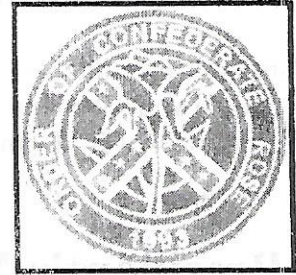
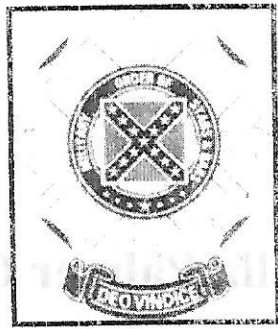
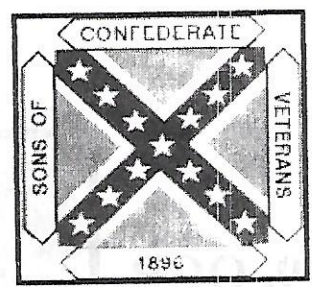




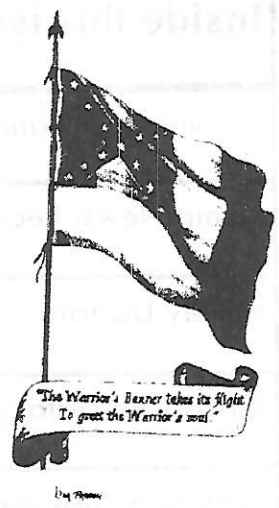
# The Delta General

Published by  
 Brig.-Gen. Benjamin G. Humphreys Camp #1625  
 Sons of Confederate Veterans  
 Brig.-Gen. Charles Clark Chapter #253  
 Military Order of the Stars & Bars  
 Ella Palmer Chapter #9 - Order of the Confederate Rose  
 Editor: Larry McCluney  
 P.O. Box 63 . . . Webb, Ms . . . 38966 or 662-375-7230  
 E-mail confederate@ayrix.net  
 Camp Web Site: <http://humphreys1625.homestead.com/Index.html>



May 2001      Volume 4, Issue 5

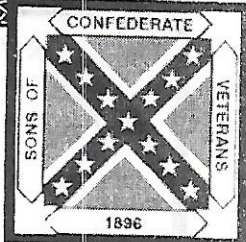
THE DELTA GENERAL  
 P.O. Box 63  
 Webb, Ms . . . 38966



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**

# Commander's Note:



Greetings Compatriots,

Our Camp was well represented at Beauvoir and the ceremony was impressive. We dedicated a new flag pole and raised a large Confederate Flag. For those of you that missed the trip you missed a great event. Our next event will be the Division Convention at Southaven. Several of us have already registered to attend. If you can make it this is a great time to get acquainted with other members in the Division and see how things are done. This is an election year and our camp will be considered in these activities. I have the honor of being nominated for the position of 1st Brigade Commander, and Compatriot Larry McCluney has been nominated as Division Color Sgt. We have come a long way since we first began attending Convention.

Until our meeting on 17 May,  
I remain your obedient Servant.  
Earl McCown Jr., Commander

## President's Note: Ella Palmer Chapter, #9, OCR



Ladies of the South,

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate so many of our Chapter members who have answered the Call to Convention. We should be well represented and have lots of fun. Now down to business. Commander Earl McCown would like to honor Katie Palmer as a graduating Senior Thursday night at our meeting. Let us prepare some snacks in her honor for the social after the meeting.

I have several ladies that have not received their membership certificates. Please make the effort to come to this meeting so I can induct you into the Chapter and give you your certificate. In case you did not know it, we currently have the largest Chapter in the state with 17 members in our group.

I would like to thank Ann McCaskill for being such a dedicated member of our Chapter with all of her activities in our Chapter and taking the initiative to lead in our Bead Sale. Way to go Ann. Also, the Memorial Service at Greenville was a great success with almost 100 people in attendance. We had half of our membership in attendance. I would also like to thank Ms. Betty and Ms. Jeanette for their work on the refreshment table at the Memorial Service. Without their help we could not have made it in that hot sun. Now I must close. I hope to see all of you at our next meeting.

