

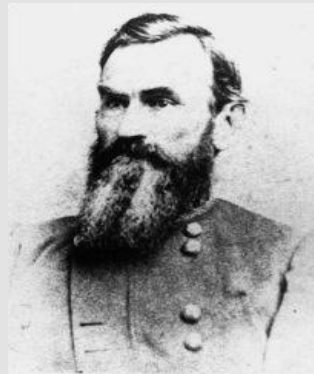
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The Delta General

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Volume: 12, Issue 7 July – 2009



COMMANDER'S CORNER

My Fellow Compatriots,

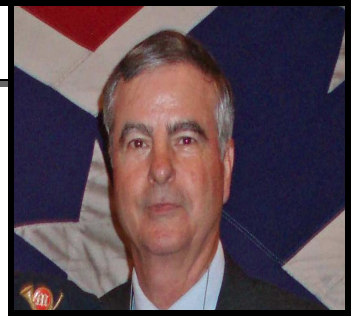
The dog days of summer are upon us with heat indices running as high as 115 degrees. Thank God for air condition. For most of us, the Brice's Crossroads Re-enactment two weekends ago brought to a close of the summer re-enacting season. However, there will still be memorials to attend. Sunday, July 12th will be the 105th Annual Nathan Bedford Forrest Birthday Celebration at 2:00 pm at Forrest Park in Memphis, TN. Our Camp Meeting on July 18th will be our Indoor Forrest Birthday Celebration Picnic, so bring your favorite picnic dish.

July will also mark the initiation of the new Division-wide Membership Renewal System. This system was approved at the Reunion after much discussion including explanations from CIC Chuck McMichael. This system will allow the Division to operate in a more business-like manner. Each member will be receiving from the Division Adjutant a professionally produced Membership Renewal Statement which will show your National Dues, Division Dues and Camp Dues (where applicable) plus up to six categories for voluntary giving. You should be receiving this statement mid to late July. For your informa-

tion, National Dues are \$ 30; Division Dues are \$ 10 and Camp Dues are \$ 10. Remember, the strength of the Camp and Division depends on retention of our members and recruiting new members.

At our last Camp Meeting, we put a wrap on Reunion business with a settling of accounts. After all expenses were paid and all income received, the Camp was able to present a \$ 200 donation to Liz Arnold, President of the J. Z. George Chapter for their generous donation of the use of Confederate Memorial Hall. Liz was also presented a check for \$ 100 from Annette McCluney on behalf of the MS Society, OCR. This left the Camp with a net profit of \$ 452 which will be put into the cash reserve. Again, I would like to commend the SCV Camp and OCR Chapter members for a job well done.

God Bless the South,
Dan A. McCaskill, Camp Commander



JEFFERSON DAVIS STATUE RESTORED AT OLD CAPITOL

Compatriots,

Wilson Farnham from the Brookhaven Light Artillery Camp was in Jackson recently and saw that the old run-down monument beside the old capitol was completely renovated. President Davis' statue is back inside and protected as we were told it would be. Just wanted to let everyone know. Maybe ya'll can go by when in Jackson and take a look. One win for the Cause.

Allen Terrell,
3rd Brigade Commander



Upcoming events of interest:

- ⇒ **Next meeting will be Thursday, July 16, at 7:00 pm. This is Forrest Birthday celebration indoor picnic. Everyone is invited to this potluck dinner bring your favorite dish**
- ⇒ **Sunday, July 12, 2009, Forrest Birthday Celebration 2:00 p.m. at Forrest Park, Memphis, TN**
- ⇒ **August 1, Living History at Tallahatchie Flats – Greenwood, MS**

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GORDON COTTON RELEASES NEW BOOK

Gordon Cotton's new book on the Vicksburg women has just come out. Check local book stores for ordering information.

