descendants to see. There are three funding activities. Direct donations, SCV car tags, and sale of coffee cups. Our camp has a supply of coffee cups. Ask me about cups.

### **Changing the Name Against the Law**

Our case against the University of Mississippi is still in the discovery stage. The Division Judge Advocate hopes to have a court date in 6 months or so. They can not be allowed to defile our confederate ancestors. This act was clearly illegal and part of a larger strategy to "cleanse" the South. The first reconstruction was not completely successful. We are not gone! They are back again..

## **Friends of Beauvoir**

Beauvoir the Home of Jefferson Davis is Owned and Operated by the Mississippi Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans.

Here is an Invitation to give the Past a Future!

Go to [http://www.beauvoir.org/Support\\_Beauvoir/index.html](http://www.beauvoir.org/Support_Beauvoir/index.html) for details

## **Bricks for Beauvoir**

The plans are for a brick plaza around the tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Each brick would cost \$50.00 and would have the name of a Confederate ancestor of members of the SCV who give to the effort. "The Bricks for Beauvoir" Project is spearheaded by Larry McCluney, Past Commander of the Mississippi Division. Thirteen columns, in a crescent, will represent the 13 States of the Confederacy and will fly the flag of each respective State.

## **CONFEDERATE FLAG DAY - MARCH 5, 2016**

The Sons of Confederate Veterans under General Order from the Sons of Confederate Veterans Commander-in-Chief shall have each Division hosting a Confederate Flag Day Observance.

On March 4, 1861- The 1st National Flag was hoisted over the new Confederate Capitol Building.

On March 4, 1865 - President Davis signed a bill creating the Third National Flag.

On March 5, 2016 at Beauvoir at 2:00 PM, the Mississippi Division will have a National Confederate Flag Day observance.

"If you're Southern be there"



## **Upcoming Mississippi Division Conventions**

The 2016 Mississippi Convention will be Hosted by the Hattiesburg camp with the convention at Beauvoir. The date is June 10 - 12 . Contact Commander Campbell if you want to be part of our camp's delegation.

## **Upcoming National Conventions**

2016 – Dallas/Ft. Worth Texas <http://scv2016.org/>

2017 – Memphis Tennessee

## **Disclaimer**

Opinions expressed in this newsletter are not the opinions of the Sons of Confederate Veterans ay any level, but are the views of the author of the material