

IN THE TRENCHES

MAY 2020

FROM THE COMMANDER

Edward Campbell

I am sitting here at my computer on the eve of a very special day. Tomorrow, April 27 is Confederate Memorial Day, still a state holiday in Mississippi. It is also still celebrated in Alabama, Georgia and Florida so we are not alone in honoring the memory of our Confederate soldiers and ancestors. I am so ready for us to all be together in our monthly meetings again, but I think that it is best to plan our next meeting to be our June meeting, on Tuesday June 2. We are planning to have that as our Comeback meeting after the Coronavirus shutdowns. We do not normally meet in July but because of the disruption in our meetings we will plan to meet in June, July and August.

Our June meeting will feature a short program as well as a planning session for the upcoming Reunion. As you all may know by now, we have postponed the Division Reunion until the weekend of August 21-23. The updated Registration forms are now on our Camp website and facebook page. The agenda is the same except for the fact that the dedication of the Arkansas Memorial Markers, scheduled for next Sunday, May 3, will be held at our Memorial Service during the Reunion on Sunday morning August 23. Please put the weekend of August 21-23 on your calendar as we will need the help of all Camp members in making this a very successful Reunion here in the River City. We need all of you to help out with this, even if you haven't been able to help before, you will certainly be needed that weekend.

As we spend one more month apart, I urge you to continue to be vigilant in the fight for our Southern Heritage. If you here of any-

thing related to our cause, please let me know as soon as you can. We are happy that Governor Reeves did sign the proclamation to make April Confederate Heritage Month. With all of the disruptions, it saddens me that we have been unable to do our usual April events, such as the Spring Flea Market and Confederate Memorial Day. I am hopeful that we can do a Confederate Memorial Day ceremony as a later date this year.

I am also in need of programs for the rest of the year, particularly starting in September after the Reunion. If you know of anyone or if you have a program yourself that you would like to put on, please let me know. My prayer for each of you is that you stay well and take care of yourselves and your families during this time. I am praying for a return to Normal, not a New Normal, but a return to the old Normal.

God Bless and hope to see all of you in June,

Edward Campbell
Commander



*John Clifford Pemberton
Lt. General, CSA.*

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *Next Meeting—Tuesday
June 2, 2020*
- *Arkansas Memorial Dedication—August 23,
2020*
- *MS Division Reunion—
August 21-23, 2020—
Vicksburg, Mississippi*
- *National Reunion—July
15-18, 2020—St. Augustine,
Florida*



THE NATIONAL CONFEDERATE MUSEUM AT ELM SPRINGS

The truth about the South's struggle to form a new nation is under attack as never before. The National Battlefield Parks have been taken over by the "it's all about slavery" provocateurs. Museums have changed their collections and interpretations to present what they call the cultural history of the War for Southern Independence. In reality this new perspective is nothing more than South bashing. The forces of political correctness have gone into high gear. They attempt to ban any and all things Confederate through their ideological fascism.

There needs to be at least one place where the people of the South and others can go to learn an accurate account of why so many struggled so long in their attempt to reassert government by the consent of the governed in America!

The General Executive Council of the Sons of Confederate Veterans made the commitment in October of 2008 to start the process to erect a new building that will have two purposes. One of the uses of this new building will be to give us office space and return Elm Springs to its original grandeur. However the main function is to house The Confederate Museum. We are planning a museum that will tell the truth about what motivated the Southern people to struggle for many years to form a new nation. At the SCV Reunion in July of 2009 the GEC set up a building fund for this purpose. One of the goals is to provide an accurate portrayal of the common Confederate soldier, something that is currently absent in most museums and in the media.

These plans are now becoming action. The ground breaking will take place in 2016. Click the link above to see the proposed building!

You are invited to make your stand for the future by contributing to this fund.

Send checks to:
Sons of Confederate Veterans
c/o TCM Building Fund
P.O. Box 59
Columbia, TN 38402

Or you can call 1-800-MY-DIXIE to pay by credit card.

www.theconfederatemuseum.com

BEAUVIOR

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.



Tomb of the Unknown Confederate Soldier at Beauvoir

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

COAST FEST

I am writing to you today because we, at Beauvoir, are having our annual Coastfest Car Show July 18th. Attached to this email is a form to fill out for sponsor a trophy for this Car Show. If you are interested in sponsoring please fill it out and send it and your donation to Kitsaa Stevens at Beauvoir. If you are interested in registering your own vehicle for a fee of \$25, I have attached that form as well because we are encouraging pre-registration. If you wish to participate and register on the day of the event, registration is from 8am to 10am and the judging starts at 11am. If you have any questions please let Kitsaa or myself know and we will be happy to help in any way we can.

