

# IN THE TRENCHES

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

November 2015 Issue

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“Remove a nation’s heritage and  
they are easily persuadable.”

Karl Marx

## **Commander's Column**

Dear Compatriot's,

I want to urge all of you to come to the November 3 meeting and bring a friend. Our speaker is Al Arnold from Madison. He is a fine Christian man who has a great story to tell. Al is a Black man whose great-great grandfather fought in the war and was an orderly for Robert E. Lee. This is a piece of History that you will not find in the History books. Al spoke to the Jackson Civil War Roundtable on October 15 and I had the honor of hearing him as did others from our Camp. You are all in for a treat if you have not heard him. I am expecting a larger than usual crowd so please bring extra chairs if you can and please bring someone who you think might be interested in joining our Camp.

Please keep in mind that our meeting date, November 3 is also our State Election Day. Please vote before you come and vote for the candidate of your choice. I would urge all of you do research and to see where the Candidate's stand on the issue of our State Flag. We will facing a fight on the flag again when the Legislature re-convenes in January and we all need to be informed.

Thank you all for your support of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. If you haven't paid your dues for the new year, please do so as soon as you can. We need all of you.

See you all on November 3

Edward Campbell

## **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.

Below are the list of upcoming meetings and speakers

<i>Date</i>	<i>Speaker</i>	<i>Topic</i>
Nov 3	Al Arnold	General Lee's Orderly
Dec 1		Christmas Party

## **November Program**

Al Arnold has accepted our invitation to speak at our November 3 meeting. For those of you who may not be familiar with him, he came to the April Civil War Roundtable Meeting in Jackson, he is a black man who is a direct descendant of a Confederate soldier, his ancestor was an orderly for the Great General Robert E. Lee and actually took care of Traveler during the conflict. I am extremely excited about this meeting and hope that we can have a great attendance of both SCV and UDC members. I will be taking our speaker to dinner at Cracker Barrel that evening at 5:30, anyone who is interested can attend but I would need to know a number. Let me know closer to the time. This is a great opportunity to involve others and to bring a friend who may be interested in our organization. Mr. Arnold has written a book about his ancestor and hopefully will have some copies to sell to members that night. Please pass the word along and plan to attend yourself. This meeting will be at our normal meeting location and time . We may need a few extra chairs. Bring one for you and one for a friend

## **A Sad Goodbye**

We must say farewell to our compatriot Josh Edwards. He is moving back to Texas to further his career and be closer to family. He will be greatly missed. Brain Skipwoth has been named third Lt. Commander to finish the term of Josh Edwards. Thanks to Bryan for stepping up. He has worked very hard for the camp since his membership.

## **Save the 1894 flag**

Fellow Mississippians,

May I have a few moments of your time? If you are reading this post you already know there is a fight brewing concerning the Mississippi State flag of 1894. This flag has flown over our state for all of our lives unless you are over 121. So let's look at some of the accomplishments that have occurred under this flag.

We have the more black elected officials in Mississippi than any other state; all elected and sworn into office under this flag.

We have as many if not more black athletes in our university and college sports programs than any other states.

We have come a long way in the last 50 or so years in dealing with the race question; however, I believe we have taken several steps back the past 6+ years.

This begs the questions (Who, What, and Why), they want to remove all things Confederate. Who told you to be offended? What about things of 150 years ago is so offensive? Why now?

The events of the past several months have been planned for a long time. They were just waiting for an excuse to begin removal of all things Confederate. It's not so much about a flag, or a monument. It's about rewriting history and control of all southern folks; the destruction of the southern Christian culture.

Mississippi is the last Flag Bearer. We must defend or surrender. I want to defend- how about you? We need all likeminded people to come to Jackson on January 19th, 2016 for "High Noon".

If you are in any group of likeminded Mississippians, please leave a message with contact information. I will be happy to come and speak or be of any help I can. This is too important we must give our all. Our future and all future generation's depends on what we do now.

May God Bless and Keep

Joseph Abbott

Mississippians to Keep the Flag of 1894

## **Dues, The South Needs All its Sons**

Our annual dues were due on 1 Aug and are late on 1 Nov. You should have gotten a notification of dues from the Mississippi Division Adjutant. It should describe the dues you owe for the upcoming year and an opportunity to donate to Mississippi Division Projects. The check for dues and donations will be sent to the John C. Pemberton Adjutant who will distribute dues and contributions to the proper place. There are three levels of dues. National dues of \$30, State dues of \$10, and camp dues of \$7. All must be paid to remain a member in good standing. Life memberships are available for both the Division and National level. Contact Larry Holman for details.

## **The Mississippi Flag Rally, HIGH NOON,**

On Tuesday January 19, 2016 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM, on the South Grounds of The Capitol ,there comes at a pivotal point in The State Legislature secession, especially The House - We can make a difference, Prepare to come and bring 6 friends / Mississippians Standing For Her Flag..... Will You be in that number?

