

The Delta General

A Publication of the
Brig.-General Benjamin G. Humphreys Camp #1625, SCV
Brig.- General Charles Clark Chapter #253, MOS&B
Ella Palmer Chapter #9, OCR



**B/Gen. Benjamin
Grubbs Humphreys**



Ella Palmer



B/Gen. Charles Clark

July 2001 – Volume 4, Issue 7

Commander's Note

Compatriots;

We all had a great time at the June meeting. Thanks to Compatriot Allen Palmer and his Trivia Night.

The July meeting will be an exciting and enjoyable time when we celebrate General Forrest's birthday with an indoor picnic. Please bring your favorite finger foods, your family and friends.

Thanks to all of you for attending our meetings. I do miss those that don't show up. Please call some of them and invite them to join in. We need the strength of all our members to be successful.

Until our next meeting -

God Bless the South.

Earl M. McCown Jr., Commander

Camp News – Next Camp Meeting Is July 19

At our June meeting, Camp members celebrated President Jefferson Davis' Birthday and the graduation of Katie Palmer. The fellowship was great especially with all of the treats that members and the ladies of the

OCR brought that night.

Commander McCown also charged everyone to double their efforts on getting the petitions filled and validated for the Constitutional Amendment on the State Flag. We are in a crunch period here and they need to be completed by October.

Lt. Commander Alan Palmer once again amazed us with "Trivia Night" which was very "challenging" and educational to say the least. He promises an ultimate trivia challenge in October to be the last one of the year. Also, he has plans in September a "Get to Know Your Ancestor Night" which has been a great success in the past. So make plans to give information on your ancestor. In next month's newsletter, Alan will reveal the subjects of the Trivia Night to prepare for. Please make plans for our July 19 meeting when we will be celebrating Lt. General Nathan Bedford Forrest' Birthday with a picnic. The picnic will be at the fellowship hall during our regular meeting time. Everyone is asked to bring a covered dish to make this a "Pot Luck" dinner.

Also, Lt. Commander Alan Palmer will be providing musical entertainment for the night with his guitar. So brush up on your War Between the States Songs and prepare to sing-along. Also, if you have any General

Forrest Memorabilia feel free to bring it to put on the display table.

Bring family and friends for a night of fun and fellowship as we celebrate General Forrest's Birthday.

Keep the following Camp members and their families in our prayers:

Brian McCraven lost his Grand-Mother, Ms. Ruby Bryan on June 21. She was 102 years of age. Please Keep Bryan and his mother Evelyn Bryan McCraven in your prayers during their time of sorrow. Cards and letters of condolences can be sent to:

Bryan McCraven
P. O. Box 463
DeKalb, MS 39328

Kenneth Ray's mother died on July 6 after suffering a major stroke. Please forward all condolences to:

Kenneth Ray
Rt. 1 Box 375
Leland, Ms 38756

Alan Palmer's mother has suffered a slight stroke. She is home now and doing fine except for a slight paralysis that the doctor says she should recover from.

Stan and Michelle Spell should have a new baby in their life by July 10 so let's keep them in our prayers as well. Send all congratulations to:

Stan Spell
15300 Cr 532
Greenwood, MS 38930

Keep the Skeer On !!



As most of you know, NAACP National President Kweisi Mfume visited the Governor "Musgo" on July 5 and stating at this time there would not be a boycott on Mississippi, at least not until the NAACP Convention meets July 6-8 to address the issue. I think we could best honor General Forrest on his birthday by heeding to his words "Once the enemy is on the run, you must keep the Skeer on them." The flag vote sent a message to these people, now is not the time to rest but go on the offensive. Double your efforts on the Flag Petition Drive and let's get our flag protected by the Mississippi Constitution.

Camp Color-Guard Will Travel to Grand Gulf on July 14

The Camp Color-guard Unit has been invited to help with a flagpole dedication ceremony at Grand Gulf Battlefield State Park on July 14. The event will coincide with the Brookhaven Lt. Artillery Camp's "General Forrest Birthday Picnic" held at the park. Commander Wooten of the Brookhaven Camp was the driving force behind this flagpole which will fly a Confederate Battle Flag on the State Park Grounds.