Thank you,

Jo

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Jo Sunday

Administrative Assistant

admin@beauvoir.org

(228) 388-4400

Beauvoir the Jefferson Davis Home

& Presidential Library

2244 Beach Blvd.

Biloxi, MS 39531

SOLDIERS REST

The city of Vicksburg served as a major hospital center in the early years of the Civil War. A section in the Cedar Hill Cemetery was set aside to provide a fitting burial place for Confederate soldiers who died of sickness or wounds. Known as "Soldiers' Rest," the plot in Cedar Hill Cemetery is the final resting place for an estimated 5,000 Confederate soldiers.

A local undertaker, Mr. J.Q. Arnold, was hired by the Confederate government to bury Southern soldiers, and carried out those duties throughout the siege of Vicksburg. Mr. Arnold meticulously maintained records of the soldiers he buried, assigning each one a grave number. Regrettably, his list and map of the cemetery disappeared after the siege, although a portion of his list was re-discovered in the early 1960s, giving the name, rank, company, unit, and date of death for 1,600 soldiers. Approximately 3,500 names are unknown.

The document is now part of the archival records at the Old Courthouse Museum in Vicksburg, MS.



A soldier of stone stands guard over the resting place of Confederate Heroes.

Soldiers Rest - Vicksburg, Mississippi

Due to the disappearance of Mr. Arnold's records, only a few private headstones marked the plot until 1893. On April 26 of that year, the ladies of the Confederate Memorial Association dedicated a beautiful stone monument featuring the standing figure of a Confederate Soldier. It was not until the early 1980s, following the discovery of the partial list, that the headstones were erected through the combined effort of the United Daughters of the Confederacy and the Veterans' Administration. The stones were arranged with military precision and placed in state groupings. In 1998, an additional 72 headstones were erected by the Sons of Confederate Veterans to honor soldiers whose identities were established on a second list which surfaced in the collection of the Old Courthouse Museum.

Soldiers Rest also contains memorial markers for those who died at Cooper's Wells in Hinds County, and an effort is being made to honor the lives lost on the CSS Arkansas. Unfortunately, stones could not be placed at the actual resting places for the soldiers in both of these groups, so a decision was made to honor their memory by placing memorials for them in Soldier's Rest.

Discoveries continue to be made about the history of Soldier's Rest. As recently as August 2018, a new list of more than 150 previously unknown soldier and widow burials was discovered and is in the process of being added to the records. Ms. Anna Fuller, in cooperation with several other volunteers, researches and maintains the information about those Confederate heroes who are interred there.

The information that has been collected can be viewed online at soldiersrestvicksburg.com and on Facebook by searching

for "*Soldiers Rest Confederate Cemetery Vicksburg MS.*" Soldiers Rest is located inside Cedar Hill Cemetery, 326 Lovers Lane, Vicksburg, MS.

CONFEDERATE BIRTHDAYS

May 28—Gen. P.G.T. Beauregard

May 16—Gen. Edmund Kirby Smith

CAMP BIRTHDAYS

May 3—Bill Fryer

May 11—Mark Little

JOHN CLIFFORD PEMBERTON

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A Pennsylvania native of Quaker stock, John Clifford Pemberton was born on August 10, 1814. Despite his religious background John grew quite social and enjoyed parties, dances, and even the theater. Yet he was a quiet young man who shied away from intimacy and counted few close friends. (Among his boyhood friends was George Meade who was destined to command the Union forces at Gettysburg.) Pemberton's father, a close friend of President Andrew Jackson, secured an appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point for his son and John embarked on a military career.

At West Point, Pemberton was an average cadet who did not excel academically and accrued demerits by the score. During his first class, or senior year, he was even arrested for violation of the academy's prohibition against the possession of alcohol. Only after the entire senior class signed a pledge to abstain from alcohol for the duration of their term were the charges dropped. At graduation in 1837, Pemberton stood 27th in a class of 50 cadets and was assigned to duty with the 4th U. S. Artillery.

