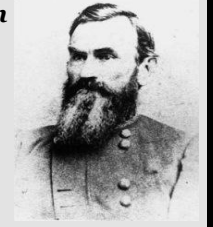




Claude Stillman, Commander Camp Website: www.humphreys1625.com



The Delta General

May, 2010

Volume 13, Issue 5

The official publication of the
Brig/Gen Benjamin G. Humphreys Camp #1625, MS Division, SCV

COMMANDER'S CORNER: CLAUDE STILLMAN

Greetings to you on this hot Delta day! I hope all is well with everyone. First I would like to mention a few things about the Mississippi Division Convention (reunion) held this year in Granada, Ms. I think that all will agree that it was a success. The business meeting was conducted in a smooth fashion and was well attended. There were eight members of our camp present for the business session. The banquet featuring the talents of Alan Sibley and the Magnolia Ramblers was enjoyed by all. The Scrapbook Award went to our very own B.G. Humphreys Camp and Nathan Bedford Forrest McCaskill won the Young Compatriot of the Year Award. Thank you Larry for a good

job on the scrapbook. The guest speaker was our governor's older brother Jeppi Barbour. Congratulations to the E.C. Walthall camp and the Belle Edmond Chapter, OCR for a successful Reunion.

Its almost meeting time again and Gator has lined up a guest speaker who I think you all will enjoy hearing. Mr. Bob Neil, who is a syndicated columnist from our area, will be with us. I would like to encourage all members past and present to attend. I think you will enjoy it....and hey bring a friend or two.

In last months meeting a new member was inducted into our camp. We would like to welcome George T. Kelly (T-George) to our family of compatriots. T-George is an attorney from Greenville and brings with him a love of history and Southern Heritage. We would like to thank some past members who

also attended and we urge all to come join us. We are still working to replenish our numbers so recruitment is very important. Lets do all we can to bring our numbers back up.

Lets remember each other in prayers, particularly those with health problems and those serving in our armed forces. Just remember without Our God and our Service men and women, where would we be? Lets also remember the ones on the gulf now working to stop and contain the oil spill. See ya'll come meeting time....

God bless America, God bless The South, God bless this camp, Junior

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ELLA PALMER CHAPTER, MSOCR NEWS:

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: SANDRA STILLMAN

Dear ladies of the OCR,

This seems to be the "reunion" time of the year. Classmates gather to catch up on ten years worth of talk and gossip. Families gather to greet new faces, to remember those who have passed, and to strengthen the bonds of kinship. Last weekend, the Grenada Camp hosted the MS Division State Convention. For the ladies of the OCR, this was a reunion. Granted, we see several of these ladies at various events during the year, but coming together as a state group gave us the opportunity to rekindle the spirit of the purpose of the OCR. Prior to

our meeting, the Grenada OCR chapter held a ladies tea, complete with beautiful china, flowers, food and entertainment. It was so nice to be treated like a Southern Lady!

During our meeting, new officers were elected. After much heart-searching Annette asked to step down as our MS President. She has devoted so much of her time and herself to the development of the state society, and to her we owe much gratitude. However, she will still be active as the Vice President of the state society. Missy Stillman will remain

Secretary- Treasurer and Becky Cupit, from the Brandon OCR chapter, was elected as our new President. Becky has much spirit and energy and will be an asset to our organization. As we continue to support our individual chapters, our state society can grow stronger.

Yours, Most Graciously,
Sandra Stillman, President



GUEST SPEAKER FOR JUNE

Hey everyone, can u believe it I got somebody for June.... Bob Neil of The Free State of Tribbett, Ms. Mr. Neil is a weekly syndicated columnist / humorist with a strong family background of family patriots who fought for Southren Rights. Not only is he a writer with several pinning works, he is also a leader in the Cyros Prison Ministry. Let's have a good member showing and bring a guest. Never know who you might run in to.

CAMP NEWS:

CAMP ADJUTANT'S REPORT: DAN McCASKILL

At 7:15 pm, Commander Junior Stillman called the Camp Meeting to order. Camp Chaplain Earl McCown opened the Meeting with a word of prayer. We were all asked to keep Alfred Burton in our prayers. Mr. Burton was scheduled for cancer surgery on the 21st of May. Following the prayer, Color Sergeant Joe Nokes led the members and guest in the Pledge and Salutes to the Flags.

Commander Stillman welcomed everyone to the Meeting. Special guests were Justin Kelly, son of new member George T. Kelly and Sid Aust, a past member of the Camp who will re-join the Camp in August. Junior had the pleasure of administering the Oath of Membership in the SCV to George T. Kelly, our 49th member. There was no program scheduled for the evening so Junior initiated a round table

discussion of what the Order of Confederate Rose does and what the Sons of Confederate Veterans means to its members for the benefit and understanding of our recent new members. Sandra Stillman explained the origins of the OCR and the functions of the organization as an auxiliary to the SCV. Junior asked some of the older members of the Camp; Dan McCaskill, Earl McCown and Larry McCluney what the SCV meant to them. Some of the things mentioned were honoring your Ancestor, preserving their memory, educating the public to the Truth, preserving and marking the grave sites of our Veterans, we are Christian and family orientated, a fraternal organization, living historians, and an extended family. The discussion was beneficial to new and old members.

There was little for the Officers to report. 1st Lt. Commander Gator Stillman reported he would be able to do a better job getting speakers since he had completed his EMT training. 2nd Lt. Commander Ronnie Stewart reported he is still working on some prospective members and old members. Adjutant Dan McCaskill reported the Camp is well within the budget and had collected \$ 95 towards next year's budget.