## **Oct meeting**

The meeting was opened with a prayer, pledges, salutes and the charge. Larry Holman gave an excellent presentation on Yankee POW camps. We had four visitors seeking membership or to transfer into our camp, Robert Thornton, Jeff Cartright, Barry Bingham, and Phil Barlow. If you know these gentlemen encourage them to continue their attendance. Our annual Christmas party will be our normal Christmas event, bring finger food and a story. We also discussed having a Lee Jackson dinner in a restaurant in mid to late January. We will set more details at our November meeting. The meeting was closed with prayer.

## **Patriots begat patriots**

As part of our Southern Culture, the South has provided many patriots to keep our country free. Veterans day is Nov 11. On this day and every day, we must remember all who have served to keep us free.

## **Stone dedication in soldiers rest**

A memorial service will be held in Soldiers Rest on Saturday Nov, 14 at 1200. The service will honor Edwin Josiah Benton and Lafayette James Benton of Company K, third La Infantry the pelican rifles.

## **Camp T shirts**

Bryan Skipwoth is collecting information to present to the camp for selling camp T shirts. Thanks to Bryan for stepping up with this idea. Let us all rally around the idea. The cost will be between 20 and 25 dollars. The shirts will be on a pre order basis.

## **Flea market update**

On a beautiful Fall day in October, our camp had a recruitment booth at the Vicksburg fall flea market. We had a lot of help from our membership and fully met the primary goal of the booth, to put our presence in the public. We met a lot of people who believe in our cause and hope to get members out of the event. Thanks to Edward Campbell, Eddy Cresap, Joel Baily, Josh Edwards, Brain Skipwoth, Larry Holman, Lamar McMillin, Bryan Dabney and Larry Lowe .

## **Newspaper Ad**

Thanks to Doctor Lamar McMillan in providing the zeal and product for our first set of newspaper ads. Syd Johnson has graciously volunteered to lead the charge on a new set of newspaper ads. He has been named the Public Information officer for the John C. Pemberton Camp. A new set of ads will be developed but not run until the first ads are paid off. To contribute to our camps heritage defense fund contact Larry Holman. Syd has some ideas that include Guest editorials in the local paper, a series of paid ads in the paper, letters to the editor and a social media presence. Thanks to Syd for stepping up. He needs every ones help. He can not attain his vision for Public information alone.

## **Negro sharpshooter Thanks to Malcolm Allred**

On our right a negro sharpshooter has been observed, whose exploits are deserving of notice. He mounts a breastwork regardless of all danger and getting sight of a union soldier draws up his musket at arm's length and fires, never failing to hit his mark

## **9/11**

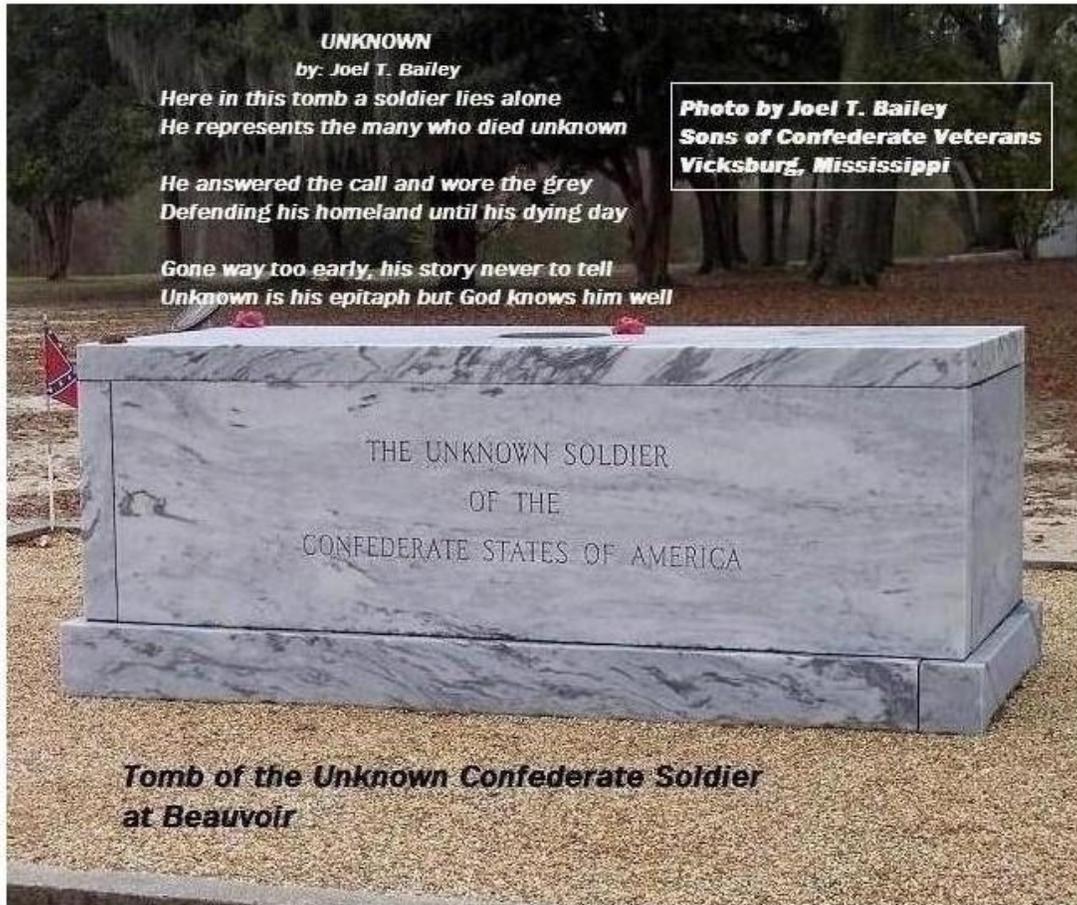
AS I listened to the 9/11 speeches, all of them called for "forever remembering" that horrible day with words, deeds and memorials. An attack on our soil is an awful thing that will not be soon forgotten. The innocents who lost their lives on 9/11 should always be remembered. We should also with equal spirit remember that some 150 years ago we (Confederate States of America) were a sovereign country and were attacked. by a foreign invader We have memorials and remembrances all over the South to those brave men who answered the call to defend their homes, families, and their altars against the ruthless invader. Let us keep our monuments so we can "forever remember".