MISSISSIPPI DIVISION NEWS:

OLE MISS AND SOUTHERN HERITAGE

BY JOHN KILLIAN

This writer was speaking in Memphis this week and planned to be back in town for Wednesday evening service to hear David Carpenter, a mighty man of God at the age of eighty-eight. However, due to unforeseen hindrances, I was delayed. Seeing I would not get back in time, I took time for something that had long been on my agenda. Leaving the interstate highway, I took a ride to Oxford and visited the campus of the University of Mississippi, or **Ole Miss** as most Southerners say.

Perhaps no University in the South has the grand heritage of the University of Mississippi. The home of **William Faulkner**, the great Southern writer, is on the campus. The outskirts of the campus is covered with old Southern-style houses. The Lyceum is a beautiful building serving as the center of Campus, The **University Greys** were a Confederate unit raised from among students at the University of Mississippi. At Gettysburg, this unit had a 100% casualty rate, with every single cadet either killed or wounded. The legendary University Greys are still the base of many heart-touching stories told by Mississippians.

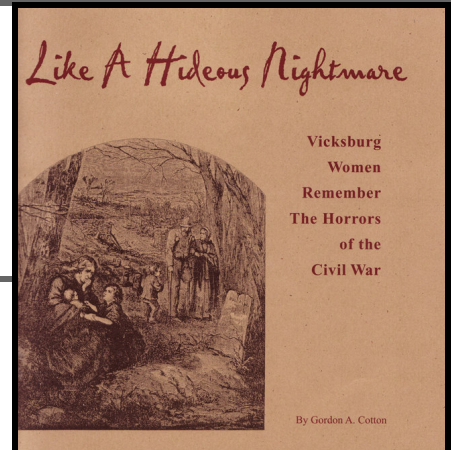
Through the years, I have noticed the pride of Ole Miss graduates in their Alma mater. One almost expects an Ole Miss graduate to express pride in the Southland. In a day when Southerners denigrate their heritage, try to lose their Southern accent, and act embarrassed at our customs, I was proud to see that some semblance of Southern heritage still remains on the campus of Ole Miss. No question, the political correctness gestapo has done their damage at the University, but I was still touched to see

"Perhaps no University in the South has the grand heritage of the University of Mississippi."

the Confederate monument at the center of campus. The sports programs still calls themselves the Ole Miss Rebels, as seen in the accompanying photo of Vaught-Hemingway Stadium. And the band still plays the old Southern favorite, **Dixie**.

I am sorry that some have used these symbols to promote hatred, but hatred is not that which is good about Southern culture. I was born in Alabama. My father was born in Mississippi. I am a loyal American, but do not apologize for being a Southerner, as I believe that we are the most cultured section of our country. Southerners still possess more of the conviction and values that made our country great. So, whenever they are not playing the Crimson Tide, I will be cheering on the Ole Miss Rebels. In a day when we are told to blend in as world citizens, I am glad to see some state and regional pride left at the University of Mississippi.

Thomas Jefferson wanted to be identified, first as a Virginian. Our country was not intended to be one large nation with divisions, but a composite of states who came together voluntarily for cooperation. Yes, we are Americans, and Southerners take no back seat in loving these United States. But never, should we allow anyone to attack our state or regional loyalties. God bless America and God save the South!



NEWS FROM BEAUVOIR

BY Rick Forte, Chairman of Combined Boards at Beauvoir

The Beauvoir 2009 Jefferson Davis 201st Birthday Celebration was held on Wednesday, June 3, 2009. The turnout was great and everyone had a great time, with cake, and several living history displays. Re-enactment groups from both in and out of state came and held displays of medical, artillery, armaments, and camp life. Many of the public got their very first look at actual artifacts presented in a manner that truly brought them to life, educating the public about the life and times of the Confederate Soldier. The Mississippi Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans and Beauvoir 2009 Confederate Memorial Day Service was held on April 25th, 2009. We had a great weather, great food, and a large turnout. Mississippi Division Commander Larry McCluney gave a very moving address in honor of our Confederate Heroes. Many thanks to: The Sam Davis Camp, Mississippi Division SCV, the UDC, the Children of the Confederacy, the Order of the Confederate