With no other business coming before the Camp, Junior asked Earl to dismiss the Meeting with a word of prayer. Attendance for the Meeting was 19, an increase from last month.

Submitted by,
Dan A. McCaskill, Adj.

National MOS&B News:

COMMANDER IN CHIEF'S REPORT: MAX WALDROP

It is with great appreciation and humility that I have accepted the highest honor that you the membership can bestow upon me - that of serving as Commander General of the Military Order of the Stars and Bars. Congratulations are extended to our uniquely talented General Officers and Staff who were elected and appointed to their positions during the Convention. They join me in their commitment to provide quality membership services.

Our 73rd General Society Convention was held in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma from April 29 through May 1. The Stand Watie Society members were remarkable hosts in arranging a very smooth and well-organized Convention. The Cumberland Room which was our main event room was arranged in spectacular fashion with many flags and memorabilia. The room could not have been more pleasing to the Confederate eye. The fraternal and long lasting relationships that our members have with each other were enhanced as new memories and friendships were cemented and new ones made. This proved to be a very educational Convention, as we made the tours and listened to our speakers. Our visit to the Confederate Room, which is the Order's official Archive location, located inside the modern and beautiful Oklahoma History Center, was a special event. Our Oklahoma members have created a bastion for the Order which truly reflects the mission that we hold so dearly.

I extend my sincere and profound appreciation to Past Commander General Anthony Hodges and his devoted staff for the dedicated service that they rendered to the Order over the past two years. With their very capable leadership, we have

overcome several events that could have been devastating to our Order.

As we begin a new administration, I am looking forward with great expectation and enthusiasm to the results we will obtain with our General Executive Council, General Officers, and General Staff. We have almost one hundred talented individuals who have volunteered to render service during 2010-2012.

I will expand in greater detail in subsequent issues of the Officer Call our vision in education, leadership, and national influence for the Order and the opportunities that lie before us. The Convention and the General Executive Committee approved the formation of several new committees which are briefly described below:

The **Sesquicentennial Committee** is composed of members representing their state and the activities already underway in your communities. Chair-man for this Committee is COL (Ret) Barton Campbell who was a former Executive Director of the Museum of the Confederacy. He is assisted by Past Chief of Staff Ray W. Gill who has agreed to serve as Historian General.

The **Education Committee** is under the leadership of Randy Jones of Ennis, Texas. This committee will work on creating a Teacher of the Year award and developing a platform for our educational thrust.

The **Chaplain Corps Committee** is led by Deputy Chaplain General Walter Blackman to encourage effective utilization of our Chaplains who are serving at the Chapter and State Society level. This committee will develop another communication network within the Order.

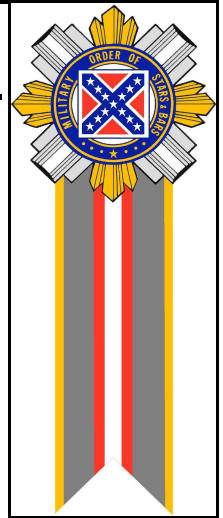
The **Ethics Committee** chaired by Chief of Staff David Whitaker will attempt to resolve expeditiously through mediation and arbitration any conflicts that may possibly occur among members of the Order.

The **Cadet Corps Committee** under the direction of Lt Commander General Richard Rhone will initially create the organizational structure for a Corps of Cadets to ensure future interest and growth of membership in the Order. We will continue to focus on securing our financial strength, improving membership recruiting and retention, and expanding our national footprint with other heritage organizations. By remaining focused in these three strategic areas, the Order will be successful.

In the coming months, we will communicate the exciting changes that take place. We are committed to making the transition between the administrations totally seamless without any drop in service levels.

Please do not hesitate to call upon any of us at any time. I challenge you to become involved - there will be so many more opportunities, and you will not regret it!

Highest regards,
Max L. Waldrop, Jr.



COMMANDER'S REPORT: ALLAN PALMER

Report of Brig. Gen. Charles Clark, C. S. Army, commanding First Division April 6-7, 1862.--Battle of Pittsburg Landing, or Shiloh, Tenn. O.R.-- SERIES I--VOLUME X/1 [S# 10]

HDQRS. FIRST DIV., *FIRST CORPS, ARMY OF THE MISS.*, April 8, 1862.

Maj. GEORGE WILLIAMSON, *Asst. Adjt. Gen., First Corps, Army of the Mississippi*

My fellow compatriots,

I hope you will enjoy reading the following after action report written by Brig Gen Charles Clark who is of course our MOSB Camps name sake. It was written following the action of April 6, 1862 and notice that it mentions Howel Hinds name in it so I'm wondering if Holt Collier was in this action? Seems like he was but my memory ain't what it used to be. I would love to highlight any ones ancestor who was an officer or government official so if you have any information please forward it to me for future publication.

God Bless our Southern Heritage,
Allan Palmer

MAJOR: On the evening of the 3d instant my division (composed of the Second Brigade, commanded by Brigadier-General Stewart, and the First Brigade, by Col. R. M. Russell, of the Twelfth Tennessee Regiment) moved as ordered, and halted for the night on the Ridge road to Pittsburg, about 9 miles from Corinth. At daylight on the 4th we resumed the march, but were soon ordered to halt to permit the troops of Major-General Hardee to pass to our front.

We were again stopped at the crossing of the Monterey and Purdy road to await the arrival of troops that were to move by that road and precede us. We encamped for the night (during which rain fell in incessant torrents) with our right about half a mile from the cross-road at Mickey's, the whole day's march not exceeding 6 or 7 miles.

