

IN THE TRENCHES

JUNE 2018

**DUE TO THE INDEPENDENCE DAY HOLIDAY,
THERE WILL BE NO MEETING IN JULY.**

FROM THE COMMANDER

Edward Campbell

It is almost June, Happy Summer and Happy Memorial Day to you all. It is good and proper that we should remember those who fought and died for our Freedoms in this country. Let's also use this as an opportunity to remind those who may not know that Confederate Memorial Day came first. The idea of honoring the dead and decorating graves came from the ladies of Columbus, Ms. who decorated the graves of both Confederate and Union dead in 1866, just one year after the war ended.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday June 5 with Division 1st Lt. Commander Conor Bond presenting the program. He has requested that the topic be a surprise so you will have to come and see for yourselves. Please bring a friend.

June 5 is also our Primary Election Day, I encourage you to go and vote for the

candidate of your choice. Please google each candidate and find out their stand on the important issues, including their stand on the state flag and then pray about it and vote for the candidate of your choice. If you haven't gotten any petitions yet, please get them and begin to circulate them around town. I have gone to Barber shops and have even gotten workers around my house to sign, you would be surprised where you can go to get people to listen to you and sign the petition. I will working the Elks lodge polling place on Primary day and will calling this week to ask others of you to help get signatures.

We will not meet in July, so this will be our last meeting until August 7. We still have the Brown Bag fellowship on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, the next one being June 19.

I am very honored to be representing the Camp at the Division Convention at

Beauvoir on the Gulf Coast, June 8-10. If anyone else is planning to go, even at the last minute, please let me know so that I can add you to the Credentials as a Delegate. I will also be representing you at the National Convention in Franklin, Tennessee, July 18-21. This will be in coordination with the opening of the National Confederate Museum at our Headquarters, Elm Springs in Columbia, Tennessee. The opening of this museum is a great event for our organization as it will tell the story of the War and the Confederate soldier from our viewpoint, the Truth, as records and documentation provide. If any of you have anything that you would like to donate to the museum, please contact them as they really need items to display.



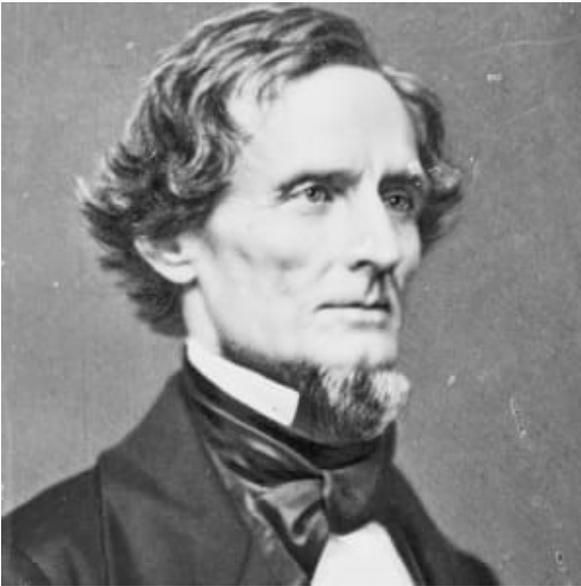
*John Clifford Pemberton
Lt. General, CSA.*

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *2018 Division Convention June 8-10 at Beauvoir*
- *Jefferson Davis Birthday - June 3rd*
- *National Convention & Opening of the National Confederate Museum - July 18 - 21, Franklin, Tennessee*



JEFFERSON DAVIS



Jefferson Finis Davis
1808-1889

This month, we commemorate the 210th birthday of President Jefferson Davis.

Military leader and statesman Jefferson Finis Davis was born on June 3, 1808, in Christian County, Kentucky (now called Fairview). One of 10 children born into a military family, his birth took place just 100 miles from and eight months earlier than President Abraham Lincoln's. Davis's father and uncles were soldiers in the American Revolutionary War, and three of his older brothers fought in the War of 1812.

Though born in Kentucky, Davis primarily grew up on the Rosemont Plantation near Woodville, Mississippi, eventually returning to Kentucky to attend boarding school in Bardstown. After completing

his boarding school education, Davis enrolled at Jefferson College in Mississippi, later transferring to Transylvania University in Kentucky.