Rose, MOSB and the Beauvoir Staff. Work is moving along on the utilities (water, sewer, electrical) that will feed the new Jefferson Davis Presidential Library, FEMA, MEMA, and MDAH have the Jefferson Davis Presidential Library blueprints in hand. Bids to be let in the near future! The Maintenance Department is finished remodeling the outside Security Building at the entrance to Beauvoir. The Gift Shop keeps adding great items for everyone Beauvoir is featured on the cover of the AT&T 2009 Phone Book! Rick Forte Sr. Chairman of the Combined Boards and Acting Director

The Hayes Cottage is open for business! The cottage can be rented for \$80 per night. Please take advantage of this very special Offer. For further information please contact Rick Forte at 228-343-1403

NATIONAL NEWS:

SUMMARY OF THE NATIONAL GEC MEETING BY TELECONFERENCE

On Friday, June 12 at 8:30 PM Central Time, a teleconference was held by the General Executive Council. There were two items considered at the teleconference:

1. The approval of a licensing agreement between the SCV and Dixie Outfitters was presented to the Council. The agreement allows Dixie Outfitters to produce and sell t-shirts bearing the SCV created Sesquicentennial Logo. The SCV will receive royalties for each shirt sold. The agreement was approved and the shirts should be available by the date of the Hot Springs Reunion (July 23-25) at the Headquarters table.

2. The GEC voted to create a Roll of Honor medal for those Confederate Soldiers that were, during the war, placed on the "Roll of Honor". This is a separate award than the Confederate Medal of Honor that has been awarded in the years after the war by the Confederate Medal of Honor Committee. The Medal Of Honor Committee will be charged with reviewing applications for the Roll of Honor Medal.

posted: Chuck Rand , Chief of Staff
chuckrand3@gmail.com

NATIONAL SCV REUNION AT HOT SPRINGS, ARK DEADLINE NEARS

Compatriots,

The time for our 2009 Reunion is drawing close. It will be held July 22-25 at the Arlington Hotel in Hot Springs, Arkansas. For detailed information please see the reunion website at: <http://www.scv2009reunion.com/>. Registration is currently 80 dollars for SCV members but will rise to 85 dollars for walk-in registration – so if you are planning to attend the Reunion you can still get your registration in before the rates increase. The camp has requested that, to ensure they receive the registration forms in a timely manner, no forms are mailed after July 15.

Link to the registration form: <http://www.scv2009reunion.com/SCV-2009-Reunion-Print-Ad-Final-c.pdf>

The members of the James M. Keller Camp of Hot

"The camp has requested that, to ensure they receive the registration forms in a timely manner, no forms are mailed after July 15."

Spings are working hard to make this an enjoyable Reunion – I look forward to seeing you in Hot Springs.

Chuck Rand, Chief of Staff

188th General Nathan B. Forrest Birthday Celebration at the Statue and Tomb

The Forrest Birthday Celebration will be on Sunday at 2:00 pm at Forrest Park at the General's Statue and Tomb as it has been done for many years. The event will highlight presentation of colors by reenactors, floral tributes, and a three volley salute in honor of the General. There is no cost for that and there will have free watermelon courtesy of the Tennessee Division. Our guest speaker this year will be Bertram Hayes-Davis.

Editor's Note:

Some one from this Camp has always attended this event in Memphis for the past ten years. Usually Larry and Annette McCluney attends on a regular basis. They usually have some chairs available but you are asked to bring your own because seating is limited. Reenactors are asked to be on the scene by 1:00 PM for formation and inspection of weapons. If you have not been to this event you are missing a great fellowship and a moving experience as we pay tribute to one of Missis-

sippi's and Tennessee's heroes.

Almost 3 years ago, the tomb was the site of controversy as some citizens tried to push for a vote to have the tomb moved and the park renamed. This is why we need to attend this event to show solidarity against these PC people. We should never be ashamed to publicly honor our heroes of the South.

Larry McCluney, Editor



Forrest Statue at Forrest Park is on top of the General's and his wife's tomb.

