

# *IN THE TRENCHES*

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

May 2017 Issue

Edward Campbell  
Eddy Cresap

Commander  
Editor

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“As for all the enemies who have overrun or aided in overrunning my country, there is a wide and impassable gulf between us, in which I see the blood of slaughtered friends, comrades, and my countrymen, which all the waters in the firmament above and the seas beneath cannot wash away. Those enemies have undertaken to render our cause odious and infamous”

Jubal Early

## **Commander's Column**

Dear Compatriots:

I do not know what happened to the month of April. This very special month for us is almost gone and between Easter and our CMD preparation and service, it flew by. If you work for the state, you probably had a day off today, April 24 although April 25 was the actual day that Confederate Memorial Day started in Columbus, Ms. I participated in many a ceremony at Friendship Cemetery, where the first ceremony took place on April 25, 1866. For all of you who helped out with our statewide observance yesterday at Soldier's Rest, I want to thank you all from the bottom of my heart. I feel that the ceremony was a wonderful success and I heard nothing negative about it. It was truly a team effort and was an honor for us to be selected to host the event. After it was over, my wife and I were exhausted and I felt a combination of relief and a bit lost, like, "What am I going to do now?" It was last July in Dallas at the National Meeting that Commander Foley asked me to bring it before the Camp to host the event, and we have been busily planning since the first of the Year. Again, thank all of you for helping to make it a fantastic event.

Lets keep the momentum going and continue with projects and being aware of Heritage violations. I have been in contact with an ROTC instructor at Warren-Central High School and we may have a candidate for the prestigious Hunley award this year. I think it would be a good idea for us to get more involved in the community and this is a good opportunity to get our message across. Our next meeting is May 2, one week from tomorrow and our own Sam Price will be delivering the Program, which will be about his Confederate ancestors. You are in for a treat as Mr. Sam is our Historian Emeritus and someone who is highly respected by everyone in the Camp. Please come and bring a friend.

I want to remind all of you about the state Convention, being held this year in Oxford on June 9-11. I will be going and if anyone else is able to attend, please let us know so that Adjutant Larry Holman can give us our Credentials papers. The National meeting is close by this year, in Memphis July 20-23 and if anyone is able to attend, let us know.

Thanks again everyone for a successful Confederate Memorial Day

Edward Campbell  
Commander

## 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. Commander Edward Campbell is looking for members to volunteer to present a program next year

<i>Date</i>	<i>Speaker</i>	<i>Topic</i>
May 2	Sam Price	Broomes and Zucks
June 6	Sid Johnson	Raising of the Cairo
July	Summer break	
August	Mrs. Pat Parrish	TBA
Sept	Brandon Beck	Three Great Moments in Confederate History
Oct	Pat Strange	TBA
Nov	Grady Howell	Thanksgiving Day in Mississippi
December		Christmas Bash
January		
Jan. Lee Jackson	Brandon Beck	First Lee Jackson meeting

## Mississippi Division Convention 2020

The John C Pemberton camp has volunteered to host the 2020 Mississippi Division convention. This is an event that will require support from all our members. Standby for more information. The first order of business is to send a delegation to the upcoming conventions to see what works and what does not. It would be a pleasant weekend in Oxford meeting like minded people from around the state. See Edward for your credentials.

## **April Meeting**

The meeting was opened with prayer, salutes, pledges and the Stephen D. Lee charge. New members who were voted on and accepted into the organization are Mark Little, Joel Langford and Richard Kleinman. Give these gentlemen a big welcome in. The camp closed on the details for the April heritage memorial service. The meeting was closed with a prayer

## **Newest members**

**Charles Joel Langford** -joined on the record of:

Ancestor: Private William Tyree Bell, Co. G, 1st Mississippi Light Artillery, was a teamster.

3rd Great Grandfather

**John Richard Kleinman** joined on the record of:-

Ancestor: Private Euly Kleinman, Co. G, 1st Mississippi Light Artillery, in Cowan's Battery at Baker's Creek in Vicksburg. Refused to take "parole" and was thus sent up river to Camp Douglas POW camp.

2nd Great Grandfather

**Mark Andrew Little** joined on the record of:

Ancestor: Private Turner Lumbley, Co. A, 42nd Mississippi Infantry, killed July 1, 1863 at Gettysburg, PA.

4th Great Grandfather

## **Confederate Heritage Month a good thing**

In response to April 2 guest columnist Kelly Duda, (in the clarion Ledger) I feel that I must respond to some of his comments. Mr. Duda feels that Mississippi is not Progressive because we still have a combined holiday, the 3rd Monday in January, for the Birthdays of General Robert E. Lee and Dr. Martin Luther King. While I am not generally opposed to General Lee having his own holiday, I do resent having to give up the 3rd Monday in January, which was Robert E. Lee Day before it was anything else, for maybe a hundred years or more. In reality, both men should be honored for different reasons. General Lee's reputation has been marred by the stain of political correctness. From the end of the War for Southern Independence, until just recently, he was revered and honored as one of the great figures to come out of that conflict, winning the admiration of both North and South. General Lee was one of the most Godly, Christian men that this country has ever produced. He never owned slaves and the few that he inherited from his father-in-law, he freed or put on paid salary and also taught them to read and write, in violation of state law. General Lee's first loyalty, as was many Americans, North and South, at that time, was to his state. In response to those who claim that Secession is Treason, I simply ask the following question- If Secession was Treason, then why were Lee and Jefferson Davis never tried and convicted for the crime? Simple answer, because no crime had been committed and the politicians in charge at the time knew it.

Mr. Duda also said that the War was fought over slavery and therefore those who fought for the South should not be honored. Another myth that many, including many Southerners, have accepted as truth. If slavery was all that the South had wanted, they could have stayed in the union. The original 13th amendment, known as the Corwin amendment, ratified by Congress and signed by Lincoln at the start of the war, sadly too late, protected slavery all over the country. The South seceded because of an oppressive tariff and because they wanted Independence -- much as the 13 colonies did in 1776.

Dr. King should also be honored. He never spoke out against any Confederate flag, monument or holiday. He only wanted equal treatment under the law for his people. I believe that he would be honored to share his day with General Lee. April is Confederate Heritage Month and that is good. Both White and Black fought in the Confederate army for their homeland which was being invaded by a foreign power. They all should be honored. Happy Confederate Heritage Month.

Edward Campbell



Confederate Soldier Monument South Carolina State House

### **Chiseled in Stone, This Needs No Context**

The North side inscription reads: “This monument perpetuates the memory of those who, true to the instincts of their birth, faithful to the teachings of their fathers, constant in their love for the state, died in the performance of their duty . . . who have glorified a fallen cause by the simple manhood of their lives, the patient endurance of suffering, and the heroism of death . . . and who in the dark hours of imprisonment, in the hopelessness of the hospital, in the short sharp agony of the field, found support and consolation in the belief that at home they would not be forgotten.”

The South side inscription reads: “Let the stranger, who in future times reads this inscription, recognize that these were men whom power could not corrupt, whom death could not terrify, whom defeat could not dishonor, and let their virtues plead for just judgment of the cause in which they perished... Let the South Carolinian of another generation remember that the state taught them how to live and how to die, and that from her broken fortunes she has preserved for her children the priceless treasures of her memories, teaching all who may claim the same birthright that truth, courage and patriotism endure forever.”

## **All Is Justified By A "Noble" Motive**

While listening to talk radio on the way to work this month, I heard a call in that shows the mind set of many. At least the caller did not mention slavery. The caller was comparing the American "civil war" to a modern day civil war. The modern day civil war is in fact a struggle between two groups for control of the countries government.

BTW There was no American "civil war" there are many incorrect terms and several terms that fit the situation. I prefer terms like "The war of Northern Aggression" or "Lincolns War to Prevent Southern Independence".

But back to the point, the caller was comparing the present day ruler of the country being discussed with Lincoln. In this caller opinion, both leaders were/are motivated to allow horrible actions to occur in the name of "keeping their country together". The point made was Lincoln's war on the Southern people was justified by his noble motive. To keep the country together The often heard statement by the ancestors of those who defended their country from a foreign invader is "The South is better of for having lost the war" . How wrong can this thought process be?

## General Forrest at Fort Pillow



In an attempt to paint the past as our haters want it to be "every thing Southern is bad", General Forrest is presented to history with 3 main negatives , Being a slave trader before the war, the Fort Pillow massacre, and his involvement after the war with the KKK. Below is a defense of the Fort Pillow massacre charge by Lieutenant Colonel (U. S. Army, ret.) Edwin L. Kennedy, Jr.:

Although just a minor tactical action in the greater scheme of the Civil War, the April 12, 1864 battle at Fort Pillow became a strategic issue. The effects of the battle unintentionally rose to the very highest levels of both the Union and Confederate governments. There were a number of issues that caused this seemingly minor battle to rise to national prominence.

Fort Pillow was built in 1861 on the eastern bank of the Mississippi River about forty miles north of Memphis, Tennessee. Abandoned by the Confederates and occupied twice by Union forces, Fort Pillow became a target for Confederate forces commanded by Major General Nathan Bedford Forrest in April 1864. In March 1864 two Union artillery units and a cavalry unit (a total of 557 soldiers) occupied the fort under the command of Major Lionel F. Booth. Second-in-command was Major William F. Bradford, Forrest's fellow Tennessean from the same home county but fighting on the Union side. Bradford commanded the 13th Tennessee Cavalry (U.S.), a unit that was already notorious for its war crimes against West Tennessee citizens. Compounding the issue of the unit's abuses were the Confederate



deserters that had been incorporated into the ranks of this Union-raised unit serving in a Southern state. Also in Fort Pillow before the battle began were approximately one hundred civilian family members and workers.

Although the Union Army officially opened its ranks to African-American soldiers in 1863, they were only allowed to serve in segregated units under the command of white officers – at half the pay of white Union soldiers. The two artillery units in Fort Pillow were two such African-American units manned by, in the official term used during the Civil War, "U.S. Colored Troops." Roughly half of the Fort Pillow garrison's strength was African-American Union soldiers.

After making a raid to Paducah, Kentucky in order to gain materiel and recruits, Forrest turned south towards Memphis. Fort Pillow immediately garnered Forrest's attention due to the fact that it had been recently re-occupied by the Union. Confederate soldiers in Forrest's ranks had family members in the area surrounding the fort and had complained of their abuse by the Union forces. Bradford's "home grown Yankees" of the 13th Tennessee Cavalry were the named culprits. Local West Tennessee citizens requested that a unit from Forrest's command be detailed to guard their homes and families from Bradford's depredations. Forrest decided to do more. He ordered a demonstration towards Memphis and then launched the bulk of his forces against Fort Pillow.

On the early morning of April 12, 1864, almost 1,500 Confederate troops converged on Fort Pillow. The Confederates quickly drove in the outlying Union pickets and then occupied hillocks that allowed Confederate sharpshooters to begin engaging the fort's defenders. Major Booth attempted to burn cabins and outbuildings near the perimeter of the fort to prevent the Confederates from using them as cover and concealment. It was here that some Union soldiers may have been shot down, then inadvertently burned in the very buildings they were torching to prevent Confederate use. However, this subsequently became a contentious issue when, after the battle, the Union claimed that the Confederates had burned wounded U.S. soldiers. With Confederate Brigadier General James R. Chalmers commanding the initial assaults, the Confederates hemmed the Union defenders inside the fort and then began a concerted effort to close on the Union works. At about 9 a.m., Major Booth was killed by one of the 300 assaulting Confederate sharpshooters. At 10 a.m. Forrest arrived on the scene to take command. He immediately made troop dispositions to conduct a double envelopment as well as a frontal assault. About this time the Union naval gunboat, USS New Era, commanded by Captain James Marshall, began firing at the nearby Coal Creek ravine to prevent Confederate forces from enveloping Fort Pillow

from the north. Forrest was injured when two horses were shot out from under him, but he remained to command the upcoming assault. At about 1 p.m. the New Era pulled away farther along the Mississippi River to allow its guns to cool. Almost 300 gunboat shells had been fired at the Confederates with virtually no effect.

At about 3 p.m. Confederate ammunition resupplies arrived and Forrest sent a demand for surrender to Major Booth not knowing Booth already had been killed. Forrest's surrender demand read: "I now demand unconditional surrender of your forces, at the same time assuring you that you will be treated as prisoners of war. ... I have received a new supply of ammunition and can take your works by assault, and if compelled to do so you must take the consequences."



Union naval gunboats, now including USS Olive Branch, began moving as if to reinforce the fort despite the truce. The Confederates reacted by moving troops towards the Mississippi River beach area to repulse any Union landings. This subsequently became another point of contention as the Union claimed a violation of the rules of war by citing the movement of the Confederates – but never acknowledging the potential reinforcement by the gunboats.