At 3 a.m. Saturday the whole command was under arms and in readiness to move, but darkness and a drenching rain detained us until dawn. At Mickey's we were again halted some five hours, until the troops of Major-General Bragg came up and preceded us, so that it was not until late in the afternoon that we arrived at the point designated for our bivouac for the night.

On Sunday morning, the 6th instant, the two brigades, the Second in front, marched to the field, as ordered by Major-General Polk, in line of battle, the center on the Pittsburg road, Stanford's battery attached to and following the Second in the road and Bankhead's battery the First.

When within about 1,000 yards of the enemy's camps the left flank of each line, while passing through a field, was exposed to a fire of round shot and shell from a battery of the enemy, but no casualties occurred, although the battery continued to fire upon us for thirty minutes. When we arrived within 300 yards of Major-General Bragg's fine General A. Sidney Johnston ordered me to send the Second Brigade, by a flank movement, to the right, to support the forces there engaged, and to remain with the First Brigade in position and await orders. He led the Second Brigade in person and I did not see it afterwards.

In a few moments I was ordered to move to the edge of the open fields in front, and was there met by Major-General Bragg, who informed me that the battery on the left and front of my line was enfilading his troops, and directed me to charge it with one of my regiments. The Eleventh Louisiana (Col. Sam. F. Marks), being most convenient, I led it forward. The battery was concealed from us by a ridge and distant about 300 yards. The battalion moved up the ascent, with fixed bayonets, at a double-quick, and when on the crest of the ridge we were opened upon by the enemy's battery with shot and canister and by a large infantry support with musketry at easy range. Our men were compelled to fall back behind the ridge, where they were promptly reformed.

In the mean time Colonel Russell brought forward the other three regiments, and with the whole brigade I again charged. The enemy retreated. We pursued them at double-quick some 500 yards, when we met a large force in position, upon whom we opened fire. A brisk interchange of musketry continued for about fifteen minutes, when the enemy commenced retiring, covering their retreat with skirmishers. I ordered the firing to cease, and was proceeding along the line to enforce the order when I received a severe wound in the right shoulder. Leaving Colonel Russell in command, I went to the rear to have my wound dressed, and met Major-General Bragg, to whom I communicated the situation of affairs, who, after kindly expressing his sympathy, galloped to the front to give his orders in person. In the first charge by the Eleventh Louisiana Regiment the right wing was embarrassed by the tents and picket ropes of an artillery company on the ridge, and the whole line exposed to a murderous fire, of the effect of which the dead and wounded were melancholy evidence.

Having received no reports from the officers under my command, I cannot report specially as to the conduct of the brigade and other officers of the line. Justice will doubtless be done them in the reports which will be sent you; but I can bear witness to the uniform, steady conduct of all, both officers and men, who came under my observation.

To my staff my thanks are due for their gallantry and good conduct. Capt. W. H. McCardle, assistant adjutant-general; Lieut. William Yerger, jr., my aide-de-camp; Majs. Howell Hinds and W. M. Inge, assistant adjutants-general, Seventh Brigade, Army of the Potomac, and Capt. John A. Buckner, of the Eighth Kentucky Regiment, volunteer aide, accompanied me in conducting the first charge of the Eleventh Louisiana Regiment and in the second advance, and were, in the thickest of the fight, prompt and intelligent in the execution of my orders. Lieutenant Yerger was near me and had his horse shot under him about the time I was wounded. Major Hinds was by my side and assisted me from the field. Maj. W. H. Haynes, my division commissary, was seriously wounded in the face by the fragment of a shell. Mr. James E. McClure, acting quartermaster, came frequently to the front under fire to receive my orders.

Captain Williams, of the staff of Major-General Bragg, was conspicuous for his courageous bearing, waving his sword in the front and being the first upon the hill in our second charge.

The colour-sergeant of the Eleventh Louisiana did not fall back with his regiment when it was repulsed in the first charge, but kept his flag displayed upon the hill amid a shower of balls until he was ordered back to the new line.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
CHARLES CLARK,
Brig. Gen., Comdg. 1st Div., 1st Corps, Army of the Mississippi.

SOUTHERN HERITAGE CONFERENCE – AUGUST 13-14, 2010

All you **politically incorrect** folks, come celebrate the **South** with the Jones County Rosin Heels SCV Camp at the **Southern Heritage Conference** at Bethlehem Baptist Church about 5 miles east of Laurel, MS on Highway 184 E. We'll have **in your face** speakers, music, food and fellowship!

Our speakers are **Chaplin-in-Chief, Bro. Cecil Fayard, Past Division Commander, Larry McCluney** and **Alabama Tea Party speaker, Bro. John Killian**. Some of the others may show the current issues are related to the War. We'll meet Friday, **August 13** at 6:00 PM to visit, shop and get seated to start at 7.00pm. We meet again at 8:30 AM Saturday with speeches to start at 9.00 AM, **August 14** We'll break for dinner at noon and eat on the premises, and come back afterwards for the afternoon session.

Saturday night dress casual or dress out in Confederate uniforms and antebellum ball gowns or wee kilties for the **Saturday evening supper and Confederate Ceiledh** at 5:00. We will try to eat at 5.30. At a Ceiledh, everyone is invited to sing, tell a joke, read a poem, etc. At the supper and **Ceiledh** we'll post the colors. We will need all **uniformed Confederates and kilted Scots to bring weapons** and join in to protect colors, and piper.

(They'll either enjoy it, or they need it!)

NOON DINNER \$10.00 PER PERSON, SUPPER \$15.00 PER PERSON

You MUST make MEAL RESERVATIONS IN ADVANCE

Mail check to: Jones County Rosin Heels, P. O. Box 52, Laurel, MS 39441

PHONE: 601/649-1867 days, 601/426-2041 nights, email:

csaford@hotmail.com

Comfort Suites is convention motel. Special rates until August 6 –\$76.00

Call 601-649-2620 and tell them you are with the Southern Heritage Conference for special rates.

We'll see you at the Southern Heritage Conference! Put us down!

NAME _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

THERE WILL BE _____ OF US FOR NOON DINNER @ \$10.00 EACH, AND _____ OF US FOR SUPPER @ \$15.00 EACH, AND

CONFERENCE ADMISSION _____ (\$15.00 FOR FAMILY) OR

CONFERENCE ADMISSION _____ (\$10.00 FOR INDIVIDUAL)

I ENCLOSE A CHECK FOR \$ _____ (POST DATED IS OK)

!!!!MEAL RESERVATIONS MUST BE IN BY 8:00 AM, AUGUST 8 !!!!
Vendors tables are free, but limited and filling up fast. Please contact us.

SOUTHERN HERITAGE CONFERENCE

P. O. Box 52

LAUREL, MS 39441

REUNION HIGHPOINTS

Your Camp was well represented at the 115th annual reunion of the Mississippi Division, held during the weekend of 5 and 6 June in Grenada, MS (Commander Claude Stillman, Earl McCown, Joe Nokes, Gator Stillman, Larry McCluney, Alan Palmer, Andrew McCaskill, and Nathan McCaskill - OCR Representatives was President Sandra Stillman, Missy Stillman, Ann McCaskill, Patty Nokes, Annette McCluney, and Miranda McCaskill). All the attendees stayed in Grenada but the actual reunion site was a few miles south of town in Elliot, MS. The Maj. Gen. E.C. Walthall SCV Camp 211 and Bell Edmondson Chapter 14, Order of the Confederate Rose hosted the reunion and they did a fabulous job over the two days.

The meeting place for the reunion was Elliot Baptist Church, where Walthall camp commander and SCV national chaplain, Dr. Cecil Fayard, pastors during his regular job. Several campaign messages were read during the opening proceedings by various folks representing people running for National offices this year, but who were unable to attend in person to stump. Two candidates did make it - Paul Gramling, from Shreveport, LA, who is running for National Lt. Commander-in-Chief and Larry McCluney who is running for AOT Councilman.

The business agenda was not as heavy as last year and consisted mostly of some bylaw changes, budget and membership discussions, several resolutions and a report on Beauvoir.

Some highlights of the business session:

- Report on efforts to bring the 2013 National Convention to Vicksburg to coincide with the sesquicentennial celebrations. While it looked like we had a lock on the convention, there is now a movement elsewhere to have it in Gettysburg, PA, of all places! As one member put it, "My ancestor didn't have a very good time at Gettysburg, and I don't think I would either - and I don't want to spend any money up there."
- Update on the vandalism at the Enterprise and Quitman cemeteries. Local

Boy Scout troops assisted the SCV in cleaning up the cemeteries and several members earned merit badges for their efforts. The Division voted to donate \$250 to the responsible troops for their efforts.

- 'Bricks for Beauvoir' program. The fund raising effort to sell memorial bricks has basically ground to a halt since no one is ordering bricks. Chairman Larry McCluney challenged each camp to at least order a brick for their camp namesake.

- Shiloh Memorial in the works. I have been to Shiloh Military Park many times but I never noticed that there is NO Mississippi monument in the park. Well, efforts are underway to get that rectified. The park has already approved the idea and picked a spot; Rhea Field,

where the 6th Mississippi Infantry repeatedly charged up a hill trying to break the Union lines and earned their nickname, 'The Bloody 6th'. The Division is hoping to raise at least \$250,000 to get a nice monument, something akin to the Tennessee monument

recently placed in the park by that state (see pictures, next page). The organizers would like to see each camp raise \$3000 toward this worthy goal.

next best thing - his brother, Jeppie Barbour, who is a member of the Walthall



Dr. Cecil Fayard, commander of the Walthall Camp, gets the reunion rolling.



The memorial service at the Confederate Monument on a quiet Sunday morning...

camp and a key figure in the Mississippi flag fight a few years back. Also that night, the Camp won the Scrapbook of the Year Award and Nathan McCaskill won the Young Compatriot of the Year Award.

Many reunion attendees attended an early Sunday morning memorial service at



...shattered by musket volleys.

the Grenada downtown square to rededicate the Confederate Memorial which was erected just over 100 years ago to the day we assembled. In his booming preacher's voice, Commander Fayard reminded us (and the rest of downtown Grenada) why the soldiers fought and why we must never forsake them. It was a fitting end to a wonderful reunion.

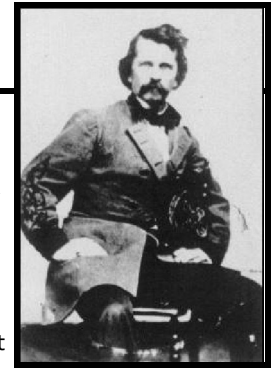


A king-sized quilt of battle flags raffled off for the Flag Restoration Program

The reunion was capped off by wonderful banquet of BBQ pork and chicken and all the fixin's Saturday night. They couldn't get the governor to speak, so they got the

EARL VAN DORN AND THE TWO GENERAL LEES

BY LT. CMDR DR. BRANDON BECK, CALADONIA RIFLES CAMP, COLUMBUS, MS



Mississippi's greatest author, William Faulkner, did not write a Civil War novel. But the War is in all his novels. His great grand-father commanded a cavalry regiment at First Manassas, in Virginia, in 1861, but then returned to Mississippi. The author's War is almost always set in Mississippi. But there was one exception: in his novel Sartoris, Faulkner depicted Genl. Jeb Stuart's great raid behind Federal lines just before the Battle of Second Manassas in late August, 1862. Stuart's raiders plundered Union General Pope's headquarters, almost capturing Pope himself. Pope fled in the nick of time. Faulkner has Stuart ask a captured Union major where Pope had gone so suddenly: "A prior engagement, perhaps?"