Confederately,  
Annette McCluney, President

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# Camp News:

## Recap of the April Meeting

### May 17 will be our next Camp meeting

page 3

For those of you who missed the meeting in April, you really missed a victory celebration as we took the opportunity to celebrate the recent Flag Vote victory. Commander McCown congratulated us on our hard work and it really paid off as we saw Sharkey, Tallahatchie, Quitman, Isaquenna counties, black dominated vote for the 1894 Flag. Also, the vote was very close in Washington, Bolivar, and other Delta counties which indicates we did get the word out.

Commander McCown did warn though that we must be ever vigilant and not let our guard down for our enemies are just taking this time to regroup, rearm, and to come back at us with a new battle plan. We may be called upon by Division to help refill the WAR CHEST since this fight did deplete it. I know we keep saying when will this ever end, but we must hold firm on this issue. Lt. Commander Palmer said that we are not just fighting this fight for Mississippi but this is a message to the rest of the country to stand up to Political Correctness and hold true the ideas of democracy AS OUR Forefathers meant it. We are sending a message to everyone that the majority rules and NOT the political minority even when things the vote DOESN'T go the way they think it should.

Our hats also goes off to the ladies of the Ella Palmer Chapter, OCR, for providing the delicious refreshments in our victory session. Commander McCown said, "Our ladies are an essential part of our Camp and we do not want to go back to those days when their Chapter did not exist. They make things happen when we need them."

The Camp was also treated with a surprise as we found out Lt. Commander Alan Palmer announced his engagement and pending wedding on June 9. This seems to be planned so none of us can show up since that is the weekend of Convention. I think we embarrass him or is it he just doesn't want all of his secrets let out before the wedding. Either way we do congratulate him.

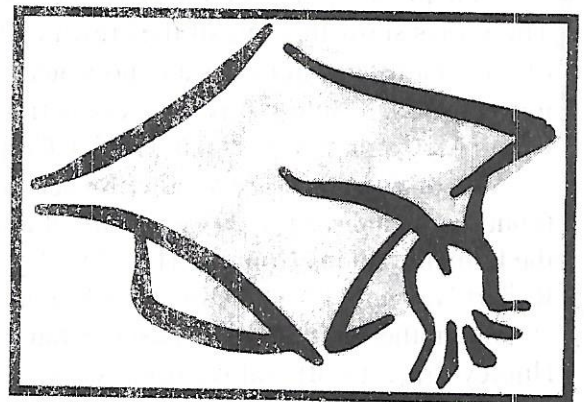
Ann McCaskill Productions released her first motion picture with "Fort Pemberton" as she showed highlights of the event. She says that soon she will

improve on this new found hobby and really make them on a movie format with credits, titles, and all.

Also that night, we presented the first applications for the Oliver and Jeffrey McCaskill Memorial Scholarship. They are now available ask Larry McCluney for copies if you are interested. We are still taking donations to that scholarship fund. If you are interested in making a donation please make your check out to SCV mail to:

**Larry McCluney**  
**P.O. Box 63**  
**Webb, MS 38966**

May's meeting will be special as Lt. Commander brings back the ever challenging TRIVIA QUEST as we compete against each other to see just how much we know about our Ancestors history. This is always a fun activity as we compete, and sometimes get in some interesting discussions over the answers. We also want to take this opportunity to honor **Katie Palmer** who will be graduating this month as well from North Sunflower Academy. We hope to see you all there in record numbers.



**Congratulations**  
**Katie Palmer**

# Updates on the C.S.S. Hunley Excavation

## EIGHT HUNLEY CREWMEMBERS FOUND

APRIL 16, 2001

Archaeologists have now uncovered the partial remains of eight crewmembers of the H. L. Hunley. "Two more skulls were located over the weekend, and all the remains are in good condition, but we have not seen any human tissue as a result of these latest finds," says Dr. Robert Neyland, Project Director. So far the remains have been discovered at their proper stations around the crank of the submarine. "The crewmembers' remains being discovered at their stations indicated both a recognition and acceptance of their fate. The courage and bravery exhibited by these men continually astound all those associated with the project," said Warren Lasch, Chairman of Friends of the Hunley. "As the crew of the Titanic remained at their duty stations until the end, the men of the Hunley have appeared to do likewise. Evidence seems to suggest more and more that the final moments were quick and decisive. The conduct of the Hunley crew in these fateful moments seems to have been bravery that defied even human nature. Now with the skulls being recovered we can put faces to this great human story," said Chairman of the Hunley Commission, Senator Glenn McConnell.

Nine soldiers boarded the H. L. Hunley on February 17th, 1864, and Lt. George Dixon is the only one left to find. Archaeologists say they have not come across Lt. Dixon's remains because they have not reached that portion of the submarine, where he would have last been. One hurdle the archaeologists are having is recovering textiles. Some of the materials are intermingled with the remains, making the recovery process more difficult.

## DETAILS OF CREW REVEALED

APRIL 24, 2001

As archaeologists continue to excavate the H. L. Hunley, and remove the remains of the crew, details of the men are being revealed. One of the six skulls found has been recovered from the submarine and x-rayed. The x-rays show that one of the crewmen had a filling in one of his teeth. "This shows the incredible nature of the condition of remains and how advanced technology of our equipment makes the remains of the crew more personal. Before this recovery is finished you will feel like you previously knew them," said Senator Glenn McConnell, Chairman, Hunley Commission.

Also discovered were another tobacco pipe, and possibly a sewing kit. Archaeologists found a thimble and 6 buttons in the same area, indicating it could have been a sewing kit of a crewmember. The task of removing the human remains from the H. L. Hunley is delicate and time-consuming work, which according to Dr. Robert Neyland, Project Director will continue for the next several weeks.

On another note, Warren Lasch, Chairman, Friends of the Hunley announced significant upgrades to the Hunley Project's official website, [www.hunley.org](http://www.hunley.org). "The website enhancements will allow our members to easily gather the most recent news, press releases, and to access our new photo gallery. This will be accomplished through a new dynamic members page which will provide easier and quicker navigation of our website." Mr. Lasch went on to say that, "our site has received over 1 million hits daily since the excavation began, and worldwide interest continues to increase at a fast growing pace."

## UNION SOLDIER'S ID TAG FOUND IN HUNLEY

APRIL 27, 2001

An identification tag or 'Dog tag' was discovered inside the H. L. Hunley by archaeologists. The interesting fact about this discovery is that the tag is from a Union soldier. The name on the tag is Ezra Chamberlin; he enlisted in the Union Army on September 6th, 1861, and was a member of Company K, 7th Regiment, Connecticut Volunteers. It is recorded that Chamberlin died on July 11th, 1863 in the Battle at Fort Wagner, also known as the First Assault on Morris Island. The German Light Artillery, which was a military unit of Corporal C. F. Carlson, a Hunley crewmember was prominent at that battle. Scientists have not determined that the body, on which the tag was found, is that of Carlson. The Hunley crew consisted of several diverse Confederate units. It is unknown at this time whether any other Hunley crewmembers were at the Battle of Fort Wagner. Documentation shows that there is a grave and headstone for Ezra Chamberlin located in Killingly, Connecticut. "The artifact seems to be made out of copper, and was found in association with a skull of a crew member. It would appear that the sailor was wearing the tag around his neck," said Project Director, Dr. Robert Neyland.

"As the excavation of the Hunley continues, further mysteries are revealed, which ask even larger questions than were asked before the Hunley's recovery," said Warren Lasch, Chairman, Friends of the Hunley. What was a Union identification tag or 'Dog tag' doing in a Confederate submarine? Researchers have come up with four different scenarios, but obviously nothing can be confirmed at this time.

- The identification tag was a souvenir from the Battle of Fort Wagner. It was not uncommon during war times for soldiers to collect articles from a battleground.
- Ezra Chamberlin was a Union soldier that defected to the Confederacy.
- Ezra Chamberlin was a spy trying to disrupt the mission of the H. L. Hunley.
- The last request of Ezra Chamberlin on the battlefield, that someone take his identification tag or 'Dog tag' as a way of letting his family know of his death.