In 1824, President James Monroe appointed Davis to a cadetship at the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York. One of Davis's fellow cadets later described the burgeoning young leader as "distinguished in his corps for manly bearing and high-toned and lofty character." In 1828, Davis graduated from West Point, 23rd in his class.

Early Military Service (1828-1835)

Upon graduating from West Point, Jefferson Davis was assigned to the post of second-lieutenant of the First Infan-

try. From 1828 to 1833, he carried out his first active service with the U.S. Army. Davis fought with his regiment in the Blackhawk War of 1831, during which they captured Chief Blackhawk himself. The Indian chief was placed under Davis's care, with Davis winning Blackhawk over through his kind treatment of the prisoner.

In March 1833, Davis was promoted to first lieutenant and transferred to the First Dragoons, a newly formed regiment. He also served as the unit's staff officer. Until the summer of 1835, Davis continued his service on the battlefield against Indian tribes, including the Comanche and Pawnees.

In June 1835, Davis married his commanding officer's daughter, Sarah Knox Taylor. Because his commanding officer, none other than future president Zachary Taylor, was opposed to the marriage, Davis abruptly resigned his military post to take up civic duties prior to the wedding. Sadly, Sarah died of malaria just a few months later, in September 1835.

Early Politics (1835-1846)

After leaving the military, Davis became a cotton farmer while preparing for a career in politics as a Democrat. In 1843, he participated in the gubernatorial campaign and served as a delegate at the Democratic National Convention. His powerful speeches there placed him in high de-

mand. One year later, he became an elector for Polk and Dallas, taking the stance of state protection against federal interference and supporting Texas' annexation in the process.

In December 1845, Davis won election to the U.S. House of Representatives and claimed a seat in Congress, which caused him to gain more public attention. Additionally, he remarried, this time to a woman named Varina Howell. The marriage helped further forge his connection with Mississippi planters, as Varina's family was of that class.

As a congressman, Davis was known for his passionate and charismatic speeches, and he quickly became actively involved in debates about Texas, Oregon and tariffs. Davis's congressional accomplishments include orchestrating the conversion of forts into military training schools. Throughout his congressional term, his support of states' right remained unwavering.

Return to Military (1846-1847)

In June 1846, Jefferson Davis resigned from his position in Congress to lead the First Regiment of the Mississippi Riflemen in the Mexican-American War. He held the rank of colonel under his former father-in-law, General Zachary Taylor. During the Mexican-American War, Davis fought in the Battles of Monterrey and Buena Vista,

JEFFERSON DAVIS (CONT.)

in 1846 and 1847, respectively.

At the Battle of Monterrey, he led his men to victory in an assault at Fort Teneria. He was injured at the Battle of Buena Vista when he blocked a charge of Mexican swords—an incident that earned him nationwide acclaim. So impressed was General Taylor that he admitted he had formerly misjudged Davis's character. "My daughter, sir, was a better judge of man than I was," Taylor reportedly conceded.

Return to Politics (1847–1865)

In 1847, following Davis's heroic feat, Zachary Taylor appointed him U.S. senator from Mississippi—a seat that had opened as a result of Senator Jesse Speight's death.

After serving the rest of Speight's term, from December to January of 1847, Davis was re-elected for an additional term.

As a senator, Jefferson Davis advocated for slavery and states' rights, and opposed the admission of California to the Union as a free state—such a hot button issue at the time that members of the House of Representatives sometimes broke into fist-fights. Davis held his Senate seat until 1851 and went on to run for the Mississippi governorship, but lost the election.

Explaining the way his position on the Union had evolved during his time in the Senate, Davis once stated, "My devotion to the Union of our fathers had been so often and so publicly declared; I had on the floor of the Senate so defiantly challenged any question of my fidelity to it; my services, civil and military, had now extended through so long a period and were so generally known, that I felt quite assured that no whisperings of envy or ill-will could lead the people of Mississippi to believe that I had dishonored their trust by using the power they had conferred on me to destroy the government to which I was accredited. Then, as afterward, I regarded the separation of the states as a great, though not the greater evil."

In 1853, Davis was appointed secretary of war by President Franklin Pierce. He served in that position until 1857, when he returned to the Senate. Although opposed to secession, while back in the Senate, he continued to defend the rights of Southern slave states. Davis remained in the Senate until January 1861, resigning when Mississippi left the Union.