This is indeed a heritage victory to be flying the flag on state grounds and an honor for our Camp Color-guard unit to be invited. Also, in the works is the possibility of dedicating a headstone of a Confederate Marine that served on the C.S.S. Alabama if the headstone is ready in time for the ceremony and the correct gravesite is located.

If you have never been to the Grand Gulf Battlefield State Park, it is a treat on its own and worth the time to visit. Located just off of Highway 61 South just before you get to Natchez.

Ella Palmer Chapter #9, OCR President's Note

Ladies,

I would like to first thank those who attended the Convention. We were represented by four members, the largest contention there. The Convention went well and everyone is looking forward to next year's in Vicksburg.

As you know our July meeting will be our General Forrest Birthday Picnic. Everyone is asked to bring a covered dish for a "Pot Luck" get together. Please bring a friend since this will be more of a social night.

Our pins were voted on and adopted. They will cost \$10.00 and should be ready sometime in September. Proposal 2, the one with the rose on the white stripe of the state flag won.

Also, just a reminder, Chapter dues are due by August 31. Please make all efforts to pay your dues on time. We have the largest Chapter in the State Society and I would like to see this continue.

Hope to see you all on July 19,
Confederately,

Annette McCluney,
President

National News - National Convention 2001 to Convene in Louisiana

The 106th National Reunion of the Sons of Confederate Veterans and the 64th National reunion of the Military Order of the Stars and Bars will Convene in Lafayette, Louisiana at the Hilton on August 1st and run through August 4th.

The Lafayette Hilton will serve as the primary Convention hotel. On Wednesday evening, August 1st, there will be a *Fete ouverture et Cochon de Lait (Opening Party and Suckling Pig Roast)* at Vermilionville. Also, a true Cajun welcome with music, dance, food and drink on the grounds of the premier site of Acadian Living History (See Confederate Veteran, Vol. 2, 2001 for further details).

This is the first time that the National Convention will be held in this area and Convention Chairman Edward O. Caileteau says that “the speakers will be memorale, the food delectablethe potables will be cold, and the music will be hot. Come and have a good time in Louisiana and enjoy a little Cajun hospitatlity in the party state of the South.

Division News – Division Has New Web Master

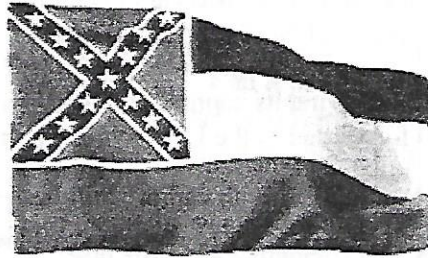
New Division Web Master, William Lee of the Sam Davis Camp #596, is working very hard to get the Division Web Page up and running. If you have any info you want on the net he will try his best to get it on. Please send info to:

William Lee
5222 Little John

Pascagoula, MS 39581

or e-mail lee_csa@yahoo.com.

The new Division web page is at www.geocities.com/mississippi/cv/



“I salute the flag of Mississippi and the Sovereign state for which it stands, with pride in her achievements and with confidence in her future under the guidance of Almighty God.”

Battleflags Returned

On March 24, 2001, the battle flags of the 10th and 44th Alabama Infantry Regiments, which have been missing since 1864, were donated to the Alabama Department of Archives and History. "The fact that these flags survived and were finally located and identified is a miracle," said Robert Bradley, Chief Curator of the Alabama Department of Archives and History.

Both flags were manufactured in the summer of 1862 at the Clothing Depot in Richmond, Virginia and are referred to as "second wool bunting issues." The flag of the 10th Alabama Infantry was captured at the Battle of New Market Crossroads (Frayser's Farm) on June 30, 1862. Following its capture, the flag was forwarded to the U. S. War Department where it was catalogued and marked with capture number 72. The flag of the 44th Alabama Infantry was captured at the Battle of Sharpsburg (Antietam) on September 17, 1862. It, too, was sent to the War Department where it was catalogued as capture number 5.