Faulkner's depiction of Stuart's raid in Virginia reminds me very much of General Earl Van Dorn's raid on Holly Springs, Mississippi, on December 20, 1862. Holly Springs was Grant's headquarters and supply depot, the base he depended on as he advanced on Grenada, from Oxford, heading for Vicksburg. Grant himself was away at the time of the Raid, but Van Dorn barely missed capturing his wife. Van Dorn's raid was as daring as Stuart's, and the strategic stakes were huge. Van Dorn achieved complete surprise, and in about ten hours captured (and paroled) the Yankee garrison, and completely destroyed the tremendous accumulation of quartermaster and commissary stores that Grant had accumulated there. The effects were far reaching, and immediate. With General Nathan B. Forrest loose in west Tennessee, ravaging Union bases and depots, and now Holly Springs a smoldering ruin, a disgusted Grant pulled up stakes, and canceled the first Vicksburg Campaign...

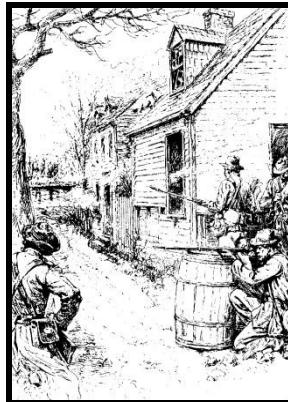
Van Dorn's Raid can be considered 'a great Mississippi moment'. It echoes through the pages of Faulkner's Sartoris, and, later, its memory lives on in the pages of his Light in August. In the pages of history, the raid saved Vicksburg. Grant retreated to Memphis. He would have to try again in the spring.

Prior to Van Dorn's strike, Grant had ordered his lieutenant, or accomplice, General William T. Sherman, to advance on Vicksburg from Memphis. Grant had hoped to coordinate his movement from Grenada with Sherman's from Memphis. Sherman had come down the river on troop transports, and disembarked about 30,000 men at Chickasaw Bayou, before he learned that Grant had abandoned his drive on Grenada. The Confederate commander facing Sherman was General Stephen D. Lee. Lee was an expert artilleryist. His artillery had been instrumental at Fort Sumter, and in the great victory at Sec-

ond Manassas. Lee's guns had held the Confederate center at Sharpsburg on September 17.

Now transferred to Mississippi, Lee had selected his position with great care, sighting his guns to maximum effect. Sherman unwisely decided to press his attack without Grant. The Battle of Chickasaw Bluffs, on December 26-27, was a complete Confederate victory. Sherman lost over 3000 men, to no purpose, and retreated to Memphis. Although the Federal navy controlled the river, Vicksburg, and Port Hudson were still safe.

As was the capital in far off Virginia. There too December 1862 was kind to the Confederacy. Next to Stonewall Jackson's capture of Harpers Ferry, in September, the most complete Confederate victory of the entire War came at Fredericksburg, mid-way between Washington and Richmond, on December 12-13. Like General S. D. Lee's position at Chickasaw Bluffs, overlooking the Mississippi, General Robert E. Lee's position on high ground over the Rappahannock at Fredericksburg was immensely strong. Like Sherman on the Mississippi, Union General Ambrose Burnside on the Rappahannock was a victim of



faulty coordination. In Burnside's case, the breakdown was between the Army of the Potomac, and the Corps of Engineers. Burnside actually had a good chance of crossing the river unopposed, before Lee could get into position, but his pontoon boats were delayed. Once they arrived, so had Lee. As unwisely as

Sherman, Burnside decided to press on. General William Barksdale's Mississippians further delayed Burnside, killing and wounding many of the engineers as they attempted to lay the boats. Barksdale's sharpshooting brought on the wrath of the Union artillery, from its own high ground on the other bank of the stream. Fredericksburg was nearly destroyed.

Once across the Rappahannock Burnside pressed on. The Confederates had a clear field of fire for rifles and artillery, and the result was the same as at Chickasaw Bluffs. But the numbers were much, much greater. The Army of Northern Virginia at Fredericksburg, was not quite as large as the force Lee led at Gaines Mill. But it was far better armed and organized. It had smashed McClellan in the Seven Days,

beaten Pope at Second Manassas, survived Sharpsburg intact, recovered its strength in the Shenandoah Valley and grown to love its leader.

It comes out at Fredericksburg today, as if the ground could speak. I know of no other Civil War battlefield where today's visitor can get the full impact of the mighty Army of Northern Virginia, 73,000 men strong. Today, as you drive along the Confederate battle line, three successive lines of trenches parallel the road on the passenger's side. Two more parallel the road on the driver's side. And the road goes on for miles, from Marye's Heights to Hamilton's Crossing. Every few feet iron markers designate the position of legendary brigades and divisions, in full array and full confidence.

Battery after battery of guns are spaced along the roadside. Today, their field of fire is obscured by foliage. Mercifully, the foliage itself obscures jumbled and sprawling 'development'. But there was no foliage in December, 1862. The entire might of the Federal Army, over 100,000 men, was there in front, coming uphill toward them. Sheets of fire tore their ranks. Unlike at Sharpsburg, at Fredericksburg the Confederates could SEE the entire battlefield. It was a victory that could be SEEN, as if across a table top. As the fire swelled, and the attacks recoiled again and again, Lee turned to Longstreet and said "It is well that war is so terrible; otherwise we should grow too fond of it." Federal losses were over 13,000 men, to no purpose.

I am not entirely sure what General Lee meant in his statement to Longstreet. There is a kind of ambiguity about it. Lee by this time knew and loved his army as it knew and loved him. Ever since Sharpsburg he referred to Longstreet as his 'old war horse'. He had always understood and trusted "Stonewall" Jackson. Soldiers from every State in the South served in this army, under Lee, Stuart, Longstreet and Jackson. As one of Faulkner's characters in Sartoris says, "It was the goddamndest army ever." But the South was never very far from ruin, even in victory. Stephen D. Lee and Van Dorn had saved Vicksburg. Lee and his lieutenants had saved Richmond. But after the greatest moment of his life, at Holly Springs, Van Dorn had five months to live. Stonewall had not yet lived his greatest moment, but like van Dorn, he had but five months to live.

Continued Next Month . .

HISTORICAL HERESY: THE BATTLE HYMN OF THE REPUBLIC

An Honest Examination of the Motives Behind the Composition of a Most Effective Example of Humanistic Propaganda

There are many beautiful, inspiring, spiritual hymns and songs of the Christian church that were born out of adversity, during times of revival or God's rich dealings with His servants. These songs and hymns we must deeply revere and appreciate for their rich meaning and spiritual value. However, there are some songs that have been adopted into Christian hymnody that do not belong there because of their history, and / or doctrine. One such song that has crept into the Christian church and its worship, unnoticed, is the song entitled, "The Battle Hymn of the Republic". This song should not be considered a hymn of our Faith, because of its sinister origin, the attitude and actions that it promoted, and the liberal philosophy of its authoress, Mrs. Julia Ward Howe.

First, concerning Mrs. Howe, she is commonly known as a writer and social reformer, and not as a Bible believing Christian. After her marriage to Dr. Samuel Gridley Howe in 1843, they moved to Boston and became associated with the famous Unitarian "Church of the Disciples", pastored by the well-known Unitarian transcendentalist, James Freeman Clarke. Mrs. Howe and her husband became deeply involved in the anti-slavery movement of the 1840's and 50's and edited one of its papers, the "Boston Commonwealth". In her zeal and desire for social reform at any cost, Mrs. Howe came to revere the basest of men such as John Brown, the Kansas murderer and terrorist. After the infamous murdering rampage at Harper's Ferry when John Brown was condemned to die, Mrs. Howe believed that "John Brown's death will be holy and glorious. John Brown will glorify the gallows like Jesus glorified the cross."

As a Unitarian, her religious views were not based on the fundamental theocentric (God centered) doctrines of the Scriptures, but upon the 19th century liberal anthropocentric (man-centered) beliefs of the higher critics, poetic mystics and the advocates of transcendental meditation. These beliefs can be briefly summed up as the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of all men. By her own statements it is very clear as to what her opinion was concerning Jesus Christ. She said, "Not until the Civil War did I officially join the Unitarian Church and accept the fact that Christ was merely a great teacher with no higher claim to preeminence in wisdom, goodness and power than many other men.

"Having rejected the exclusive doctrine that made Christianity and special forms of it the only way of spiritual redemption, I now accept the belief that not only Christians but all human beings, no matter what their religion, are capable of redemption." These are the same fallacies and heresies which are espoused by the religious and academic liberal establishment yet today. On the occasion of the writing of the words of the song "The Battle Hymn of the Republic", with the blessings of President Lincoln, she wrote words to a popular tune of the day that could be used as a rallying cry of the North in opportunity of their invasion of the Christian South. The message of



Julia Ward Howe

this song, shrouded in religious terms was intended to convince the people of the North that they were involved in a "holy war" for a righteous cause. Simply stated, it was used as typical war propaganda by the Lincoln administration for brainwashing the citizens of the North in their bloody invasion and destruction of the South.

Ever since Mrs. Howe wrote the words to this song in December 1861, many sincere well-meaning Christians have unknowingly sung this song with religious zeal and fervor without understanding its original intent and meaning. Along with other prominent Unitarians, as Mrs. Howe viewed the Union troops of the "Army of the Potomac", she was then inspired to write the words that are known and sung today. She portrayed the Union Army as the "coming of the glory of the Lord" going to "trample out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored". She plainly states that "I have seen Him (God) in the watchfires of a hundred circling (Union) camps." To her, Lincoln's 75,000 volunteers were the "Army of God" going forth to slaughter the evil resisters of social reform and progressive centralized government.

The "burnished rows of steel" that she mentioned referred to the polished Union cannons that rained down death and destruction upon not only the Confederate soldier, but also upon southern cities and countryside.

At this time in American history, "The South" was quite different in many ways from the North. The South was more agrarian while the North was more industrialized. The South more rural while

the North more urban; the South advocated the traditional interpretation of the Constitutional principles of our American Founding Fathers for States Rights, and local governmental control as opposed to the Northern Republican party view of centralized governmental powers; the people of the South were more traditional in maintaining their culture dating back to their Celtic ancestors, whereas the North was rapidly losing the racial and cultural traditions through the influx of more liberal ideas of equalitarianism; the educational institutions of the South were more conservative in thought and practice as opposed to the Northern concepts of universalism, humanism, deism and rationalism that had crept into its once great academic institutions such as Harvard and Yale; at this critical time in our history the South was definitely more adamant in its stalwart defense of traditional Calvinistic Christianity that dated back to the early

reformers while the religious establishments of the North were accepting and promoting the fallacious anti-Biblical concepts of the more modernistic approach to such truths as the authenticity and inerrancy of the Scriptures.

In summation, the South held to and practiced a more Biblical form of Christianity while the North was straying from its roots of Puritanism and Biblical foundations. During the "War Between the States" of 1861-1865 it was only in the army of the Confederate States of America that God had blessed with a real spiritual revival among the officers and common soldiers where it was estimated by contemporary chaplains and pastors that approximately 100,000 men were genuinely converted to Christ, which became the origin of the Southern "Bible Belt".

This is a thrilling story within itself that needs to be told to all Southern parishioners, but it seems to be a well-kept secret known only to a few. This information is given in hopes of informing the Christian church to be aware of the fact that everything that finds its way into our Christian worship is not worthy of our acceptance. Let us heed the admonition of the Apostle Paul given in I Corinthians 14:15, to sing not only with the spirit, but with the understanding also.

by Charles A. Jennings
TRUTH in HISTORY Publications
Springdale, AR.
www.truthinhistory.org

THE TRUTH ABOUT STATES' RIGHTS

In 1781, THE ORIGINAL thirteen States entered into a "Confederation", and drew up "Articles", one of which said:

"Each State retains its sovereignty, freedom and independence, and every power, jurisdiction, and right which is not by this Confederation expressly delegated to the United States."

That meant simply that the independent States were willing to join together as the "United States", and to give to this "Union" certain powers; but they carefully kept for themselves all other powers. This involves what are called States' Rights. When the Revolutionary War ended, England and the "United States" signed a peace treaty, which opened with these words:

"His Britannic Majesty acknowledges the said United States, viz., New Hampshire, Massachusetts Bay, Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia, to be free, sovereign, and independent States." So, England made peace, not with the "Confederation", but with thirteen "independent" States.

To the Convention which considered a new "Constitution", Georgia's delegates carried commissions which opened: "The State of Georgia, by the grace of God, Free, Sovereign, and Independent." Those of the New York delegates closed: "This 9th day of May, in the 11th year of the Independence of the said State." Their commissions were issued in 1787, eleven years after the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

There is more than that. New York voted to accept the Constitution giving certain powers to Congress, but it added: "That the powers of government may be reassumed by the people, whensoever it shall become necessary to their happiness."

That meant that, should it think such action necessary, New York reserved the right to leave the Union and to govern itself. Also, Virginia, in its acceptance said: "The powers granted under the Constitution, being derived from the people of the United States, may be resumed by them, whensoever the same shall be perverted to their injury or oppression." Feeling injured and oppressed, Virginia and the other seceding States "resumed" those powers in 1861.

Article X of the Constitution itself says: "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people." The powers given the Congress were those necessary to protect the people of all the States, such as raising an army, coining money, regulating commerce. They did not give the United States the right to interfere in local problems, those in which only the citizens of a State were concerned. Maybe, an example will help. Your home is in a town with a government to which your family looks for protection. You wouldn't, however, like for the town government to dictate matters inside your home. Just so, the States felt that their own "local problems" could be managed without meddling from the outside. It was only when the Washington Government began reaching out for too much power that the issue of States' Rights became important. States' Rights advocates are loyal to the United States, but they wish to be left alone to manage State affairs. They fear that in time the Washington Government may become all powerful.

This information was taken from the book:
FACTS THE HISTORIANS LEAVE OUT
A Confederate Primer

106th Annual



Gen'l N.B. Forrest Birthday Celebration

189th Anniversary

Sunday, July 11th, 2010

2:00 p.m.

Forrest Park, Memphis

(Union Ave. @ Manassas St.)

The Public is invited.
(Bring your own lawn chairs)

Guest Speaker:

(Ret.) Lt. Col. Tom McKenny
"Jack Henson's One Man War"

Flag Parade
Opening Ceremonies
Proclamations
music
Guest Speaker
21-gun Musket Salute
Wreath-laying



Sponsored by the General N.B. Forrest Camp 215
Sons of Confederate Veterans, Memphis
For more information, contact: Fred Lincoln, Forrest Camp Commander, 901-466-1159
Co-sponsored by the Gen. N. B. Forrest Historical Society

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE NATIONAL SCV CONSTITUTION

Proposed Constitutional Amendment #2010-1C – Proposed by Mark V. Brandon – General Henry Watkins Allen Camp 133

To prohibit a sitting CIC and GEC from refusing to hear an appeal by a member referred by the disciplinary committee for action by the GEC.

13.7 Appeal. The accused may appeal the decision by submitting a request for an appellate hearing to the Commander-in-Chief within thirty (30) days of the date from which the notice was sent. The request for appeal, once received by the Commander-in-Chief, shall be ordered for hearing before the General Executive Council in a timely manner. The General Executive Council may decide whether or not to *must* hear the appeal *if requested by the disciplined member*; a 2/3 majority shall be necessary to uphold the decision of the Disciplinary Committee. The General Executive Council may remand the case to the Committee for reconsideration. The accused shall be notified of the decision of the General Executive Council by U.S. Mail or private carrier which provides proof of delivery.

Proposed Constitutional Amendment #2010-2C – Proposed by Charles Kelly Barrow – John McIntosh Kell Camp 107

2.1. The Sons of Confederate Veterans, in furtherance of the Charge of Lieutenant General Stephen D. Lee, shall be strictly patriotic, historical, educational, fraternal, benevolent, non-political, non-racial and non-sectarian. The Sons of Confederate Veterans neither embraces, nor espouses acts or ideologies of racial and religious bigotry, and further, *strongly* condemns the misuse of its sacred symbols and flags in the conduct of same. Each member is expected to perform his full duty as a citizen according to his own conscience and understanding.

Proposed SCV Constitutional Amendment 2010-3C – Proposed by Chuck McMichael – Lt. Gen. Richard Taylor Camp 1308

To allow a family to ensure that its son or grandson will always be a member of the SCV. Fathers and Grandfathers will be able to do this for a male heir from the time of birth, which is most likely a time when they have a high interest in the child someday being a member. In many cases it may also bring peace of mind to the member that he has met this obligation and does not worry if he will be in a position to do so in later years.

3.6. Life Membership. Members who make

a qualifying contribution to the Life Membership Endowment Fund shall be termed Life Members.

3.6.1. The amount of the qualifying contribution shall be twenty-five (25) times the amount of annual dues for applicants up to 65 years of age, and half that amount for applicants 65 years of age or older with applicable rules and forms to be determined by the General Executive Council.

3.6.2. Life Members shall be exempt from the payment of per capita dues to General Headquarters.

3.6.3. Life Members may receive such special recognition, certificates and badges as the General Executive Council shall deem proper.

3.6.4 *A contribution to the Life Membership Endowment Fund may be made on behalf of anyone who is otherwise qualified to be a member. Proof of qualification shall be presented at the time of contribution. If the named individual is under the age of regular membership, he will be a Cadet Member in good standing until reaching the prescribed age. At that point his Life Membership shall be activated and he shall receive such special recognition, certificates and badges as the General Executive Council shall deem proper for Life Membership.*

Proposed SCV Constitutional Amendment #2010-4C – Proposed by Denne A. Sweeney – COL A. H. Belo Camp 49

The purpose of this amendment is to make this section consistent with section 13.10, which states that expelled members are not eligible for reinstatement

3.3.2. Expulsion. Any individual expelled from membership under the provisions of this Constitution and Standing Orders shall be stricken from the roster, and the Adjutant-in-Chief shall take care to note his name so that he may not be readmitted nor reinstated to membership except by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the General Executive Council upon recommendation of the Commander-in-Chief.

Proposed SCV Constitutional Amendment #2010-5C – Proposed by Mark Simpson - Brig Gen Samuel McGowen Camp 40

3.6. Life Membership. Members who make a qualifying contribution to the Life Membership Endowment Fund shall be termed Life Members.

3.6.1. The amount of the qualifying contribution shall be twenty-five (25) times the amount of annual dues for applicants up to 65 years of age, and half that amount for applicants 65 years of age or older and

half that amount again for applicants 80 years of age or older with applicable rules and forms to be determined by the General Executive Council.

3.6.2. Life Members shall be exempt from the payment of per capita dues to General Headquarters.

3.6.3. Life Members may receive such special recognition, certificates and badges as the General Executive Council shall deem proper.

Standing Orders Amendments Proposed SCV Standing Orders Amendment #2010-1SO – Proposed by Denne A. Sweeney – COL A. H. Belo Camp 49

The purposes of this amendment are:
1. *To provide for staggered terms on the committee so that expertise in convention planning can be built and maintained over time. The expertise gained should aid the SCV in lowering the cost to members of attending conventions. Place the financial burden on the National organization so that divisions or camps will not be tempted to profiteer, nor will they go into the red due to bad planning. Allow for reunions to be held in locations that may have minimal local SCV support.*

6.12. Convention Planning Committee. The committee shall consist of a chairman and at least three members appointed by the Commander in Chief provided that there shall be no more than two (2) members from the same Division. Initially, the Commander-in-Chief shall appoint members to the Committee with terms of three years, three years, two years and one year, respectively. Additional members beyond three shall be appointed for one year. Thereafter, the term of office of the members of the Committee shall be three years; provided that the members of the Committee shall serve, and be competent to act, until their successors shall have been duly appointed and confirmed. If any member of the Committee shall be unable to serve his full term because of death, resignation or disability, the Commander-in-Chief shall appoint a member to fill the unexpired term. The General Executive Council shall have the power, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, to find and determine the existence of disability for the purpose of this Section. In addition, the Executive Director will be a permanent member of said committee. This committee shall assist camps or divisions in making bids to host a General Reunion and in the planning of General Reunions.

Continued on page 10 . . .

**The Delta General
c/o Larry McCluney**

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. . . Continued from page 9 on the proposed Amendments to the National SCV Constitution

The Committee, in conjunction with local SCV organizations that wish to host a National Convention, shall plan and organize all National Conventions, and is charged with the following responsibilities:

a. Keeping convention fees and charges as low as possible without incurring financial liabilities to the SCV. The Committee should plan to make a small profit for the SCV, which shall be shared between the National Organization and local SCV organizations assisting with the convention, in a manner to be determined by

the GEC. Insuring that Convention guidelines established by the GEC are faithfully executed. Executing all financial contracts on behalf of the National organization.

Filing an after-action report which shall include full financial disclosure, as well as detailed attendance statistics. The GEC may direct that the Committee provide additional information.

b. The committee shall also recommend sites & hosts for future conventions and Reunions whose commencement shall be neither before the tenth (10) of July nor after the twenty-fifth (25) of July each year.

c. Perform such other duties as may be

assigned to it.

**Proposed SCV Standing Orders
Amendment #2010-2SO
Proposed by Charles Kelly Barrow
John McIntosh Kell Camp 107**

10.4. It shall be the duty of the Commander of every Camp of the Sons of Confederate Veterans to call a meeting of his respective Camp upon the days appointed by the civil authorities for the commemoration of any Confederate soldier, sailor, *marine* or statesman, and to commemorate such day by appropriate services.

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