JEFF DAVIS' KIND WORDS LED TO AN UNUSUAL FRIENDSHIP

By Gordon Cotton

There was a knock on the door of the room at Cranston's-on-the Hudson in New York where Mrs. Jefferson Davis was staying, and when she opened it an elderly lady was standing there.

"I am Mrs. Grant," she said. Mrs. Davis invited her to come in."

It was a June day in 1893. That evening the two ladies, both widows, dined together and then sat on the porch as other guests watched in amazement. After Mrs. Davis retired for the evening, Mrs. Grant noted, "She is a very noble-looking lady. She looked a little older than I had expected. I have wanted to meet her for a very long time."

Julia Grant's desire to meet Varina Davis was possibly because of an incident that had occurred in 1885 when a Boston newspaper sent a reporter to Biloxi to interview the Confederate president. The young man had attempted to get Davis to criticize Gen. U.S. Grant, but Davis had refused.

"General Grant is dying," he stated. "Instead of seeking to disturb the quiet of his closing hours, I would, if it were in my powers, contribute to the peace of his mind and the comfort of his body." Grant died a short time later, and then Davis died in 1889. Mrs. Davis moved to New York City where she worked as a writer for Joseph Pulitzer's newspaper, *The World*.

No doubt Mrs. Grant was impressed by Davis' reply, and though her friendship with Mrs. Davis surprised some, the two ladies had much in common. Both were Southerners, both had married West Point graduates and had followed their husband's military careers. Both were well educated, and both spoke in soft, low voices. In old age, each had grown portly and wore her hair parted in the middle and drawn tightly over her ears.

Ironically, Mrs. Lincoln had no use for Mrs. Grant. Occasionally Julia Grant and Varina Davis traveled together, and Mrs. Davis was one of the special guests invited to the dedica-



Above: Julia Grant
Below: Varina Davis



tion ceremonies of Grant's tomb when it was completed in 1897. Julia Grant told her, "I will soon be laid beside my husband in this solemn place. Please visit it sometime and think of me."

Jefferson Davis and U.S. Grant never met, but they never felt vindictive toward each other. Varina wrote that Grant had used his influence in Davis' interest several times when the Confederate leader was in prison. She was also moved by Grant's attitude toward Robert E. Lee, a man the Northern general greatly respected.

When a Northern writer made unkind remarks about Grant in 1900, Julia was deeply hurt, but Varina was accustomed to such slander about her husband, and she came to Julia Grant's defense and tried to comfort her. When Mrs. Grant died in 1902, Mrs. Davis sank to her knees in grief and prayer.

Four years later, **Varina Davis** died in New York. As the funeral procession wound through the streets of the city to the railroad station, where the body would be sent to Richmond, Confederate veterans and mounted police, led by a United States Army military band, escorted the hearse. The casket was draped in a Confederate flag and carriages followed that were filled with flowers. The Federal soldiers in blue, marching side by side with old Confederate veterans, provided an honor guard, and among the floral tributes was one from the president of the United States, Theodore Roosevelt.

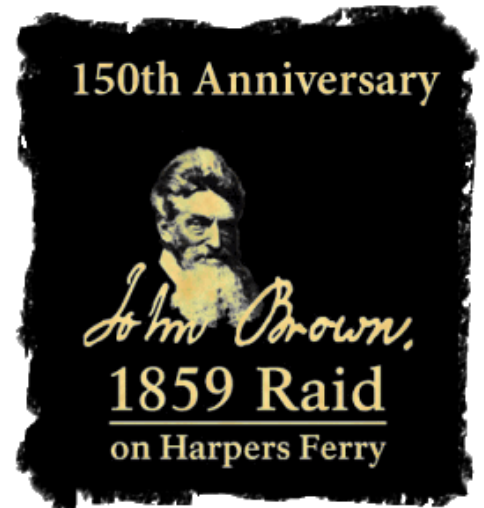
The band played all the Southern aires, such as "Dixie" and "The Bonnie Blue Flag." The musical tribute had been ordered by a U.S. Army General named **Frederick Dent Grant**. His mother would have approved. For Varina Davis, it was the first state funeral in the nation to honor a woman.