Pemberton went on to serve in the Second Seminole War and Mexican War where he saw action at Palo Alto, Resaca de la Palma, and Matamoras. While serving in Mexico he met a young lieutenant who would play a prominent role in his life during the Civil War. His name was Ulysses S. Grant. During this same period he struck up a close friendship with yet another young officer, this one an ardent Mississippian named Jefferson Davis. Upon his return from Mexico, he married Martha Thompson, a native of Norfolk, Virgin-

ia, and a fervent supporter of Southern politics and customs, and the couple had seven children. Patty, as he affectionately called his wife, held tremendous sway over her husband. At the outbreak of the Civil War she wrote John, "My darling husband, why are you not with us? Jefferson Davis has a position for you." Not willing to turn against his wife's interests, on 24 April 1861 resigned his commission in the U.S. Army and sought service in the newly-forming Confederate army. Two of his brothers volunteered in the Union army.

Pemberton offered his sword to his wife's native state, Virginia and Gov. John Letcher appointed him a lieutenant colonel in the state's forces. After Virginia's admission to the Confederacy, Pemberton was elevated to brigadier general and sent to the Department of South Carolina and Georgia. He initially served there under Robert E. Lee, but when Lee was summoned to Richmond to serve as the president's military advisor, Pemberton was elevated to major general and placed in departmental command.

In this role, Pemberton sought to concentrate his available manpower which would necessitate opening coastal areas to enemy incursions. He even recommended the evacuation of Fort Sumter and quickly fell afoul of local officials and South Carolina Governor Francis Pickens who clamored for Pemberton's removal. In the fall of 1862, with little useful field or combat experience, Pemberton was named commander of the Department of Mississippi and East Louisiana and charged with defense of the Mississippi River and the twin bastions of Vicksburg and Port Hudson.

Throughout the winter of 1862-1863 he was successful in parrying enemy movements, but in the spring of 1863 events would soon prove that Pemberton had been elevated beyond his capacities to command as Union Maj. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant launched his successful campaign against Vicksburg. Despite a valiant defense throughout a 47 day-long siege of the city, Vicksburg surrendered on July 4, 1863. In the aftermath of siege, Pemberton voluntarily resigned his commission and accepted the lower grade of lieutenant colonel and remained in Confederate service for the duration of the war.

2020 MISSISSIPPI DIVISION REUNION

The John C. Pemberton Camp in Vicksburg will host this year's MS Division Reunion. The meeting originally scheduled for June 5-7 has been rescheduled for the weekend of August 21-23 by the Division Commander and the Executive Committee due to the current corona-virus outbreak.

The Agenda for the Reunion remains the same with all events taking place at the Vicksburg Convention Center downtown, except for the Memorial Service at Soldier's Rest Cemetery. The service on Sunday morning will be a dedication of memo-

rial gravestones for those who served aboard the C.S.S. Arkansas. This memorial service is the culmination of an ongoing project of our Camp spearheaded by Compatriot Bryan Skipworth. We encourage all of you to stay over Saturday evening and attend this very special Memorial Service/Dedication event.

The Pemberton Camp has been working very hard and continues to make adjustments to give you a very enjoyable experience in the River City, and we hope you will be able to make the new date. All preregistrations to date will carry over to the new date. Everyone is highly encouraged to preregister well in advance to give our camp accurate numbers to better plan to meet your expectations.

Updated forms have been placed on our Camp website, <http://scv-camp-1354.com/>, and our Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/scvcamp1354/>. We are now asking you on the registration form if you plan to attend Friday night's Commanders Reception to indicate your attendance and how many will attend. We are also asking all members to honor their ancestor with a \$10 ancestor memorial to be placed in the Reunion program. Every SCV member has at least one ancestor through whom you joined this organization. Please honor that ancestor by placing his name and military unit in the program.

I have had the honor over the past few months to visit a number of different SCV Camps and personally invite you and your members to the Reunion. For those who I have not been able to visit in person, I have called or emailed your Camp Commander and invited them via phone or email to the Reunion. We are here to help and assist in any way, do not hesitate to call or email for any further questions. Please join us in Vicksburg on August 21-23 for the 125th Reunion of the MS Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans and the 26th Reunion of the MS Society, Order of Confederate Rose.