On December 30, 1863, both flags were lent to Francis Barlow of the 61st New York Volunteer Infantry, by order of Secretary of War Edwin M.

Stanton. Apparently, both flags remained in the hands of Captain Joseph Bowen Brinton, who served in an Indiana regiment during the War, and were cared for by several generations of Brinton's family until they were located and identified in October, 1999.

Litchfield Denny of Litchfield, Arizona had given the flag of the 44th Alabama Infantry to her grandson, Thomas Blackford of Edgecomb, Maine. When the family discovered that the flags were from Alabama regiment, they immediately began efforts to have them returned. Though terminally ill, Mrs. Denny who passed away on January 23, 2001 at age 90, was determined that the flag of the 10th Alabama was to be donated to the Alabama Department of Archives and History. On March 24, her grandson, Tom Blackford, brought both flags home to Alabama. When asked about his reasons for making the donation, Mr. Blackford said, "I never felt the flag was really mine, I just felt I was holding it in trust until I could find out where it belonged."

The flag of the 10th Alabama Infantry remained in the possession of Captain Brinton's granddaughter, Mrs. Edith. The flags are currently in storage and will eventually receive conservation treatment to insure their continued preservation.

How God Created Confederate Veterans

by Gene Ladnier

When the Lord was creating Confederate veterans, He was into his tenth day of overtime when a curious angel appeared. "You're certainly putting in a lot of extra effort on this model Lord," the Angel remarked.

And God said, "Have you seen the specifications on this order? A Confederate veteran has to be able to march thirty miles through rough terrain without shoes if required, endure with barely any sleep for days, enter into battle without a break from the march, and keep his weapon clean and operable."

"He has to be able to sit on a forward picket line all night and often during a massive attack, hold his buddies as they die, retreat or advance at a moments notice, and somehow keep his senses alert for danger."

"He has to be in top physical condition, existing on a handful of dried corn and very little rest. And he has to have six pairs of hands."

The angel shook his head slowly and said, "Six pair of hands...no way!"

The Lord says, "It's not the hands that's causing me problems...It's the

three pair of eyes a Confederate veteran has to have."

"That's on the standard model?" asked the angel.

The Lord nodded. "One pair that sees through wilderness brush, another pair here in the side of his head for his buddies, another pair here in front that can look reassuringly at his bleeding, fellow soldier and say, "You'll make it"...when he knows he won't."

"Lord, rest and work on this tomorrow."

"I can't," said the Lord. "I already have a model that can carry a wounded soldier one thousand yards during a frontal assault, calm the fears of the latest new veteran, and feed a squad of ten men on a handful of cornbread for three days."

The angel walked around the model and remarked, "Can it think?"

"You bet," said the Lord. "It can quote most of the bible line by line, recite his weapons drill and company commands by heart, and engage in a division size attack maneuver in less time than it takes for his fellow Confederates back home to read the latest casualty list, and still keep his sense of patriotism."

Continued on page 8 . . .

Continued from page 7 . . .

"This Confederate veteran must also have phenomenal personal control. He can deal with 75 percent casualties, comfort a fallen soldier's family, and then read in the Yankee newspapers how all Confederate soldiers are cowards, slave abusers, traitors, and men of low morals."

The Lord gazed into the future and said, "He will also endure having his name vilified and spit on, and he will be rejected and forgotten by the very Southerners he fought and died for." Finally, the angel slowly ran his finger across the veteran's cheek, and said, "There's a leak...I told you Lord that you were trying to put too much into this model."

"That's not a leak," said the Lord. "That's a tear."

"What's the tear for?" asked the angel.

"It's for bottled up emotions, for holding fallen soldiers as they die, and for commitment to that funny piece of cloth they call the Confederate Battle Flag."

"You're a genius," said the angel, casting a glance at the lonely tear.

The Lord looked very somber, as if seeing down eternity's distant shores... "I didn't put it there," he said!

C.S.S. Hunley Update – **CAPTAIN OF THE HUNLEY FOUND** **May 21, 2001**

The remains of Lt. George Dixon, Captain of the H. L. Hunley have been found inside the submarine. Archaeologists excavating the submarine discovered several bones, including three skulls. Dr. Doug Owsley, a forensic expert with the Smithsonian Institute confirmed this weekend that one of the skulls, found underneath the forward conning tower was that of Lt. Dixon. Dr. Robert Neyland, Project Director says, "Presumably based on the location and age of the skull we can now say that Lt. Dixon as well as the other eight crew members are all accounted for."

Also some textiles were found, possibly a jacket, and they are believed to be Lt. Dixon's because they are made out of higher quality material, indicating a higher military rank. At this time the recent remains discovered are still inside the submarine, and there doesn't appear to be any damage to the skulls. "Finding Lt. George Dixon now assures that the Commission's goal to reunite all three crews of the Hunley at Magnolia Cemetery will be a reality. We are now closer than ever to separating fact from fable in regards to the contents of

the Hunley and her final moments," said Senator Glenn McConnell, Chairman of the Hunley Commission.

A lantern was also discovered, possibly the one the crew used to signal it sank the USS Housatonic on February 17th, 1864. Archaeologists removed the concreted lantern and x-rayed the artifact. Dr. Neyland says they are not sure what fueled the lantern or if it has a blue lens, but the x-ray shows that it is very unique and sophisticated in design. "Finding the lantern, which signaled Hunley's success 137 years ago alerts us today that Hunley's journey home is almost complete," said Warren Lasch, Chairman of Friends of the Hunley.

LT. DIXON'S GOLD COIN FOUND May 25, 2001

The long-awaited treasure of the H. L. Hunley, Lt. George Dixon's gold coin was found inside the submarine. Dr. Robert Neyland, Project Director says, "the coin was found by Dixon's remains and in the middle of some textiles, possibly he kept it in his pants pocket." The coin is bent, true to the story that a bullet hit the coin and saved Lt. Dixon's leg and life. The

story goes that his sweetheart, Queenie Bennett gave him a 20-dollar United States gold piece for luck, he kept it with him in his pants pocket.

On April 6, 1862, in the Battle of Shiloh, Lt. Dixon was shot in the leg. Luckily when he was shot, the bullet hit the gold piece, in essence saving his life. It was told that Dixon always kept that lucky coin with him and it now appears that he truly did. "The presence of the coin absolutely confirms the identity of Lt. George E. Dixon. It removes all doubt, and, also speaks of his character and faith," said Warren Lasch, Chairman of Friends of the Hunley. "Part of the Hunley's excavation was to separate fact from fable. The discovery of the coin and its inscription is like discovering Cinderella's glass slipper," said Senator Glenn McConnell, Chairman of the Hunley Commission.

The coin was minted in 1860 and one side has lady liberty, it was the side the bullet hit. The other side has the Federal shield and eagle symbol. That side appears to be sanded and has an inscription in cursive script that reads in four lines:

Shiloh April 6, 1862 My life Preserver
G. E. D. (Lt. Dixon's initials)

**Mississippi History –
This month's issue of
the Delta General
Honors . . .
Harvey's Scouts
[Cavalry]**

(from Dunbar Rowland's "Military History of Mississippi, 1803-1898"; company listing courtesy of H. Grady Howell's "For Dixie Land, I'll Take My Stand")

This independent company was raised in Madison County, MS. Captain -- Addison Harvey. First Lieutenant -- R. J. Lee. Second Lieutenants -- T. B. Land, George Harvey. Third Lieutenants -- George Harvey, William H. Tyson.

Total roll, 118; 12 killed or died in service; wounded, 16; captured, 29. Lieut. Land was killed near Stilesboro, Ga., October, 1864; Captain Harvey was assassinated April 20, 1865, at Columbus, Ga.

"Harvey's Scouts were organized as a detachment of men detailed from Wood's and Starke's Regiments of Wirt Adams' Cavalry, under the command of Lieutenant Harvey of Wood's Regiment. Its subsequent organization

as an independent company of scouts, attached to Gen. W. H. Jackson's Division, took place at Cave Springs, Ga., June 1, 1864. Before organizing as a company its service was confined to Mississippi, scouting on the Mississippi River between Vicksburg and Natchez, and following Sherman's raid to Meridian and back. Upon the transfer of General Jackson's Cavalry from Mississippi to Georgia, Harvey accompanied Jackson, and on arriving at Cave Springs was promoted Captain and permitted to increase his command by receiving enlistments to a full company. It had been composed of about forty detailed men. From this time until the surrender, with varied fortunes the scouts watched the movements of the enemy around Atlanta, followed raids and made dashes on the railroad between Chattanooga and Atlanta, went into Tennessee with General Hood, returned to take part with General Forrest against the Wilson raid through Alabama, following the enemy to Columbus, Ga., where Captain Harvey was basely assassinated by a citizen of that place, and finally ceased the struggle upon the surrender of General Taylor." (Notes accompanying the final roll).

During the service in Mississippi Captain Harvey was wounded in an attack on the escort of a wagon train from Natchez. July 16, 1863, he and his men

dashed into Jackson as Sherman's Corps moved out, and Col. John N. Cromwell, Forty-seventh Illinois, was killed in the fight that followed. Harvey reported the capture of twenty-eight men.

In his report of the Meridian campaign, Gen. W. H. Jackson wrote: "I beg leave to call the attention of Major-General Lee to the part performed by Lieutenant Harvey and his gallant band of forty scouts. He was everywhere doing good service; killed and captured of the enemy four times his own number. His daring, coolness and judgment eminently fit him for promotion and much larger command." Colonel Starke wrote that Harvey brought to bear his usual undaunted courage, extraordinary energy and judgment. Harvey's command of twenty-three men was the only part of the Confederate Cavalry Corps that remained about Meridian while Sherman was destroying the military depots and railroads, and also alone attending the Federal army to Canton. He reported that his men occasioned a Union loss of about 130 killed and captured, and captured two wagons and forty-seven horses and mules. Among his own losses were John Graham killed, and Ruel M. Stancill wounded, of Starke's Regiment; and Private Tindall, Ballentine's Regiment,

wounded and captured. James Renfrow and Thomas Field killed, and Private Pereau wounded, of Wirt Adams' Regiment.

Report of General McCook, Union army, June 26, 1864: "These men in the rear who have been doing the mischief near Tilton's belong to this division (Jackson's). They call them Harvey's Scouts."

Editor's Note:

Many of the men that served in Harvey's Scouts were in fact black. Some time before the 1900s a monument was erected in Canton, MS, where the unit was formed, to those blacks that fought alongside of Harvey's Scouts. It is the only one of its kind erected to Black Confederate soldiers. Words engraved on the obelisk state, "For Loyalty and service of the blacks who served in Harvey's Scouts, a crack cavalry unit that distinguished itself while opposing General Sherman's march through Mississippi and Georgia.

It is unknown to this writer if that obelisk is still there in Canton but wouldn't it be interesting to find out and bring attention back to it so that the public can learn more about Black Confederates that served our Southland. I have seen pictures taken of the monument after its dedication in the Mississippi State University Archives but have not personally seen the obelisk.

The Delta General

Editor: Larry McCluney
P.O. Box 63
Webb, MS 38966

E-Mail:
confederate@ayrix.net

Camp Web Page:
[http://humphreys1625.
homestead.com/Index.html](http://humphreys1625.homestead.com/Index.html)

Welcome New Members

Walter Samuel Rose
Who is a descendant of his
Great-Great Grand Father
Alexander McNeil
Co. F, 2nd South Carolina
Infantry, Adjutant

The Delta General

P.O. Box 63

Webb, MS 38966

Mr. Dan McCaskill
205 Cypress Street
Leland, MS 38756



*“Remember, it is your DUTY to see that the true history of
the South is presented to future generations” —*

Lt. General Stephen Dill Lee