Major Bradford in the meantime, with Booth's death now in command of Fort Pillow, stalled for time by returning a note to Forrest requesting time to consult with his officers. Aware of his personal reputation with Forrest, Bradford signed the note as the now-deceased "Major Booth." Union soldiers along the ramparts were feeling confident enough to heckle the attacking Confederates after holding them off for the better part of a day. This intentional heckling only served to inflame the passions on the Confederate side. Major Bradford was cognizant of Forrest's command's previous use of ruses to gain the surrender of Union defenders. Most recently, at Union City, Tennessee, the Union garrison there had surrendered to one of Forrest's subordinates who had a numerically inferior force. Bradford sealed his own force's fate by declaring that he would never surrender. He placed barrels of alcoholic beverages with dippers for the defenders to drink from, perhaps hoping to steel the resolve of his soldiers. At about 5 p.m., Forrest ordered the bugler to sound the "Charge." Outnumbering the Union defenders by at least two-to-one, the Confederates surged over the fort's parapets in a rush. Not only did the Confederates outnumber the defenders, they had the additional benefit of overwhelming close-range firepower provided by the six-shot pistols all of the Confederate

cavalryman habitually carried – but only half of Fort Pillow’s Union defenders were armed with revolvers. Assuming that the direct assaulting force consisted of about 800 Confederate soldiers armed largely with revolvers, the Confederates might have faced only about 260 Union troops with pistols, the remaining Union defenders being armed with either single-shot muskets or carbines. This alone would give the assaulting force the necessary 3:1 firepower ratio considered necessary for success by military doctrine for attackers since the muskets, once fired, were no good at such close-quarters combat except with bayonets or as clubs. The end result of this disparity in firepower meant that combat was necessarily close due to the short range of the pistols and the fact that the Confederates physically closed to within just a few yards of the defenders as they vaulted the walls of the fort. This produced hand-to-hand combat and point-blank shooting at extremely close range, creating another point of contention: based on powder burns found on some Union casualties, the Union accused Forrest’s Confederates of executing some of the fort’s defenders. However, such powder burns were to be expected at close-range engagements using black powder firing weapons.

At this point confusion reigned as the Confederates literally surged over the Union lines. Major Bradford shouted for the defenders to save themselves. The Union soldiers broke and ran to escape down the cliff to the beach area and the possible safety of the Union gunboats. No thought had been given to an organized surrender and Bradford’s hasty declaration to “Save yourselves!” panicked the Union defenders into a disorganized rout. Moreover, as the Union defenders fled to the beach, the U.S. flag still flew from Fort Pillow’s flagpole – this is significant since in 19th century warfare “Striking (lowering) the Colors” was the universally accepted signal that a garrison had surrendered and an unmistakable signal to the victorious attackers to stop firing. Had Bradford sensibly lowered the U.S. flag, this would have been a clear indication to all attacking Confederates that the garrison had surrendered.

Forrest’s Confederate cavalymen pursued the fleeing enemy to prevent any further Union organized defense from being reconstituted. Captain Marshall of New Era, who had previously struck an agreement with the fort’s commander to support-by-fire any attempt of the Confederates to pursue the Union troops to the beach area, planned to engage the Confederates with cannister (anti-personnel) cannon rounds. But Marshall’s fire support plans were thwarted because the Union and Confederate forces were intermingled and therefore he risked hitting his own side’s soldiers.

In the race for the beach and possible safety, units intermingled, leaders were shot down and the inevitable confusion of fierce combat caused a loss of control on both sides. Major Booth actually had planned for such a contingency (of his garrison being pushed back to the beach) by pre-positioning ammunition boxes for his defenders to use if forced back to the beach. However, Booth's planning assumption was predicated on an orderly displacement, not a panic-stricken rout. Later, some of the pre-positioned ammunition boxes were found opened, showing that at least some of the Union defenders knew their purpose and used the ammunition.

In one of the most controversial actions during the short assault, the Confederates shot down a number of Union soldiers in the beach area while many defending survivors drowned while trying to escape by swimming the Mississippi River. The Union subsequently tried to claim it was a planned massacre. In reality, it was most likely the result of a number of unintentional consequences combined to cause a tragedy for the Union soldiers. First, no organized surrender was ever declared. Soldiers surrendering did so as individuals. Because some of the Union defenders subsequently rearmed themselves after surrendering, it is likely that the Confederates became enraged and indiscriminately shot other defenders who were "surrendering." There is no doubt that latent racism was likely a contributing factor. Although Forrest had African-American Confederate soldiers in his ranks, the Confederate attackers were incensed that the defending African-American Union soldiers had taunted them during the truce and were therefore "guilty by association" with Bradford's troops who had previously abused the attackers' families. Revenge and heated passions from a long day of fighting made a deadly combination.