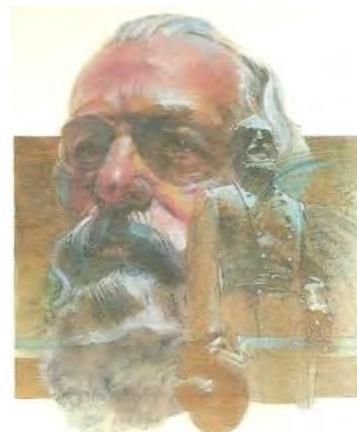
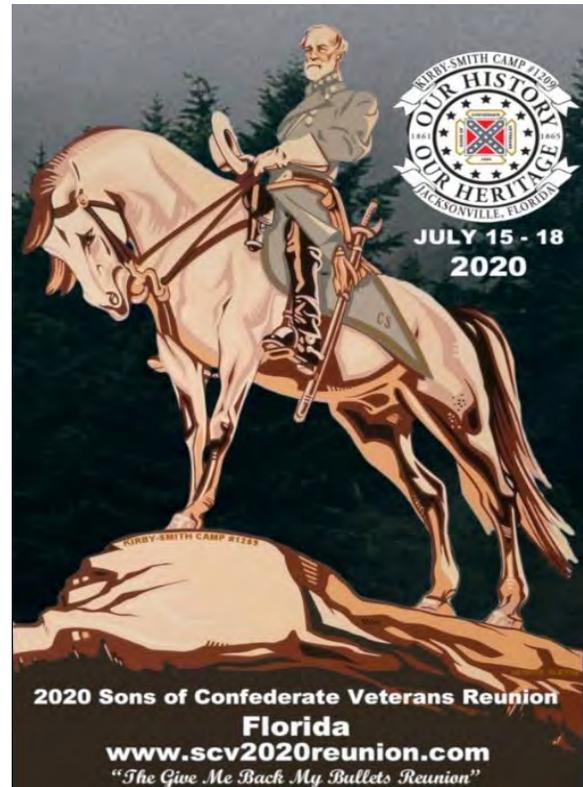
Hotel information with group rates is posted on the Registration forms, which are now updated on the Division Website, our Camp website and our Camp Facebook page. Feel free to call me for any additional questions.

See you all in the River City!

Edward Campbell
 Commander
 SCV Camp 1354

125TH NATIONAL REUNION

The 125th National Reunion of the Sons of Confederate Veterans will be hosted by the Kirby-Smith Camp #1209 in Saint Augustine, Florida from July 15-18, 2020. For more information, please visit www.scv2020reunion.com.



Edmund Kirby Smith
 The last surviving Civil War General,
 he fought gallantly for his beliefs.



CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL DAY

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

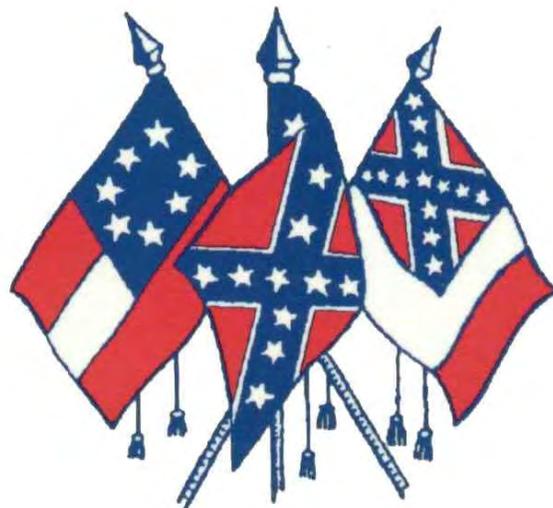
For as sons of the Southland
 They laid their lives down
 And their blood is forever soaked
 Into this hallowed ground

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





SCV Commander-In-Chief Paul Grammling (Left) speaking at the annual Lee-Jackson Dinner hosted by the LTG John C. Pemberton Camp in Vicksburg, Mississippi

Camp Member Wayne McMaster (Right) assists with setting memorial stones for the crew members of the CSS Arkansas.



Camp Commander Edward Campbell (Left) presenting at the East Mississippi Greys camp's annual Lee-Jackson Dinner in Forest, Mississippi

Completed historical marker and memorial stones for the crew of the CSS Arkansas (Right).





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

UPCOMING MEETINGS

NO MAY MEETING

Tuesday June 2nd—Camp Meeting (Tentative)—6PM at 216 Miller Street

Tuesday July 7th—Camp Meeting—6PM at 216 Miller Street

Sunday August 23rd—CSS Arkansas Crew Memorial Dedication—9AM at Soldier's Rest

August 21-23—2020 Division Reunion—Vicksburg, MS

If you are interested in presenting, please contact Commander Edward Campbell : ewccrystalsprings@yahoo.com

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.