Senator Glenn McConnell, Chairman of the Hunley Commission said, "This find creates more mysteries than answers." Sen. McConnell and Commissioner Randy Burbage note: "There is a stone at Bethany Cemetery in memory of C. F. Carlson. If that is an empty grave under a memory stone, could not that also be the case with the grave of Ezra Chamberlin in Killingly, Connecticut?" Sen. McConnell and Commissioner Burbage both agree that it would be plausible for these soldiers to save battle items but rarer for them to take the identification tag of another. Men on both sides were concerned about dying with no way to identify their remains to be sent home. "They would have been reluctant to remove the tag from a dead soldier," said Sen. McConnell. If the tag was removed, how did they later identify the remains of Ezra Chamberlin to bury him in Killingly, Connecticut? It would be years after 1863 before the dead buried at Battery Wagner, were exhumed and moved, the two note. What occurred at Battery Wagner on July 11, 1863, may have been more than a clash of sides. Sen. McConnell asks, "Could it have been a meeting of friends or a change of heart?"

Perhaps more research of prison records and death records will help solve the puzzle as to why Chamberlin's tag was on board. "Was the tag, in fact, on someone else or on Chamberlin himself?" said Sen. McConnell. "There at least exists the possibility that another of this crew like James A. Wicks, He, in the course of battle, went from blue to gray. The heroic epic of the final voyage of the Hunley grows in complexity rather than in answers," say Sen. McConnell and Commissioner Burbage.

On a historical note: Identification tags or 'Dog tags' during the Civil War were only created at the soldier's own initiative, some made them out of wood to be hung on a string around the neck. Also private vendors, known as "sutlers", followed troops and offered identification disks for sale just prior to battles. There was no official government issued tags until World War I in 1913.

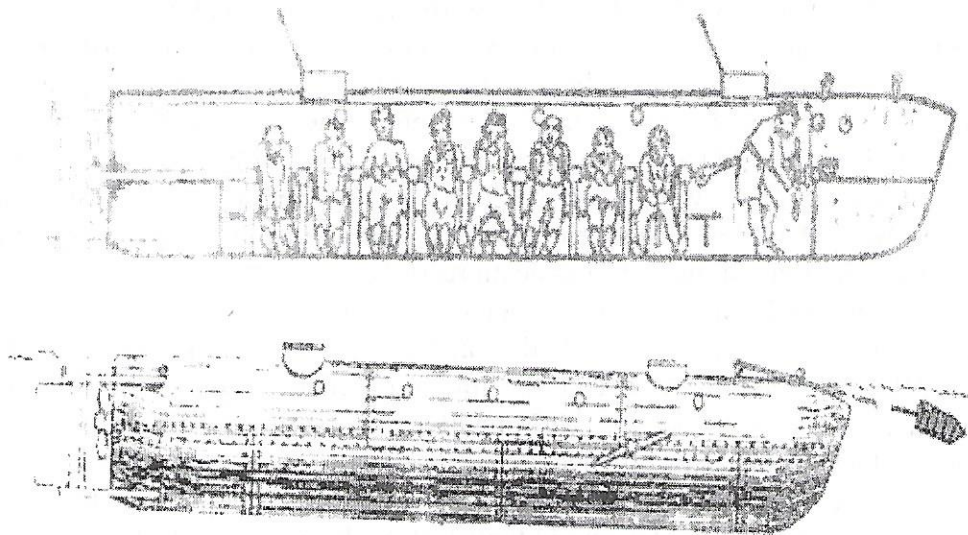
## MORE SUPRISES DISCOVERED IN H. L. HUNLEY

MAY 04, 2001

A discovery was made during the excavation of the H. L. Hunley. The submarine was originally thought to have been cranked by eight men, but now scientists believe the hand crank that powered the sub, was actually powered by only seven crewmen. "As we were excavating around the bellows we saw that the crank just stopped, we thought it would continue," said Project Director, Dr. Robert Neyland. It seems now that the crewman who sat directly behind Lt. George Dixon was responsible for operating the bellows, and getting air into the submarine. "After excavating 75% of the H. L. Hunley, the submarine continues to amaze us with it's advanced technology. Who would have thought that it was a seven-man crew that powered the submarine and one man who was dedicated, full-time to an air exchange system," said Dr. Neyland. Archaeologists removed more sediment from the bellows, which are made out of two panels of wood and attached by a leather strap. Also attached to the bellows seems to be a hose, possibly made out of rubber. Scientists say the air exchange system seems to be more advanced. The bellows have to be removed from the submarine before the bow of the sub can be excavated and the remains of Lt. Dixon can be removed.

"This seems to indicate that air exchange was in fact crucial to the operation of the Hunley and increases the likelihood that lack of oxygen could possibly have played an important role in the final moments of the submarine. Lt. Hasker, the lone survivor from the first sinking of the Hunley was subsequently quoted as describing the snorkel box as having a pump, which brought in fresh air from above and expelled foul air through the bottom. Obviously, his reference to a pump was in fact this bellow system and was a clue that a lot of attention was just not paid to, as to the design of the submarine. Now it appears air exchange was essential given the fact that the sub could remain underwater for only 20 minutes without a re-supply of fresh air, and perhaps explains now why one man was dedicated solely to that task," said Senator Glenn McConnell, Hunley Commission Chairman.

As the archaeologists continue to concentrate on removing the remains of the H. L. Hunley more artifacts are being discovered. A bottom base of a white candle was discovered, however it has yet to be removed because it is concreted to the sub. Also another canteen was discovered in the stern. Removing it from the sub is delicate work because of its fragility and it too is concreted to the sub's hull. A second writing pencil was also found.



# Proposed Changes to Camp By-Laws

In accordance to our Camp Bylaws, Commander Earl McCown has asked the Executive Committee to make a proposed change to the Camp By-laws to bring them in line with the National By-laws and due date on our Membership dues. Currently our State dues are not delinquent until after May 1 of each year but National dues are delinquent after February 1. Thus to keep everything uniformed and easier to process for records, Commander McCown has made the motion to make the deadline date for all membership dues uniformed with the National deadline date of February 1. Proposed changes must be sent to every member of the Camp ten days before a vote can be carried out.

The current article and section states:

## Article V: Finances

Section 3: Camp dues are required to be paid in full no later than January 15. Any member whose dues have not been received by International Headquarters by May 1 shall be considered delinquent and if said dues are not paid in full by May 1, the delinquent member shall automatically stand suspended and all Camp privileges revoked. Any suspended member paying dues after May 1, shall be re-instated as a member, in good standing, upon payment of the full Camp dues due, plus a late charge of 25% of the approved Camp dues. The Camp Adjutant shall not accept the delinquent dues unless said late charge is included.

The said article and section has been proposed to read as follows:

## Article V: Finances

Section 3: Camp dues are required to be paid in full no later than January 15. Any member whose dues have not been received by International Headquarters by February 1 shall be considered delinquent and if said dues are not paid in full by May 1, the delinquent member shall automatically stand suspended and all Camp privileges revoked. Any suspended member paying dues after February 1, will be re-instated with a 2/3 affirmative vote of the Executive Committee, as a member in good standing, upon payment of the full Camp dues due, plus a late charge of 25% of the approved Camp dues. The Camp Adjutant shall not accept the delinquent dues unless said late charge is included.

Please take note of these proposed changes and be prepared to discuss them at our May 17 meeting. If there is no discussion, they will be voted on in June and instated. Please attend to voice your opinion on this important matter. Remember, this is your Camp and it takes your input to make it a successful one.

# Mississippi History:

## 1st Mississippi Infantry

(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 was the First Regiment, First Brigade, Army of Mississippi, one of the eight regiments, the organization of which progressed slowly while other regiments were formed for immediate service at Pensacola or in Virginia. The First Regiment was completed in August and ordered into camp of instruction at Inka. The field officers were elected 10 September, 1861. The First was one of the four regiments sent by Governor Pettus to Kentucky to reinforce Gen. Albert Sidney Johnston. Camp near Hopkinsville, Ky., October 17.

The First and Third (23d.) formed part of the brigade of Gen. Charles Clark, at Hopkinsville, in the winter of 1861-62. Eleven of the First Regiment are buried at Hopkinsville, Ky., who died that winter. They were sent to Fort Donelson early in February, and General Pillow assigned them, with Lyon's Kentucky and Gregg's Texas Regiment, to a brigade under the command of Colonel Davidson of the Twenty-third, on February 9. The regiment was posted in the trenches under the command of Lieutenant-Col. A. S. Hamilton. Grant attacked on the 13th, and the line was exposed to the fire of artillery and sharpshooters. About midnight between the 14th and 15th, it was decided to sally from the works. Colonel Davidson being sick, and Colonel Simonton commanded the brigade, which marched out at dawn, following the brigades of Baldwin, Wharton and McCausland, and became seriously engaged with the left of McClelland's Division. For an hour they fought for the possession of a hill and finally the Mississippians charged and won the crest. A second charge, after being reinforced, drove the Blue line further back and captured Schwartz's battery. Simonton reported that he advanced over a mile and a half, then halted and was ordered back to the rifle pits, which he regained without sight of the foe. Co.. Morgan L. Smith, commanding the Eighth Missouri and Eleventh Indiana, reported that he stormed the position of the First and Third Mississippi, the skirmishers fighting very closely among the trees; after an hour's hard fight the Confederates gave way, and he pursued about a mile, taking five prisoners. The First had a total of 331 in battle: casualties 16 killed and 61 wounded. Colonel Simonton gave honorable mention to Lieutenant-Colonel Hamilton, Major Johnston, and his aides, Capt. R. B. Ryan and Sergt.-Major T. H. Wilson. General Bushrod Johnson reported that the Eighth Kentucky, Seventh Texas and First Mississippi suffered perhaps the greatest losses.

The regiment then became prisoners of war until exchanged. Some escaped and joined other commands. In the assignment of exchanged prisoners by General Van Dorn, October 16, 1862, Col. J. M. Simonton's consolidated regiment was ordered to report to Gen. Sterling Price, commanding the Army of the West, and was made part of Maury's Division, the consolidated regiment then including the First Mississippi, Fifty-third, Ninth and Forty-sixth Tennessee and Twenty-seventh Alabama. October 26 they were ordered to report at Meridian.

In his organization of troops in the breastworks at Port Hudson, January 7, 1863, General Gardner assigned Col. J. M. Simonton to command of a consolidated Alabama regiment, while the Thirty-ninth and First Mississippi were consolidated under Col. W. B. Shelby, all forming part of Gen. Beall's Brigade. March 27, after the Federal troops had begun landing, Simonton was sent with infantry, artillery and cavalry to Tangipahoa to reinforce Lieut. Col. H. H. Miller, who then reoccupied Ponchatoula, the Federal force falling back. Simonton was commanding at Ponchatoula in April. May 6 he was ordered to Port Hudson. In the organization of March, 1863, First Regiment, Col. Simonton, in Beall's Brigade, with the Thirty-ninth, Col. Shelby, and Arkansas regiments. During the siege of Port Hudson Lieutenant-Colonel Hamilton commanded the regiment, Colonel Simonton being absent.

The Federal army began the investment, May 25, 1863, when the regiment had 4 men wounded and 4 missing. The first assault was made May 27, and including that day and up to June 1 the First had 5 killed and 13 wounded. After the repulse of the second assault, June 14, Beall reported "the loss of the First Mississippi Regiment in today's engagement is very severe--18 killed and about 14 wounded. The command is much reduced." He asked for the return of a detail of 100. The Federal information was that the two regiments together were only 500 strong.

The works opposite the First, Beall reported, were very strong and extensive, enabling the enemy to enter the ditch without danger from the sharpshooters. Maj. Thomas H. Johnston, commanding the regiment July 3, reported the enemy actively pushing their works forward in his front. Two of his men had been mortally wounded by the explosion of their own hand grenades as they were throwing them over the parapets at the enemy. According to an unofficial statement the regiment had 45 killed at Port



Hudson, including Capt. George M. Moseley, Adjutant G. F. Simonton, and Lieuts. M. L. Mobley, J. M. Greer and J. M. Rhyne, and 53 wounded.

The regiment was surrendered with the garrison July 8. This surrender, like the previous one at Fort Donelson, was unconditional, but according to an informal agreement, the non-commissioned officers and enlisted men were paroled. Maj. Thomas H. Johnston and Capt. Thomas Boyd (captured at Corinth) were among the 600 officers encamped as prisoners under Confederate fire in Charleston harbor as a retaliatory measure. Among these also was Maj. Lamar Fontaine.

February 29, 1864, the headquarters of General Polk, commanding the Army of Mississippi, being at Demopolis, Ala., the commanding officer of the First Mississippi Infantry was ordered to report with his regiment as infantry for assignment to Featherston's Brigade. May 4, 1864, General Polk revoked the permission granted the First Regiment to report temporarily to General Chalmers, and all Port Hudson prisoners having been officially declared exchanged, the regiment was ordered to report at Columbus by May 20. Gen. S. D. Lee ordered the regiment, Capt. J. M. Peeler commanding, to report at Meridian. May 27. In June the regiment was encamped at Meridian, doing provost guard duty, under command of Major Alcorn. Lieut-Col. Johnson, Captains Boyd, Milam and Davis and a number of lieutenants were yet prisoners of war at Johnson's Island. Captains Crawford, Peeler and Hughes were on duty; Lieut. J. C. Culbertson was acting Adjutant. On the evening after the battle of Harrisburg, Miss., July 14, 1864, General Chalmers made a reconnaissance with McCulloch's Brigade and "some skirmishers from the First Mississippi Infantry." In the army returns of July 31, 1864, the regiment, Major Alcorn commanding, was listed with Featherston's Brigade in Georgia.

The First Regiment, with Featherston's Brigade, crossed the Tennessee River from Tuscumbia, Ala., November 20, and marched to Columbia and thence in the flank movement to Spring Hill. November 30 the regiment participated in the assault upon the intrenched line at Franklin, and shared the casualties of the brigade -- 76 killed, 200 wounded, 76 missing. From Franklin they marched to Nashville and took their place in the line of Loring's Division across the Granny White pike, which was carried by the troops of General Thomas, December 15. In the battle of the 16th Loring repulsed all attacks until the line was broken on their left. Capt. Owen D. Hughes was in command of the First, December 10. The return of December 21 showed an aggregate present of 67. On the retreat the regiment was part of the heroic rear guard commanded by Major General Walthall, and Featherston's Brigade was in action December 25-26, at Anthony's Hill and Sugar Creek.

They recrossed the Tennessee River December 28, and marched to winter quarters near Tupelo.

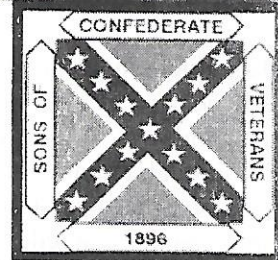
About the first of February, 1865, the remnant of Loring's Division began the movement to reinforce General Johnston in the Carolinas. They were ordered forward from Augusta, Ga., to Newberry, S. C., February 25. In the Carolina campaign against Sherman they participated in the battle of Kinston, March 10, and Bentonville, March 19-21; on the 19th making a gallant and successful charge, but with heavy loss. Organization of army near Smithfield, N. C., March 31, 1865, shows Maj. Gen. Walthall in command of Stewart's Corps, formerly the Army of Mississippi, Featherston's Brigade commanded by Maj. Martin A. Oatis, the First Regiment by Capt. L. L. Jones. April 9 the First, Twenty-second and Thirty-third Regiments and First Battalion were consolidated as the Twenty-second Regiment, Col. Martin A. Oatis commanding. Stewart's Corps, March 17, including the Mississippi brigades of Featherston and Lowry with others, had 890 effective.

Hostilities were suspended April 18, the army was surrendered April 26 near Durham Station and paroled at Greensboro.

- Company A -- Walker Reserves (raised in Marshall County, MS)
- Company B -- Mooresville Darts (raised in Itawamba County, MS)
- Company C -- Reub Davis Rebels (raised in Pontotoc County, MS)
- Company D -- DeSoto Greys (raised in DeSoto County, MS)
- Company E -- Pleasant Mount Rifles (raised in Panola County, MS)
- Company F -- Alcorn Rifles (raised in Marshall County, MS)
- Company G -- Dave Rogers Rifles (raised in Lafayette County, MS)
- Company H -- James Creek Volunteers (raised in Tishomingo County, MS)
- Company I -- Rifle Scouts (raised in Itawamba County, MS)



## Welcome New Members OCR, SCV, & MOS&B



Vincent Ollie McDaniel  
His Ancestor is his Great, Great Grandfather  
William Booker McDaniel  
Private; Company B, 7th MS Infantry

Lets give a big Rebel Yell to our newest Compatriot!!!

## Keep the Following Members in Your Prayers

Larry McCluney's Father as he recovers from his surgery  
Janie Robertson who had a bad fall the Thursday of our April meeting

This month's issue is dedicated to the men of the H.L. Hunley  
and their supreme sacrifice that they made for the Cause  
they believed in and the Southland that they dearly loved