"African slavery, as it exists in the United States, is a moral, a social, and a political blessing." Jefferson Davis

In conjunction with the formation of the Confederacy, Davis was named president of the Confederate States of

America on February 18, 1861. On May 10, 1865, he was captured by Union forces near Irwinville, Georgia, and charged with treason. Davis was imprisoned at Fort Monroe in Virginia from May 22, 1865, to May 13, 1867, before being released on bail paid partly by abolitionist Horace Greeley.

Later Life, Death and Legacy

Following his term as president of the Confederacy, Davis traveled overseas on business. He was offered a job as president of what became Texas A&M University, but declined. He was also urged to make another run for the Senate, though he would have required approval from both the Senate and the House to hold office again, under terms of the 14th Amendment.

In 1881, he wrote *The Rise and Fall of the Confederate Government* in an effort to defend his political stance. Davis lived out his retirement years at an estate called Beauvoir in Mississippi.

Around 1 a.m. on December 6, 1889, Jefferson Davis died of acute bronchitis in New Orleans, Louisiana. His body was temporarily interred at New Orleans's Metairie Cemetery. It was later relocated to a specially constructed memorial at Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond, Virginia.

A powerful and influential statesman, Davis left behind a legacy that is similar in some

ways to other U.S. presidents. His birthday is celebrated in several Southern states, and his presidential library opened in Mississippi in 1998. In 1978, his U.S. citizenship was posthumously restored.

Compiled from information gathered from biography.com

FOR THE BRETHREN

Rev. Bryan Dabney

In our gospel lesson (St. Matthew 6:24) we heard our Lord say, ***No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.*** While our Lord was talking about wealth, we know that anything which takes the place of the Godhead in our lives is a potential master seeking to dethrone the true Master of our souls.

Nevertheless, Satan has created other masters that are meant to lure us from the strait and narrow path of our Christian walk. It should be understood at the outset that, in the time of this mortal life, you can expect to be troubled by the devil and his minions. We are daily faced with his inventive and insidious lures, particularly those twin menaces of doubt and worry. The devil uses these to elevate our troubles and accentuate our fears. If the devil can get us to think that our problems are too big for God, then such will impair our communion with the Godhead and will keep us from realizing our true calling in his service. Think on the words of our Lord regarding this subject: Take no thought of your life...for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things shall be added unto

you... Doubt by its very nature causes us to hold our hands up and keep God at a distance. We look at what his word says and then the devil provides us with editorial comments such as, "Oh, that is not what it really means;" or, "Do you really believe that?" or, "That is impossible;" or, "God does not care about you."

Worry masters us, particularly if we hold the notion of our sovereign ability as captains of our lives. The devil encourages us to adopt this attitude so he can load us down with the cares and concerns of this life, and foolishly we assume them in the mistaken belief that we are in control. If you are a regenerate person, you should know that God is sovereign over all aspects of your life. If he is not, and you think that you have control, you will have worries "to beat the band" as the old folks would say.

Most of us were brought up to be independent, career-oriented persons. We were taught to be diligent in our particular occupations in order to provide for ourselves and our families. That is the natural and normative understanding of maturity. But many have not been taught to understand that God is the sovereign ruler of the whole of Creation. And if he is LORD over all things, that includes our lives as well.

Our challenge as born-again believers is to reject the no-

tion that we are sovereign and live in accordance with God's word and commandment. In Christ Jesus we have died to this world and are reborn as new people. Our bodies are therefore vessels of the Holy Spirit. We understand that we have been bought with a price and that we no longer belong to ourselves. Consider the Lord's Prayer which many often recite without much thought: ***Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven...***

Think on that last phrase for it is pregnant with the Christian ethos. We do not say our will be done but his will. And, we do not say our kingdom come but his kingdom that we seek. If we are not living for him and him alone then we have not been born again of the Holy Ghost. If he is Lord, he is Lord over all our life and not just an hour or so on Sunday or on Wednesday evening.

Those who would not have the Godhead as their sovereign LORD and Master will have Satan as their default ruler. There are no shades of gray in God's way of thinking. Do not become a casualty in this great spiritual war which is raging all around us. Put your faith in God and in his only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, who died on that rude cross so that all who believe on him might live with him forever. Lean on his breast as the beloved apostle John did

"OUR CHALLENGE AS BORN-AGAIN BELIEVERS IS TO REJECT THE NOTION THAT WE ARE SOVERIGN AND LIVE IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOD'S WORD AND COMMANDMENT"

FOR THE BRETHREN (CONT.)

at the Last Supper and was comforted beyond measure. Rely on his word and commandment as opposed to relying on your own understanding. And trust in him, as the 23 Psalm so states, to lead you through the valley of the shadow of death into green pastures and by the still waters. God will do those things for us, and so much more, if we will follow his word written and be born again by means of the Holy Ghost in

full acceptance of Jesus Christ as the only way, truth and life. Anything less will avail us nothing of God's blessings nor of his kingdom.

Let us pray,

Father, make of us a people who, being born again of the Holy Ghost, will seek after thee and accept thy sovereign will over all aspects of our lives; for this we ask in the name of our Lord and Master, Jesus Christ. Amen.

INITIATIVE 62



The current Mississippi state flag was adopted by the state legislature in 1894. The canton of the flag includes a rendition of the confederate battle flag. In 2001, the Mississippi Economic Council led an unsuccessful attempt to change the state flag. Nearly two thirds of voters rejected a new flag design without the Confederate emblem and chose to keep the 1894 flag. In the intervening years, the confederate flag along with the state flag has been used as a scapegoat for a myriad of issues from racism and hate crimes to poverty. Politically correct leftists in local governments have taken it upon

themselves to go against the will of the people and furl the state flag, including city governments and state sponsored public universities. Many of these movements have been spearheaded by outsiders, who seem to be hell-bent on the destruction of every scrap of southern heritage .

Deborah Simpson, who is a resident of the Mississippi Gulf Coast, has spearheaded initiative 62 in an attempt to force state institutions and local governments to honor the will of the people and the heritage of the citizens of the state of Mississippi . The summary of the ballot measure reads as follows:

Initiative Measure No. 62 proposes to amend the Mississippi Constitution to establish the 1894 flag as the one official State Flag for the State of Mississippi, and require that the flag be

flown at the principal installations of all State supported institutions, State agencies and political subdivisions

If you are interested in supporting this effort, please contact the John C. Pemberton Camp, or your local SCV camp in Mississippi to sign the petition. You can also find more information on Facebook by going to <https://www.facebook.com/Saveourflagsouthmississippi/>

It is past time for southerners to stand up against the continuous onslaught against the symbols of our heritage.

“IT IS PAST TIME FOR SOUTHERNERS TO STAND AGAINST THE CONTINUOUS ONSLAUGHT AGAINST THE SYMBOLS OF OUR HERITAGE.”

BEAUVOIR - THE LAST HOME OF JEFFERSON DAVIS

Beauvoir, the historic post-war home of President Jefferson Davis, is owned and operated by the Mississippi Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. There are several ways that you can participate in the continued preservation of this beloved landmark located in Biloxi, Mississippi.

Friends of Beauvoir

For as little as \$25 annually, you can become a member

of the Friends of Beauvoir. Membership includes tour admission and a 10% discount at the Beauvoir gift shop.

Bricks for Beauvoir

Honor your Confederate ancestors while supporting Beauvoir. Each brick that you purchase will be engraved with your ancestors rank, name, unit, and company. The memorial bricks will be laid creating a sidewalk from the UDC Arch to the Tomb

of the Unknown Confederate soldier.

For more information on these opportunities, please visit www.visitbeauvoir.org or contact Beauvoir directly at (228) 388-4400



CONFEDERATE BIRTHDAYS

- President Jefferson Davis - June 3rd
- Brig. Gen. John Hunt Morgan - June 1st
- General Samuel Cooper - June 12th
- General John Bell Hood - June 1st
- Maj. Gen. Daniel Smith Donelson - June 23rd
- Brig. Gen. John Decatur Barry - June 21st
- Brig. Gen. Cullen Andrews Battle - June 1st
- Brig. Gen. Alexander Campbell - June 4th
- Brig. Gen. John Rogers Cooke - June 1st
- Brig. Gen. Junius Daniel - June 27th
- Brig. Gen. John Buchanan Floyd - June 1st

THE GHOSTS OF SHILOH

Joel T. Bailey

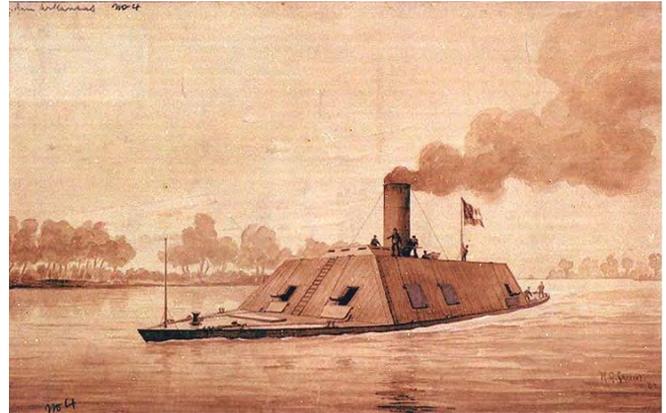
One of the worst battles of the civil war
Was fought in Tennessee
It was called the Battle of Shiloh
One of the bloodiest in history
When the two day battle was over
Thousands of soldiers were dead
The bodies were lying everywhere
And the ground ran a bloody red
The battle got its name from a church
That was close to the battle ground
The word Shiloh in Hebrew means peace
But here no peace could be found
Now they say the battlefield is haunted
By the ghosts of those who died that day
Some hear the cries of the wounded
Others hear a drummer boy play
Sometimes you can hear distant gunshots
And the sounds of marching at night
For them the battle will never be over
For the ghosts of Shiloh still fight

CSS ARKANSAS MEMORIAL FUND

At our December meeting a resolution was passed, to pursue funding for the Stone memorializing the twenty three men of the CSS Arkansas that died in defense of fortress Vicksburg. These men were taken off of the boat and buried in Vicksburg. They do not have stones.

Our camp has started a fund raising effort to sup-

port the setting of a memorial to these men. We took up donations and pledges at our February meeting. If you would like to donate or pledge support please contact Eddy Cresap at charlescresap33@att.net for more information on setting up a pledge or making a donation.



COOPER'S WELL HISTORICAL MARKER



Cooper's Well Historical Marker

Thanks to the coordinated efforts of the Mississippi Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, and the John C. Pemberton Camp 1354 in Vicksburg, Mississippi, A marker detailing the story of the Cooper's Well soldiers and their memorial stones has been placed at Soldier's Rest in Cedar Hill Cemetery.

The 51 men represented in the Cooper's Well plot are actually buried in Raymond, Mississippi. Unfortunately,

after their markers were ordered, they were not allowed to be placed at that location and the markers sat in storage for 15 years. After a suitable location was found in Cedar Hill Cemetery, the markers were installed there. They now rest comfortably in a confederate plot full of unknown dead, just few sections over from Soldier's Rest.

The inscription on the marker reads as follows:



Cooper's Well Memorial Stones
Soldier's Rest - Cedar Hill, Vicksburg, MS

Lest We Forget

These headstones represent soldiers from Louisiana and Mississippi who died at the hospitals located at Mississippi Springs and Cooper's Wells. These soldiers from the Army of Mississippi died from disease contracted through the rigors of military service. Twelve of these soldiers are buried in cemeteries across Mississippi, one is buried near Mississippi Springs and the rest are buried near Cooper's Wells. After a long and unsuccessful attempt by the Mississippi Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans, to set the stones at their burial place, the stones were set here to allow their service and sacrifice to their country be known and honored by their families and future generations of Southerners.

FEATURED CONFEDERATE

*Lt. Nelson Adair Cresap
47th Tennessee Infantry*



Nelson Adair Cresap was born on Sept 18, 1841 near Huntsville, Alabama while his family was moving west from Maryland to West Tennessee. His family arrived in Gibson County, Tennessee when he was six years old. His life was molded by his ancestor's example of protecting their home and freedom. These examples included early settling of the west, fighting in the French and Indian War, and participating in the War for American Independence.

He joined the Confederate army on November 30, 1861, and was organized into the

47th Tennessee Infantry Regiment. He remained with this regiment throughout the war. For most of the war, the regiment fought with Cheatham's Division assigned to the Confederate Army of Tennessee.

He participated in the following major engagements: Shiloh, Kirby Smith's invasion of Kentucky, Richmond Ky., Murfreesboro, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, Dead Angle at Kennesaw Mountain, Peach Tree Creek, Atlanta, Franklin, and Nashville. Nelson received a promotion to Sergeant after the battle of Shiloh, to Second Lieutenant after Chickamauga and First Lieutenant after the Atlanta campaign.

Nelson Cresap told his family that during the battle of Shiloh, he was present at the Peach Orchard and was in the area where General Albert Sidney Johnson died. As an officer he was offered a horse to ride but he turned down the offer because if you had a horse you had to eat what the horse ate.

During the regiment's reenlistment in Jan 1864, General Hindman said "The spirit, in which these brave men enlisted, is an eloquent rebuke to the despondent. With men who thus prefer duty to ease, nothing is impossible in war." In the final reorganization of the Army of Tennessee, there were too many officers for the number of enlisted men. During this reorganiza-

tion, Nelson Cresap volunteered to "Return to the ranks and take up a gun again." He surrendered with the Southern Army at Greensboro, North Carolina in April 1865. The 47th Regiment started the war with about 1000 men, but at the surrender Nelson Cresap was one of 13 members still under arms.

After the Army's surrender, he left Greensboro with a dollar and a quarter in his pocket and returned home to West Tennessee. During his journey, he used the quarter for the ferry fare across the Tennessee River. The dollar got a very special job in raising his family. All of his children, all of his grandchildren, and many of his great grandchildren (including me) used this very special dollar for teething.

After the war, he became a banker and farmer in Humboldt, Tennessee and was active in veteran affairs. He married Martha Alice Love in 1875 and they raised 6 children. He was a member of Humboldt Lodge No. 202 F. and A. M. for 63 years and was an elder of the Humboldt Presbyterian Church. During April, he took his grandchildren to the Shiloh battlefield for a tour of the battle and always assured that they understood his zeal for the cause of Southern Independence.

At the age of 94, he died on December 19, 1935, in Humboldt, Tennessee. His grave is

in Shiloh cemetery in Gibson County, Tennessee. At his death, he was the oldest Confederate veteran in Gibson County, Tennessee.

I am proud of my Confederate ancestors and all the men and women who gave their all to drive invaders from their country. To remember Nelson Cresap, I have his war records, his picture in his uniform; his "D" handle Bowie knife, and the knowledge that his courageous blood flows through my veins. There are times when I feel timid to stand up for what is right. During these situations, I picture my ancestor with the Army of Tennessee assaulting the fortified works at the battle of Franklin and I know that I have the courage to do what is right.

Written by Charles E. (Eddy) Cresap, 1st Lt Commander of the John C. Pemberton Camp, in honor of his great-grandfather.



JOHN C. PEMBERTON
CAMP 1354

216 Miller Street
Vicksburg, MS 39180

<http://www.scv-camp-1354.com>

FIND US ON FACEBOOK AT
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/SCVCAMP1354

DEFENDING HISTORY SINCE 1896
WWW.SCV.ORG

The Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCV) is a hereditary organization for male descendants of Confederate veterans. It was formed in 1896 as the direct heir of the United Confederate Veterans and serves to preserve the history and legacy of the Confederate soldier. There are ongoing programs at the local, state and national levels in the form of preservation work, marking Confederate soldiers' graves, historical re-enactments, scholarly publications, and regular meetings to discuss the military and political history of the War Between the States and the colorful and heroic men who fought it.

Membership is open to all male descendants of any veteran who served honorably in the Confederate armed forces, and can be obtained through direct or collateral family lines which must be documented genealogically.

For more information, please visit www.scv.org

Edward Campbell

Commander

Larry Holman

Adjutant / Membership

Rev. Bryan Dabney

Chaplain

Sam Price

Historian

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, June 5th at 6:00PM. Our speaker will be Connor Bond, Lieutenant Commander of the Mississippi Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans.

Due to the Independence Day holiday, there will be no meeting in July.

To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we submit the vindication of the Cause for which we fought; to your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate soldier's good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles he loved and which made him glorious and which you also cherish. Remember, it is your duty to see that the true history of the South is presented to future generations.

From the stirring speech delivered by Lt. Gen. Stephen Dill Lee, Commander General of the United Confederate Veterans at the New Orleans, Louisiana

UCV Convention of 1906.