Experienced combat arms soldiers know how confusion occurs when converging forces assault an objective from three directions. This is what happened at Fort Pillow. Malice aforethought cannot be assumed simply because the losing side incurred a large number of casualties. A one-sided rout and vigorous pursuit would naturally produce a large number of casualties suffered by the defeated unit since the routed unit's soldiers would not be organized to defend themselves and could more easily be shot down as they ran away. The attribution of a deliberate racist intent by the attacking Confederates to intentionally execute defenders defies knowledge of the culture and customs of Forrest's command throughout the war. To ascribe ex post facto what happened to a

premeditated conspiracy to "massacre" is logically and ethically wrong. Post-war lithographs of the battle and Union propaganda and disinformation managed to inflame passions. The prints used distortions and "tried" Forrest and his Confederate soldiers in the public forum, then found them guilty, despite the results of official Union inquiries into the conduct of the battle. Interestingly, all the prints and lithographs showing women and children present at the battle are part of the disinformation as all but ten civilian men had been evacuated by the Union Navy shortly before the battle. The women and children depicted being killed and brutalized by "blood-thirsty Confederates" in the notorious lithographs were not even present when the fort was assaulted and overrun.

Casualty figures vary slightly, but approximately 230 Union soldiers (of the approximately 560 in the fort's garrison during the battle) were killed. About 60 African-American Union soldiers were taken prisoner (168 white Union troops were captured), the remainder either killed or reported as "missing in action." In the wake of the battle, Forrest released 14 of the most seriously wounded Union African-American captives to the U.S. Navy steamer, Silver Cloud. About 14 Confederate soldiers were killed and more than 80 were wounded.

Only two weeks after the battle, a U.S. Congressional inquiry could not conclusively determine exactly what happened. Both sides failed to control the action, and only Forrest's direct, personal intervention to stop the shooting saved many of the Union defenders left standing on the beach. Not satisfied with the Congressional inquiry, Union General William T. Sherman convened a not-so-impartial inquiry. He openly stated that he would try and convict General Forrest. However, Sherman's inquiry also ended without substantive evidence to find Forrest culpable.

The stain that his lopsided Fort Pillow victory was a premeditated "massacre" remained with Forrest for the rest of his life. Northern newspapers publishing obituaries after his October 29, 1877 death, while acknowledging Forrest's genius as a cavalry commander, nonetheless resurrected the "Fort Pillow Massacre" charges. The New York Times' obituary even claimed that, during Forrest's post-Civil War life, "his principal occupation seems to have been to try to explain away the Fort Pillow affair." Northern newspapers criticizing Forrest's effort "to explain away the Fort Pillow affair," however, seem especially disingenuous since the sensationalist accounts by the partisan Northern press bears a large share of the burden for creating and perpetuating the "massacre" claim in the first place. Forrest always disputed claims that his Fort Pillow victory was a "massacre." Any fair-minded judgment as to whether it was truly the racism-

inspired, premeditated massacre claimed by the Northern press and Union leaders at the time must also take into consideration the inevitable confusion of desperate, hand-to-hand combat and the many contributing factors that created and exacerbated the disastrous Union rout.

Lieutenant Colonel (U. S. Army, ret.) Edwin L. Kennedy, Jr. was formerly Assistant Professor of History in the Combat Studies Institute and tactics instructor in the Center for Army Tactics, U. S. Army Command & General Staff College, Ft. Leavenworth, KS. He is currently Assistant Professor, Department of Command and Leadership, Redstone Arsenal, AL.

## **My Connection to Fort Pillow**

I was raised on U. S. Highway 70 a little east of Brownsville Haywood county Tennessee. On the family property and the property of my grandparents a little west of my home was an old sunken road bed. My brother, cousins and I played army in the old road bed. In later life, I found out this was the route General Forrest and his men took to the Battle at Fort Pillow. Also I have read that at a given distance outside of Brownsville on the return from Fort Pillow the captured Major Bradford was taken off the road and killed. He was hated by Forrest's Men as a Tennessee unionist (homemade Yankee) . I used my truck odometer to measure this distance from the Brownsville court house square to the distance mentioned in the book. The distance was the exact distance to the farm where I was raised.

## Bicentennial Flag



The haters of our heritage never give up. After a failure, they not only double down on that strategy but develop a new and innovative ways to destroy the symbols of our heritage. A case study of this strategy is the war against our flag of the great state of Mississippi . You all know the efforts of the past to force removal of our present state flag. Popular votes, court cases, arm twisting of legislatures and proposed constitutional amendments are all examples that have so far failed. These efforts have all been opposed by the majority of the people of the state but a very vocal minority continue to carry the fight against our heritage. Their lack of victories has left, our left leaning cities and universities to lower our beautiful state flag. Now with a very important event to our state, the bicentennial of our statehood, will come a new effort to change our state flag, a flag to celebrate the bicentennial. This flag will fill the empty flag poles around the state and there will be resolutions celebrating our bicentennial and the flag developed to celebrate the occasion. Along with this fell good movement, there will be a continued effort to change our state flag in the legislature. One of the "hate the flag" strategies is to over the year of our bicentennial to gather momentum to have this flag to replace our current flag. My position is as always no compromise no surrender. Contact your Representative and Senator in Jackson and voice your opinion on our state flag. The speaker of the house will continue his effort to erase our proud heritage.

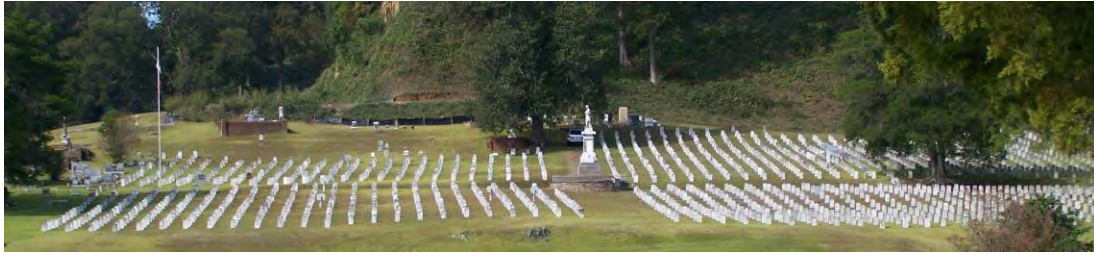


## **Mississippi Division 2017 Annual Convention**

The University Greys camp 1803 and Calhoun Avengers Oxford, Ms are hosting the 2017 Mississippi Division convention on . June 9-11 If you plan to attend representing our camp, contact Commander Campbell or Larry Holman for registration and credentials. In preparation for the Division annual convention, Camp members will receive the proposed amendments to our bylaws and officer announcements under separate cover. This info is in advance of the camp's Executive council's recommendation for our camps vote

## **Confederate Memorial Month Service**

Thanks to Bryan for the picture



The John C. Pemberton Camp hosted the 2017 Mississippi Division Confederate Month Memorial Service on Sunday April 23, 2017 at Soldiers Rest.

### **Honor Your Ancestor**

I challenge every one to prepare a short presentation about your Confederate ancestor to present at a camp meeting. If your presentation is about 5 minutes, we will have a spot on the agenda every month for a short presentation. Contact Eddy to be placed on the agenda. If your presentation is longer, contact Edward to make your presentation as one of our camp programs. Also if you have a picture of your ancestor, bring a copy to put on our Wall of Honor. Commander Campbell has added a picture of one of his ancestors to our Wall of honor.

## **Newsletter,**

### ***IN THE TRENCHES***

If anyone has read a good book, visited an interesting place, would like to post a bio of their Confederate ancestor, or just has a thought they would like to share with the membership, Please forward the article to me ([charlescresap33@att.net](mailto:charlescresap33@att.net)) and I will place it in the next newsletter.

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

Like minded individuals gather every third Tuesday 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. There is no protocol, agenda, or speaker just good fellowship. This next event will be on May 16th 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.

## **Vicksburg "War to Prevent Southern Independence" (Civil War) Roundtable**

A round table has been organized in Vicksburg. The group meets on the third Monday of each month . They meet in the Baer house at 7:00 PM. The Baer house is located at 1117 Grove street.



*Joel T. Bailey*

*This day is set aside to honor  
These brave men who died  
And to keep their memory alive  
With our Southern pride*

*For as sons of the Southland  
They laid their lives down  
And their blood is forever soaked  
Into this hallowed ground*

*They knew what it meant  
To serve and defend  
For their courage knew no bounds  
And their bravery knew no end*

*The goal that they sought  
May never have been achieved  
But they fought and died for a cause  
In which they believed*

*So know they did their best  
In a war they couldn't win  
But if they had to do it over  
They'd do the same again*

***Deo Vindice***

## **Chaplains Corner Thanks Bryan**

In St. Paul's epistle to the Ephesians (4:1-3) we find the following Spirit-filled message, ...that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, with all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love, endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. But what did he mean by "a vocation?" The Greek word used here is *klesis* or "calling" and is so translated elsewhere in the epistles. It was used when the respective writer was speaking of Christians as being distinguished by the very nature of the summons of God. For example in I Corinthians 7:20 the apostle states: Let every man abide in the same calling wherein he was called... Also, II Thessalonians 1:11 reads: ...that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfill all the good pleasure of his goodness and the work of faith with power. The usage is the same for Ephesians 4:1. It refers to the specific calling or vocation which a person has received of God for the carrying out of a particular purpose or duty. God has called us and in that calling he has given us a certain duties to perform. Our Lord came to this earth in response to his "calling" of the Father to seek and to save that which was lost (St. Luke 19:10). His commission is found in words of Isaiah (61:1-2 as recorded in the St. Luke 4:18-19): The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and the recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord. Our individual callings must be sought in the Spirit. And because they are of divine origin, we ought to be in prayer, daily petitioning God for such knowledge that we might do what is well-pleasing in his sight. Our Lord's message to us makes this plain when he directed us to, Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you ( St. Matthew 6:33). And, Watch ye therefore and pray always that ye may be accounted worthy...and to stand before the Son of man ( St. Luke 21:36). As the Rev. E. M. Bounds once observed (On Prayer, p. 254): "[The disciples were reminded by our Lord] that prayer would serve them in everything, and its use and unlimited possibilities would in some measure supply their loss and by it they would be able to command all the possibilities of Jesus Christ and God the Father." And since our vocations are determined by God, then we ought to trust him to lead us into those paths which he would have us go. If we are making such decisions about our lives apart from God, then we will not be in his purposeful will and we will likely not be engaged in those works which are pleasing to him. Seeking him first, as the Lord Jesus commands, is the only way to obtain true happiness in this life, and in the next. Remember the

Lord's Prayer: ...thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven... If you are sincerely praying that prayer, you are affirming that God is sovereign and that he should be making those decisions and not you. If you believe it then live it. There is a traditional Anglican hymn that was written in 1928 by John Ernest Bode which should enlighten us as to our duty in this matter. O Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end: Be thou forever near me, my Master and my friend; I shall not fear the battle, if thou art by my side, Nor wander from the pathway, if thou wilt be my guide. O let me hear thee speaking in accents clear and still, Above the storms of passions, the murmurs of self-will; O speak to reassure me, to hasten or control, O speak and make me listen, thou guardian of my soul. O Jesus, thou hast promised to all who follow thee, That where thou art in glory there shall thy servant be; And Jesus I have promised to serve thee to the end; O give me grace to follow, my Master and my friend. Seek, therefore, his guidance and his perfect will for you and he will do it; but you have to trust him, and you must have a daily prayer life so as to be in contact with him. Prayer opens the door to our fellowship with the Almighty. It is how we access God and he in turn will draw near to each of us. As a born-again believer, you have an established relationship with the Godhead. But to have fellowship with God, you have to approach him on his terms. Reverent, fervent prayer is the method which puts us in touch with him who desires our petitions and our confessions. Lay it out to him and then trust him to work as he sees fit. The Most Rev. J. C. Ryle once noted that, "The first act of faith will be to speak to God. Faith is to the soul what life is to the body. Prayer is to faith what breath is to life. How a man can live and not breathe is past my comprehension, and how a man can believe and not pray is past my comprehension too... Do you wish to find out whether you are a true Christian? Then rest assured that my question is of the very first importance— DO YOU PRAY?" It is my prayer that you will.

Let us pray,

O most gracious heavenly Father, make of us workmen who truly need not be ashamed, exercising those gifts which thou hast seen fit to endue us with, and so serve thee in this life that we might be thus prepared for the life to come; and these things we ask in the name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

## Cooper's Well Stones come to Vicksburg May 28th



The Pemberton Camp has coordinated with others in the third brigade to set an initial 47 stones in one of the lots we control in Cedar Hill. Thanks to Trent Lewis for being the sparkplug for this effort, Wayne McMaster for being the camp's point man in setting up this effort and Bryan Skipworth for repairing the broken stones and placing many stones in the ground. These men died at Mississippi Springs and were buried at Cooper's well. The Coopers Well location is not available for Confederate stone placement so these stones have laid on the ground for 15 years waiting for a home. On May 28th the stones were delivered to Cedar Hill. There was a 3d brigade work day on July 16 resulting in all stones being installed. A memorial service is being planned (not with April Memorial service) The last stones have been delivered and are set. A plaque is being developed to be placed in the lot explaining these veteran's story. Thanks to all who were a part of this effort. Go to:

[http://freepages.history.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~taleese/soldiers\\_rest\\_vicksburg/cooper\\_wells/cooper\\_wells.htm](http://freepages.history.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~taleese/soldiers_rest_vicksburg/cooper_wells/cooper_wells.htm)

for more info, thanks Anna

## Relic Show in Brandon

On June 17-18/2017, the Civil War Relic Show to be held in Brandon, MS at the Brandon City Hall Complex at 1000 Municipal Dr., Brandon, MS. For more information go to [http:// www.scv265.com/annual-civil-war-relic-show.html](http://www.scv265.com/annual-civil-war-relic-show.html)



## They Fell in Defense of Their Homes, That is the Context



Ole Miss has installed a context plaque at the Confederate monument on campus. The Mississippi Division Sons of Confederate Veterans has revived a lawsuit against the University of Mississippi asking for a court order to remove the informational plaque placed near the Confederate monument. The complaint also ask for name of Confederate Drive to be reinstated. The Division continues to pursue the law suit. The monument needs no context as it's meaning is clear and etched in stone. Translated from the Greek inscription in memory of the University Grays: Very powerful!! "Go, stranger, and to Sparta tell, that here, obeying her commands, we fell" The University Grays had a 100% casualty rate during the fateful charge on the third day of Gettysburg. The story of the University grays could be a learning moment about courage and devotion to duty. The grays left the comfort of the University to defend its newly found county from a brutal foreign invader. Instead of embracing this concept, the university continues to distant itself from this powerful lesson in their Marist quest for excellence . The university will continue their quest to remove all things pertaining to it's past. Watch out for the stain glass windows in Ventress hall and the Confederate cemetery. The University is like Sherman, on the march destroying history in a Taliban style. If it does not fit their narrative they intend to change or destroy it.



## **Confederate General Confederate Birthdays in May**

General P. G. T Beauregard 28 May 1818

General Edmond Kirby Smith 16 May 1824

Maj General Robert Fredrick Hoke 27 May 1837

Major General William Fitzhugh Lee 31 May 1837

Maj General John Bankhead Magruder 1 May 1807

Major General Dabney Herdon Maury 21 May 1822

Major General Stephen Dodson Ramseur 31 May 1836

Major General Cadmus Marcellus Wilcox 29 May 1826

## **Sad Birthday For May Generals**

In a rush to distance themselves from their history and heritage the people of Florida have approved a plan to replace the statue of Kirby Smith in statutory Hall in the U. S. Capitols. In the same rush to political correctness, the city of New Orleans is removing the statue of General Beauregard from the entrance to City Park. These actions follow the trend to distant the present generation from all things Confederate. These monuments in stone were placed so that future generations would always remember the sacrifice and devotion to duty of the men of the south who were defending their homes, families, hearts and country from a brutal foreign invader. This is a Taliban like purge of political incorrect history. When Southern history is purged the Marist will move to destroy all reminders of the men who led this country to the position of greatness. Listen to the news and you will hear the beginnings of this movement. When our history/heritage has been "lost" it will be replaced by the a false memory of the greatness of the Marist utopia.

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

Go to <http://scv-camp-1354.com/> to view our website. Thanks to our Webmaster Bill Fryer. Bill has 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 over three years of archived newsletters

## **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 continue using this social media page to our advantage in educating the uninformed on the true history of our cause. Ask your friends to checkout our page

## **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. You get the SCV specialty tags at the court house, just ask.

## **Beauvoir**



Remember, We, The Mississippi Division, own Beauvoir. We should visit and support this beautiful spot. This is the last home of the only President of the Confederate States of America.

### **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. The project is drawing near the end. It is projected the project will be complete by Fall Muster. By all reckoning there are 153 more spaces left in the archway

## **2017 Mississippi Reunion Officer Announcements**

Commander of the Mississippi Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans,

- Marc S. Allen
- Jeff Barnes

First Lt Commander

- David Wotten
- George Conor Bond

Second Lt Commander

- Greg Stewart
- Carl Ford
- Harry Vincent

Adjutant

- Michael Putnam

3rd Brigade Commander

- Trent Lewis

3d Brigade Councilman

- James Young
- John Pepper Evans

Beauvoir Board of Directors

- Mike Wooten
- Robert Bonner
- Jessie A. Sanford

## **Upcoming Mississippi Division Reunion Locations**

2017 The University Greys camp 1803 and Calhoun Avengers Oxford, Ms

2018 Private Samuel A. Hughey camp 1452 Southaven, Ms

2019 The Rankin Rough and Ready's camp Brandon, Ms

2020 tentative John C Pemberton 1354 Vicksburg Ms

## **Upcoming National Conventions**

2017 Memphis Tennessee July 20-22 2017

2018 Franklin Tennessee

2019 Mobile Alabama

## **2017 reunion**

Join us in Memphis, TN–July 18-23, 2017 for the SCV Reunion Gathering at the Memphis Cook Convention Center in downtown. For info go to

<http://scvmemphis2017.org/>

**Disclaimer**

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