Jefferson Davis' act of tolerance, of kindness, of good manners had, unknown to him, paved the way for a friendship between North and South. It is no wonder that upon his death the New York Times admonished the South never to forget him.

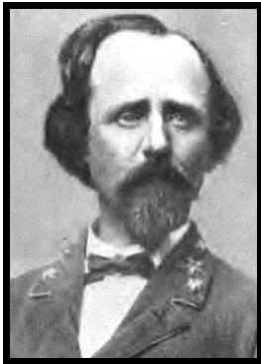
Gordon Cotton is a historian and author who lives in Vicksburg.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

When I stepped down as MS Division Commander this pas May 30th, I warned all new officers of the Division that we needed to prepare for a long four year struggle as we prepare for the 150th Anniversary of the War for Southern Independence. The caption I have enclosed shows how well our enemies are preparing for another anniversary to honor a criminal and a traitor of the United States, John Brown. Does this not indicate what we will be up against from 2011-2015? Let us prepare for this coming storm because all of our ancestors will be portrayed as traitors, war mongers, and slave holding racists.



BRIG. GENERAL CHARLES CLARK CHAPTER, MOS&B HONORS MISSISSIPPI GENERAL BRIG. GENERAL JOSEPH ROBERTS DAVIS



Civil War Confederate Brigadier General. He was born in Woodville, Maine, and was the nephew of Confederate President Jefferson Davis. He was educated at Miami University in Ohio, practiced law, and served in the Mississippi senate during the pre-Civil War years. He entered the Confederate army as Captain of a company from Madison County, Mississippi. In April 1861 he was commissioned Lieutenant Colonel of the 10th Mississippi, and on August 31 of that year, President Davis appointed him to his staff in Richmond, Virginia, with the rank of

Colonel. He served for one year in the Confederate capital. On

September 15, 1862, after his nomination had been rejected on charges of nepotism, President Davis received his commission as Brigadier General. With neither formal military training nor combat experience, he assumed command of a Mississippi brigade. Subsequently assigned to Major General Henry Heth's division, he led his brigade when the division marched to Gettysburg. In the ensuing Confederate attack he lost nearly 2 entire regiments, captured in a railroad cut; 2 days later his depleted command supported Pickett's Charge. He then contracted a fever and temporarily was relieved of his duties. He returned to the army to participate in the Battles of the Wilderness, Spotsylvania, Cold Harbor, Petersburg, and Appomattox. He stood in the ranks when the army surrendered. He went back to Mississippi and resumed his legal career, spending most of his remaining years in Biloxi, where he died. (bio by: Ugaalltheway)

DISPATCH FROM THE MOS&B COMMANDER GENERAL

Compatriots of the Military Order of the Stars and Bars:

I hope you enjoy this first issue of the "online" OFFICER'S CALL. It has been too long since an issue of the newsletter went out to the membership and this online version is an effort to correct that situation. The Order is deeply indebted to Jeff Sizemore of the Florida Society for taking the job as editor of the OFFICER'S CALL. Please send any future chapter or society news you would like to share to Editor Sizemore for inclusion in future issues.

I have just returned from Columbia, South Carolina, where Commander Steve Wolfe and the men of the South Carolina Society hosted our seventy-second annual reunion and convention. They had prepared an outstanding program of historical and social activities and are to be commended for the excellent result. 76 members (exclusive of family) representing sixteen state societies of the Order met in Columbia for fun and fellowship, but most importantly, to help the Order resolve some important issues that will affect the future path of the organization.

For those of you who read my annual report, you will remember that the MOS&B had failed to file its annual information return (IRS Form 990) with the Internal Revenue Service for the previous six years and faced a penalty of thirty thousand dollars for this failure. Much of the last year has been spent correcting this longstanding problem by reconstructing records and filing all overdue returns. I am happy to report, that it appears the IRS will be forgiving this thirty thousand dollar penalty based on the excellent appeal written by Judge Advocate General Dick Knight. We were informed of the success of our appeal by the IRS via telephone while in Columbia and we await official written confirmation from them. The Order owes a deep debt of gratitude to PCG/Comptroller General Albert Jones and JAG Dick Knight for their hours of work in correcting this important matter.