## **SPLC**

It is all things Confederate. Do not be lulled into thinking it is anything else I have seen a mail out from the SPLC raising funds for their Erasing Hate Campaign. Their action plan:

- Launch a major campaign to identify and expose prominent government sectioned symbols honoring the Confederacy
- Pressure governmental bodies to remove these hateful symbols in order to foster a climate of healing
- Provide schools everywhere with free recourses that inoculate against hate and reinforce the values of democracy and our diverse nation
- Combat racist hate groups that seek to radicalize angry young men like the Charleston shooter

## Poet' s Corner Thanks Joel



## Chaplains Corner Thanks Bryan

### The Misuse of Scripture

Recently, I was treated to remarks forwarded to me by a friend regarding the design of our state's flag. The remarks were made in a letter from one of our senators in D.C. While his message concerning our flag was unremarkable and quite in line with those who fawn before the god of Political

Correctness, the scriptural passages he used were taken out of context. Even though he had correctly referenced what the apostle Paul's intentions were as found within First Corinthians 8, he then sought to equate them with his own desire to end the dissension within our state over the issue of the flag which is incongruent with what the apostle had set forth. With that in mind, let us now examine the verses of First Corinthians 8 for more details.

Verses 1-3 of First Corinthians 8 speak of the importance of charity over knowledge. The apostle was not speaking so much against possessing knowledge in general, but against knowledge gained for the purpose of preeminence of one person over others within the church (v.1). And conceited knowledge can result in irrational thinking for such a one, *knoweth nothing yet as he ought to know* (v.2). However, a person who loves God will, *be known of him* (v.3). The Rev. Matthew Henry noted concerning these verses that, "There is no evidence of ignorance more common than a conceit of knowledge... those who think they know anything and grow vain hereupon are of all men most likely to make no good use of their knowledge... Those that love God are most likely to be taught of God and be made by him to know as they ought... How much better is it to be approved of God than to have a vain opinion of ourselves!" Thus, it might be well for us to consider what God meant by the words he gave us instead of trying to twist their meaning for some purpose other than what he intended.

The verses which follow present us with the crux of the matter. St. Paul wrote with regard to eating, *things... offered in sacrifice unto idols, that, we know that an idol is nothing in the world, and that there is none other God but one* (v.4). And he said there is, *not in every man that knowledge: for some with conscience of the idol... eat it as a thing offered unto an idol: and their conscience being weak is defiled* (v.7). *But meat commendeth us not to God: for neither, if we eat, are we the better; neither if we eat not, are we the worse* (v.8). *But take heed lest by any means this liberty of yours become a stumbling block to them that are weak* (v.9). Continuing, the apostle reminded his readers: *For if any man see thee which hast knowledge sit at meat in the idol's temple, shall not the conscience of him which is weak be emboldened to eat those things which are offered to idols* (v.10);

*and through thy knowledge shall the weak brother perish, for whom Christ died (v.11)? But when ye sin so against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, ye sin against Christ (v.12). Wherefore, if meat make my brother to offend, I will eat no flesh while the world standeth, lest I make my brother offend (v.13).* So then those verses in chapter 8 of First Corinthians are not applicable to the state flag issue for two reasons. First of all, our use of the flag does not in any way constitute worship. And second, we should not worry that our respect for the flag as well as our support for its continued acceptance as such will push our opponents to sin by accepting it because of their weaker natures. In short, this is not a matter of Christian liberty, it's political. The flag serves as an emblem, and though it contains a Christian symbol— St. Andrew's Cross— its place in our political life is not dictated by any established Christian doctrine but by an act of the state legislature. In politics, there are those who favor keeping the flag, as well as those who would remove it. The very nature of politics contains matters where there are proponents and opponents with each of which, or both, possessing the ability to engage in error and/or wrongdoing. Right and wrong are, after all, based upon a society's ethical principles just as within the Christian Church there are those who are orthodox in their faith and those who are heretical. With regard to the flag issue, we are dealing with matters that involve history as well as politics. While some issues in politics can be properly addressed using Scripture, there are those that may loosely be addressed by an inference found within the Bible. In every case, discernment is necessary else one might misapply a Bible passage. But whether it is in ignorance or intention, using God's word in error ought to be avoided at all costs. We are not dealing with the words of man, but those of the Creator. So let us keep to what we know and through prayerful study learn from the Holy Ghost what things can properly be defended or rejected by references to God's word written.

## **Confederate Birthdays in Nov**

Lt General Jubal Early 3 November 1816

Lt General Ambrose Powell (A. P. ) Hill 9 November 1825

Lt General Theophilus Hunter Holmes 13 November 1804

Major General William Henry Forney 9 November 1823

Major General Samuel Gibbs French 22 November 1818

Major General Bryan Grimes 2 November 1828

Major General Benjamin Hunter 22 November 1805

Major General Fitzhugh Lee 19 November 1835

Major General Lunsford Lindsay Lomax 4 November 1835

Major General William Henry Talbot Walker 26 November 1816

Major General Pierce Butler Young 15 November 1836

## **Lt General Theophilus Hunter Holmes**

Everyone who joined the Confederate cause could not be a Lee, Jackson or Forrest. But what they all had in common was they left the comfort of their homes to defend their county against a foreign invader and gave their all with the resources given them and their skill sets. General Holmes was born in North Carolina the son of a former Governor. He graduated from West Point in 1829, 44 out of a class of 46. As a newly commissioned officer, he served in the second Seminole war. In the Mexican war he was promoted for courageous actions as observed by Jefferson Davis. After the firing on Fort Sumter, he resigned his commission in the US army and accepted a commission in the Confederate Army. While serving under General Lee in the Army of Northern Virginia, he and Lee did not agree on strategy. General Lee thought him to be too old, sluggish and passive to be a part of the army that would have to wage an aggressive fast moving war of movement. Holmes was transferred and became commander of the Trans Mississippi Department. Based on the condition of his troops in Arkansas, Holmes refused to send troops across the river to assist Pemberton in Vicksburg. After he was relieved of the command of the Trans Mississippi Department, he was made head of the District of Arkansas. During this time he became ill and was confined to bed. General Kirby Smith reported, his age was catching up to him and was deficient of energy and suffering from memory problems and needed to be replaced by a younger man. He was then placed in charge of reserve forces in North Carolina and saw little action from that post. He surrendered with General Johnston in North Carolina. He spent the remainder of his life as a farmer He died on June 21, 1880. and is buried in Fayetteville North Carolina..

## **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

## **15th Annual Gulf Coast Veterans Parade Gulfport, Ms - November 7, 2015**

This year beginning at 11:00 am the 2015 parade honors the Mississippi National Guard. I am looking starting at 30 plus reenactors who can commit to participating in this parade. Ladies dressed in period attire are welcome. I have set a cut off date to turn in the application for October 15, 2015, for those reenactors who can commit to participate in the parade. This would be a time when we can show our support for all Veterans and at the same time we will be honoring our ancestors. We will be carrying the U.S. Flag, Our State Flag, 1 st, 2 nd, 3 rd National, Battle Flag. I will need seven to eight volunteers to carry flags and can add other flags if I have the volunteers. If you can commit on participating in this Veterans parade please contact Wallace Mason at email: [harrywirmason@bellsouth.net](mailto:harrywirmason@bellsouth.net) or cell: 228-860-3800. Gulf Coast Veterans Day Parade website: [www.msveteransparade.com](http://www.msveteransparade.com) or [www.facebook.com/veteransday.parade](http://www.facebook.com/veteransday.parade)

## **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.

### **Highland Games at Beauvoir**

The highland games scheduled at Beauvoir Saturday 10/31 and Sunday 11/01/15 have been canceled.

## **Upcoming Mississippi Division Conventions**

The 2016 Mississippi Convention will be Hosted by the Hattiesburg camp with the convention at Beauvoir.

## **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 at any level, but are the views of the author of the material