The other major issue facing the delegates to the Columbia convention was our headquarters. Also noted in my annual report was the fact that the MOS&B was spending more money on our operations than we took in, a situation which required immediate correction. Three options were considered in Columbia and an all volunteer option was chosen. Lieutenant Commander Max Waldrop will be overseeing our headquarters operations. Our toll free number is **877-790-**

6672 Our email address is headquarters@mosbihq.org
Our US Postal Service address is:

**MOSB IHQ
P. O. Box 1700
White House, TN 37188-1700**

It is important to note that we will be closing our headquarters in Daphne. We will be maintaining toll free phone lines and email communications while we close the physical facility in Daphne. Please be patient as we make this transition and rest assured, Commander Waldrop and the staff will do all humanly possible to make sure this transition is as smooth as possible. Please note that any mail intended for the MOS&B HQ should now go to the Tennessee address in Commander Waldrop's letter.

It is hoped these fiscally responsible changes to our operations will allow us the latitude to once again provide the basic membership services, such as a newsletter, that members of the Order should expect. I appreciate your patience as we make these changes and again, when we hit the inevitable "potholes" along the way. We are undertaking this task to make the organization more financially viable which in turn allows us to carry out the real mission of the Order as the founders intended, memorializing and commemorating the men of the Confederate Officers Corps and Civil Government.

I deeply appreciate those at the chapter and society level who have carried on the real mission of the Order while those of us at the national level dealt with these business related problems. I look forward to working with each of you as we pre-serve the history of the Confederacy.

Respectfully submitted,
Anthony Hodges, Commander General
Military Order of the Stars and Bars



**The Delta General
C/O
Larry McCluney
1412 North Park Dr
Greenwood, MS 38930**

**Camp Website:
www.humphreys1625.com**

ATTENTION: Address Changes:

If anyone in our Camp has a mailing address change, e-mail address change, or has not received their Newsletter; please contact Larry McCluney at 662-453-7212 or e-mail – confederate@windjammercable.net

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**MISSISSIPPI SOCIETY ORDER OF CONFEDERATE ROSE NEWS:
SOCIETY OF THE BLACK ROSE**

At the 2009 MSOCR convention in Greenwood, MS the "Society of the Black Rose" was approved by the members of the MSOCR as a part of the state organization. The goals of the founder were to organize a statewide network to help with memorial services, to enlighten the men and ladies to proper persona and to offer services or assist with services locally and statewide and services in other states by invitation. The structure was setup to have a "Keeper of the Rite" who would serve as a contact person and keeper of the services that can be adopted to help the SCV or anyone honoring a Confederate or a Confederate Memorial in their region. The Keeper of the Rite is assisted by a phone coordinator who has a list of the members and phone numbers and calls when widows are needed.

The Black Rose was named in honor of the greatest widow in the Confederacy who risked her personal safety for the Confederate Cause and lost her life trying to help The Cause, Rose O'Neal Greenhow.

The Black Rose can assist locally as small groups with memorial services or programs, and as a state group for special services. Our first ceremony was performed at the Melton Cemetery in Yalabusha County on June 27th. We are now taking applications for new members. Those interested should contact:

Sandy Smith @ sas212@tycom.net
Home phone 662-983-3214
Cell phone 662-414-1092

P.O. Box 112
Bruce, MS 38915
Or
Sandra Stillman @ sstillman@aol.com or 662-347-2782
320 South Cornell Ave.
Greenville, MS 38703

The Society of the Black Rose is a volunteer Order within the msocr to perpetuate the persona of a War Between the States widow at SCV functions, memorial services, grave dedications, etc.; and is open to any dues-paying member of the msOCR (no additional dues required). At present, we have 3 members and are still growing.

If you would like to participate in the Black Rose Society, please mail or email the following:

Name:
Address:
Phones-
(Home):
(Work):
E-mail address:

