

Joe Nokes, Commander

Camp Website: www.humphreys1625.com

The Belta General

January, 2014 Volume 17, Issue 1 Dedicated to the memory of Brig. General Benjamin G. Humphreys

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UPCOMING EVENTS

January 9, 2014 - Camp Meeting

January 25, 2014 - Saturday Camp Lee/Jackson Meeting

No Camp Meeting in February

February 24-26, 2014 – 150th Anniversary of the Battle of Ouitman

Camp News: Commander's Message - Joe Nokes

Friends and Compatriots,



your support and aid to these men in the coming two years. Congratulations to all of our officers! To continue with Lee-Jackson Banquet information, most of the plans are in place. For our January meeting (yes, we will have a meeting on the first Thursday of January), we

Camp elections have come and gone. Officer positions have been filled for the next

two years. New officers will be sworn in at the Lee-Jackson Banquet. Please lend all of

will finalize any "last minute details" that are needed. Speaking of such details, please contact Larry McCluney, Dan McCaskill or myself with how many will attending

the Banquet. As always, this is an open invitation event, so bring as many family and friends as you can. (We just need a count for seating and meat servings.)

To continue, we will again have the meat catered. And we will need everyone to provide sides, desserts, and drinks. Please email/contact Larry and Annette McCluney, Missy Stillman, or myself with your food plans so that we can coordinate well.

As always, the event is casual, with period dress more than welcome. Anyone wishing to fall-in with the color guard, please let Larry, Dan, or myself know in advance. If you do not have gear, we can work on some loaner gear. (FYI, we need about 6 re-enactors for the Color Guard.)

I would like to offer congratulation and appreciation to Larry McCluney for setting up our Nathan Bedford Forrest website. This is our camp's way of following the Commander-in-Chief's directive for the 2014 proactive campaign. The website is Lt. Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest, An American Warrior and the address is

[http://confederatehistory.wix.com/forrest]. Please check out the site and share it with everyone you know. Since we have so much going on right now, I will close with this: Keep up the good work! Keep up the good fight! Your reward is the knowledge that we are keeping alive the good name and honor of our ancestors and ALL of the men who fought for our beloved South!

Deo Vindice, Joe Nokes

Lee/Jackson Banquet January 25th, 2014

Our Lee/Jackson Banquet will be held on Saturday, January 25th, 2014 to be held at the First Presbyterian Church in Indianola, MS. The attire is tasteful casual. The Camp will be providing the main course of the meal everyone is asked to provide a side dish. To not repeat dishes, please contact Annette McCluney what you will be bringing confederate@suddenlink.net

The night will feature a social hour at 6:00 PM, presentation of colors at 7:00 PM, supper, presentation of the Hunley Award, our speaker, installation of new officers, and the ladies OCR raffle.

Our guest speaker is General Ulysses S. Grant (aka Dr. Curt Fields) accompanied by his wife Julia (aka Lena Moody). General Grant will be speaking to us about his relationship with General Robert E. Lee. Please tell everyone about this great speaker and bring the whole family out for a special night.

Interested in the Mechanized Cavalry, See Richard Dillon for details!

Hello Men,

It's hard to believe, but December is here, which means we will have an SCV meeting this Thursday. Also, Captain Bert sent an email stating that the statewide meeting is scheduled for January 18, 2014. The time and place are TBA, but go ahead and mark the day on your calendars.

In case you are not already subscribed, there is a monthly newsletter published by the Florida Mech Cav Company called "The Cracker," www.crackernewsl.com . It is always interesting and is becoming the unofficial newsletter of the Mech Cav. You can subscribe at the link above.

If you are not receiving emails from Bert let me know and I will send him your email address. Let's all attend the Camp meeting Thursday and be sure to wear your vest.

Richard Dillon





Adjutant's Report for December, 2013 – Dan McCaskill

Commander Joe Nokes called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The Meeting was opened with an invocation and blessing by Gator Stillman. Joe welcomed all members and guests attending the Meeting and then invited all to partake in the evening meal provided by the ladies of the Ella Palmer Chapter # 9, OCR. After the meal, Joe reconvened the Meeting. Compatriot Jimmy Alford led the members and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag and salutes to the Flag of Mississippi and the Battle Flag of the Confederacy. Commander Nokes then read "The Charge" given to us by Gen. Stephen D. Lee.

Program: There was no program for the evening.

Announcements: The Camp's annual Lee – Jackson Birthday Banquet will be held on January 25, 2014 at the 1st Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hal in Indianola, MS. Re-enactment of the Texas Hospital will be held in Quitman, MS February 21–23, 2014.

Officer Reports: 1st Lt. Commander Larry McCluney did not have a report; 2nd Lt. Commander Junior Stillman did not have a report; Adjutant Dan McCaskill reported that Camp's status has not changed since the last Meeting. He also announced that the Camp should receive its profit share from the 2013 National Reunion by the end of the year. The Church Fund was in need of \$ 30 to make its commitment to the end of the year. As Camp Editor, Larry inquired if anyone had problems receiving the Camp Newsletter; AOT Councilman Larry McCluney gave a short report on the status of the fight to save the parks in Memphis. The City Council failed to make two court appearances and the judge will set a date for a third court hearing when he will make a final ruling. Things look favorable for the SCV; MOS&B had no report; Missy Stillman announced that there will not be a raffle at our next Meeting.

Camp Business: The Nathan B. Forrest Committee reported that a Facebook site would be ready for review by the Camp Members by the January Meeting on the 9th instead of the 2nd .

The next order of business was the election of Camp Officers. Commander Nokes went through the process of opening and closing the floor for nominations for each elected position in the Camp. The following are the newly elected officers of the Camp:

Commander: Joe Nokes 1st Lt. Commander: Richard Dillon 2nd Lt. Commander: Brent Mitchell Adjutant/Treasurer: Dan McCaskill Color Sergeant: Jimmy Alford

These men will be sworn into their respective office at the Lee – Jackson Banquet.

With no other business coming before the Camp, Commander Nokes turned the Meeting over to the Ladies of the OCR for the Raffle and "Capture the Yankee". Jimmy Alford won the raffle and Kenneth Ray failed to capture the Yankee.

The Meeting was dismissed by Commander Nokes. Attendance for the Meeting was 15. Our next Meeting will be January 9, 2014.

Happy New Year, Dan McCaskill, Adj.

Happy Birthday Generals Lee and Jackson



Order of Confederate Rose Report: Annette McCluney

Ladies,

First let me say Happy New Year to you all and I hope you had a great Christmas with your families. Our December meeting saw the election of new Chapter Officers:

Sandra Stillman – President Missy Stillman – Vice-President - Secretary



After the election, we discussed plans for the Lee/Jackson Banquet which we will finalize at our January meeting. There will

not be a February meeting since the Banquet is January 25th. The men will have an executive council meeting in February. If you have any raffle prizes for the Lee/Jackson Banquet to donate, please make sure to get those to Missy Stillman or myself at the January meeting. I have some new and refreshing raffle prizes from Beauvior. Our Capture the Yankee is almost at \$150.00 and is doing well.

As we say good-bye to 2013, the 15th Anniversary of our Chapter comes to a close. We have come a long way and have seen many faces travel through our Chapter and some have crossed over during those 15 years. Thanks goes out to our founding members as we look forward to another 15 years.

Annette McCluney, President

Mississippi Division News: 2014 MS Division, SCV Reunion in Corinth, MS June 6-8 2014 - Information

Compatriots!

The Colonel William P. Rogers Camp is honored to host the 2014 State Convention. The following is some additional information that may be helpful to you. The registration forms are available at this site - battleofcorinth.com.

- Motels Headquarters Motel Holiday Inn Express is located at the junction of Routes 45 & 72, the Hampton Inn is across the street. The SCV rate of \$89 a night is good if rooms are booked before May 23, 2014. The price is the same at both motels.
 Historical Tours:
- Historical Tours:

1. We are offering an early bird tour of the Davis Bridge Battlefield on Friday June 6, at 1:00 pm. The tour will be led by NPS Ranger Tom Parson the leading expert on the battle. This is a pristine site that is seldom seen by visitors. A real treat!

2. On Saturday afternoon we will offer a bus tour of the many battlefield sites in Corinth- (Limited to 55 persons). A driving/walking tour will also be available for those who want to do it on their own.

We do need to know the number of persons wanting to go on these tours so we can provide guides and buses so please indicate your interest on the Registration Form.

3. On Sunday we recommend a tour of nearby Shiloh and the Brice's Crossroads Battlefields.

- For the Ladies: Corinth has a number of very interesting shops with many different choices. On Saturday morning from 8:00 am to approximately 3:00 pm there will be Corinth's monthly "Green Market" where local persons sell their Arts and Crafts and homemade items like jellies, pickles, baked goods, clothes, and jewelry. No trip to Corinth would be complete without a trip to Borroum's Drugstore (opened in 1865) for an old fashion ice cream treat and a "Slugburger." Directions will be provided.
- Friday Evening Reception: Our Friday night opening reception will be held at the Corinth Civil War Interpretive Center. It is a wonderful building on the Corinth Battlefield with great exhibits on the Battle of Shiloh and the Battle of Corinth. We look forward to having you in Corinth where history comes alive!

Note - See Registration form on page 5 for more information . . .

Shiloh Monument Update

Just wanted to give you an update on the progress of our monument project. I met with Hank Holmes, Executive Director of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, a while back and he and I signed a letter of agreement stating that the \$250,000 appropriated by the legislature would be placed in the State Treasury under the control of the Mississippi Veterans Monument Commission.

This means we now officially have \$426,488.15 to be used exclusively for the erection of a Mississippi monument at Shiloh. And today I took a senior official of the Mississippi Department of Finance and Administration, David Anderson, up to Shiloh National Military Park to meet with the Superintendent, John Bundy, to discuss coordination issues on the erection of the monument, especially those that relate to the formal Request For Proposal. I think we all came away with a clearer understanding of the process involved.

In short, we are on track for putting up an outstanding monument at Shiloh to honor the Mississippi troops who fought there. But the process is agonizingly slow, in my opinion. The selection of a sculptor and a design is now in the hands of a five-person Evaluation Committee, and I will monitor the process closely and keep you informed. But I highly encourage you and others to make inputs to the process also.

Kim Johnson

150th upcoming for Brice's Crossroads, Tupelo battles

The Battle of Brice's Crossroads and the Battle of Harrisburg/Tupelo were the final battlegrounds in Mississippi during the War for Southern Independence, and the area will be celebrating the 150th anniversary of the battles next summer. Several travel and War Between the States writers and bloggers from across the country wrapped-up a two day tour of the area to find out more about the Sesquicentennial Celebration. *"We wanted to have people help us explain, interpret and promote what we're doing and our celebration,"* said Edwina Carpenter, curator/director of the Mississippi's Final Stands Visitor's and Interpretive Center and Battlefields. The Tupelo Convention & Visitors Bureau is sponsoring the media familiarization tour, taking the group to various sites related to the battles that were part of the Union's Atlanta Campaign. The Final Stands celebration will be June 13-15, highlighted by a re-enactment on the 1,500-acre Brice's Crossroads Battlefield. *"I'd like to see 10,000 people,"* said Bill Cooper, who portrayed Confederate Infantryman William Witherspoon describing the core area of

Continued on page 4 . . .

Brices Crossroads Continued . . .

fighting to the writers. An Arkansas native, Cooper now lives in New Albany but travels around the country to be part of War Between the States re-enactments. "I've been doing this since 1968," he said. Next year's three-day celebration will feature a Children's Day, a Period Ball and several educational components. A *"town"* will be set up to represent the era, with visitors able to see how life was like during the War of Northern Aggression.

National SCV News:

National Reunion in Charleston, SC

Editor's Note: If you plan to attend the Reunion in Charleston, SC in 2014, then you need to at least reserve a room at the Embassy Suites as soon as you can. I reserved my room on July 24 and the impression they gave me was they were going quick. But never fear, if you cannot get a room there, or if you want something within your budget, go to http://www.scv2014.org and see what they offer. Early registration form for the Reuion is offered on the next page. As of the October GEC meeting, the Reunion Committee reported that all rooms at the Embassy Suite in North Charleston are sold out. If you plan to attend the reunion, you must use alternative motels that are provided for reservations.

Florida school board votes to remove name of Confederate General

In order to continue to bow down to political correctness, a north Florida school board has voted unanimously to change the name of a local high school honoring Confederate General Nathan Bedford Forrest. *"It's time to move forward with the renaming of Nathan B. Forrest High ... it's time to really put it to bed,"* said School Board member Constance Hall, who called for the Board to finally begin the process of changing the name. Hall and the board's other panel members joined in the 7-0 vote in voting to change the name. Four Jacksonville schools are named after OUR Confederate heroes including Robert E. Lee High School and the city's downtown square.

The school's name was chosen in 1959 at the suggestion of the United Daughters of the Confederacy as the group readied for the 100th anniversary of Florida joining the Confederacy at the start of the War of Northern Aggression. Changing the name of Nathan B. Forrest High School has reared its ugly head several times in the past. This time, a Jacksonville Carpetbagger parent; Long Island native Omotayo Richmond, took up the cause on social media with a change.org petition signed by more than 176,000 misinformed people who do not all live (if any) within the local voting district. As a result, it generated widespread media panic and support from financially driven civil rights groups. *"Now is the time to right a historical wrong. African-American Jacksonville students shouldn't have to attend a high school named for someone who slaughtered and terrorized their ancestors for one more school year,"* Richmond wrote in his petition appeal.

The school's future name now lies in the hands of the Duval County Superintendent of Schools, Nikolai Vitti, due to report to the school board in December or January with a recommendation on changing the name, as well as present possible alternatives. It should prove to be interesting on what they come up with and we'll be keeping the public informed. Forrest's defenders call the effort to change the name part of a wider movement to erase all remnants of the Confederacy, Southern Heritage and Icons of our Southern Identity. Slavery was a legal labor institution acknowledged by the United States in Forrest's day whenever the topic of him being a slave trader comes up and he was not convicted of any war crimes for which he was falsely accused of for his part during the war. Besides, at the end of his life his views on blacks changed as he supported black freedom.

The Liberal left does not want to acknowledge this fact; nor do they want the cat be let out of the bag. "Where will this ever end?" Bodie Catlin, a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, asked the School Board, raising his hands in the air for emphasis. "If you all go along with this, believe me, they are going to go after every Confederate General name in Jacksonville," he told the School Board.

"It's not going to stop there. There are people who want to change the name of Jacksonville, "he added, noting that Andrew Jackson owned slaves and led the slaughter of Seminole Indians. Other schools named for Confederate heroes in Virginia, Tennessee, Louisiana and Alabama have taken steps toward renaming. In February, the Memphis City Council renamed three downtown parks to remove (deny) Confederate associations, including Nathan B. Forrest Park where the General is laid to rest.

Apparently the renaming of a school and the denying of Southern icons is the absolute best they can do to help our failing Public Educational System. Instead of wasting time and energy trying to change what's written on the outside of the building; perhaps they should concentrate their efforts on what's going on (or what's NOT going on) the inside of the building.

Court decision allows Confederate statue to stay in

<u>cemetery</u>

The N.C. Court of Appeals upheld a lower court decision on 11/19/2013 allowing the relocation of Reidsville's statue of a Confederate Soldier. A three-judge panel agreed that two groups of protesters did not have legal standing to challenge the statue's removal from a prominent public setting and its eventual relocation to a more secluded spot, after it was damaged in a car wreck in May 2011. The judges dismissed claims by the two nonprofit groups, the Historic Preservation Action Committee and the North Carolina Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, that the removal amounted to *"an improper disposition of public property."* The judges also rejected claims that the removal hurt members of the groups who own businesses near the traffic circle where the statue originally sat.

"The statute provides no support for plaintiffs' contention that the removal of a monument lowers the economic value of land or decreases business activity within a historical district," the judges said. City officials decided after the statue was damaged beyond repair two years ago that it belonged to the North Carolina United Daughters of the Confederacy. In what became a racially charged dispute, the UDC chose to move the salvageable base of the monument to a plot it owns in a city cemetery. The group commissioned a new version of the statue to sit atop the base. The two protesting groups filed a lawsuit in Superior Court to stop those plans to put



The monument in downtown Reidsville was damaged in a wreck in 2011.

it in a cemetery in March 2012. They filed suit against the city, the UDC, the N.C. Department of Cultural Resources and the N.C. Department of Transportation. The decision apparently ends that effort. An attorney for the groups said it was unlikely they would take further court action.

119 TH REUNION – MISSISSIPPI D AND 20 TH REUNION – MISSISSIF Corinth, Mis	EGISTRATION FORM DIVISION, SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS PPI SOCIETY, ORDER OF CONFEDERATE ROSE ssissippi – June 6-8, 2014 Rogers Sons of Confederate Veterans Camp #321
SCV MEMBER'S NAME:	
TITLE: SCV 0	CAMP & NUMBER
ADDRESS:	
PHONE #: (H)(C)	EMAIL
SPOUSE'S NAME (for badge):	·····
OCR MEMBER'S NAME:	
OCR CHAPTER NAME AND NUMBER	
GUEST NAME:	
	dge, a convention medal, a program,and a bag of goodies. Those receive the same as long as supplies last.
REGISTRATION AMOUNTS:	
SCV before May 23, 2014 \$30.00 AT THE REUNION \$35 OCR before May 23, 2014 \$10.00 AT THE REUNION \$15	
Ancestor Memorial: EACH MEMORIAL IS \$10.00 (Please print or type each memorial on a separate page	and submit them with this form.)
Program Ads: \$100 for a full page; \$50 for half a page; \$ (Please submit ad information on a separate page befor	
Banquet—\$30.00 per adult plate	QTY\$
\$15.00 per child plate (12 and under)	QTY \$ TOTAL AMOUNT \$
Make checks Pavable to th	he Col. William P. Rogers SCV Camp #321
•	gus - 56 CR 615 - Corinth, MS 38834
	NO COST – RESERVATIONS APPRECIATED p for those you wish to participate in:
Friday Early Bird Tour – June 6 th , 1:00 p.m. – Tou Saturday Tour – June 7 th , 1:30 p.m. – Tour of Cor Sunday on Your Own Tours – June 8 th – Shil	
	TACT INFORMATION <u>mail.com</u> or (H) 662-287-0766 (C) 662-872-9180
Holiday Inn Express 2106 Hwy. 72W (60	ay Inn Express is the headquarters hotel . 62-287-1407) – SCV Rate \$89 if booked before May 23 -286-5949) – SCV Rate \$89 if booked before May 23



Sons of Confederate Veterans 119th National Reunion North Charleston, SC July 16-19. 2014 1864 – H. L. Hunley - 2014



Grand Total

Individual Member Registration (Basic Registration is required for ALL members attending the reunion)

Early Registration (Thru March 31, 2014) (\$55.00 Each)	Qty	x 55 =
Late Registration (After March 31, 2014) (\$65.00 Each)	Qty	x 65 =
Wed, July 16: Harbor Meet & Greet Tour (\$65.00 Each)	Qty	x 65=
Thurs, July17: General Forrest Cavalry Breakfast (\$30.00 Each)	Qty	x 30=
Thurs, July17: C. Irvine Walker Preservation Luncheon (\$35.00 Each)	Qty	x 35=
Thurs, July17: General Johnson Hagood Heritage Dinner (\$35.00 Each)	Qty	x 35=
Thurs, July17: Ladies Tour (\$35.00 Each) .	Qty	x35=
Thurs, July 17: Fort & Battlefield Tour (\$35.00 Each)	Qty	x35=
Fri, July 18: Gen. Ellison Capers Chaplains Breakfast (\$30.00 Each)	Qty	x 30=
Fri, July 18: Lt. Richard Kirkland Awards Luncheon (\$35.00 Each)		x 35=
Fri, July 18: H.L. Hunley Tour (\$40.00 Each)		x 40=
Sat, July 19: Mary Boykin Chesnut Debutante Luncheon (\$30.00 Each) (Debutantes Free)	Qty	x 30=
Sat, July 19: Gen. Wade Hampton III Grand Banquet and Debutante Ball: (Single: \$70.00)	Qty	x 70=
(Couple: \$130.00)	Qty.	x 130=
Numbered Medal (\$150.00 Each) (Limited to 150 Medals)	Qty	x 150 =
Additional Reunion Medals (Non Numbered) (\$35.00 Each)		x 35=
Ancestor Memorials (Printed in Program) (\$10.00 Each) (Attach Ancestor Memorial Form)	Qty	x 10 =

Make Check payable to Low Country SCV and mail to address below

Due to the nature of tour booking and catering demands, all tour and meal purchases are considered to be final. No refunds will be issued. The 2014 National SCV Reunion Committee does reserve the right to limit or cancel any tour prior to the reunion due to limited booking of reservations. In the event there is a cancellation of any tour, the entire payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part

Name:			SCV Member #		
Address:					
City:		State:	Zip:		
Phone:	E-Mail:				
SCV Division:		۲		Real Son:	
Camp Name:			Camp #:		
Guest(s)					

Contact the Embassy Suites, North Charleston, SC at 1-843-747-1882 for room rates, availability and reservations. Ask for the 2014 SCV Reunion Rate.

Tenth Brigade, South Carolina Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans		
David Rentz, 2014 SCV Reunion Chairman,		
www.scv2014.org		
Mail Checks To:	Low Country SCV, P. O. Box 1170, Ladson, SC 29456-1170	

Confederate Parks in Memphis, TN -- SCV wins second round

Friends,

In a sudden development from yesterday our case has gotten a boost. As you recall we were to have a routine hearing to accept our 2nd Amended Complaint to the case as ordered by the judge. He wanted our additionally submitted new evidence against the city and additional documents all included in our complaint so that "it would all be one place." (One of several points of our additional evidence: the old original Park Commission had the sole authority to name or rename a park, and on several occassions did indeed rename some old parks. When the Park Comm was abolished in 2000 and the Div of Park Svcs under the mayor was created, all of the former duties and responsibilities of the Park Comm were transferred to Park Svcs. This was ratified by the City Council, thus admitting that only the mayor can rename a park and the Council cannot. Our evidence includes meeting minutes of the old Park Comm from the 1900's.) We had also asked for an in-court hearing so that we could have a court reporter present.

Yesterday (12/06/13), in a phone conference called by the judge, he officially waived the hearing, accepted our amended complaint, and stated that he would issue a written order as such to satisfy any technicality required by the clerk's office, (so we thus don't have to have a hearing and still get a written decision). The city attorney protested, saying that we were introducing even more evidence than the judge had asked for and we shouldn't be permitted to argue additional facts. The judge countered that this was not out of the ordinary, and permitted by state law, and that facts were facts and that he wanted all included. The city attorney then conceded that this was correct and agreed to the ruling. A consent order reflecting the above was filed. The judge then ruled that the city has 15 days to respond (normal time is 30 days), at

As always we appreciate your continued support in this epic fight to save our Southern history and heritage. And Please keep this confidential.

Lee Millar, Defending the Parks . . . The fight continues...

which point he would set a trial date. This will likely be in Jan or early Feb.

Membership in the SCV

Life Membership - Now might be the very best time to introduce a new plea for Life Membership in the Sons of Confederate Veterans! From "our" perspective, the more Life Members we have the fewer Annual Pay Members we have to chase at this time of year. From "their" perspective, Life Membership would eliminate the unending knock on the door from the bill collector, "us" since Life Membership will forever prevent a dedicated member from inadvertently allowing his membership to lapse but <u>most importantly Life Membership allows a member to</u> <u>make a profound statement of his support for our organization's efforts to protect the good name of our Confederate ancestors!</u> Expense – Any discussion about Life Membership soon turns to cost. Certainly none...or at least few of us are wealthy but the "Conditional Life Membership" offered by the SCV makes it not only easy but affordable.

After an initial payment of \$150 annual payments can then be made until the final "age sensitive" payment is made. If the member changes his mind or financial reverses change it for him the amount paid will be applied toward paid-up annual membership. While it is true that the \$30 per year national dues will still be required, this plan still makes it possible for payments to be made to acquire Life Member status. An Application can be found on the SCV website, <u>www.scv.org</u> > Services > Forms and Documents > Life Membership Application or at <u>http://www.scv.org/pdf/LMForm.pdf</u>.

Supplemental Ancestors - Since 9 out of 10 Southern men served in defense of their homes in Confederate service it was not uncommon for fathers and sons to march off to war to serve alongside uncles, nephews and cousins. Consequently most of us have two, three or many more ancestors that we would like to honor with a certificate in their name.

Supplemental Ancestors may be submitted by members in good standing via the usual Camp channels for a total of \$10 by completing an Application for Membership and simply writing "Supplemental" in the upper right-hand corner. The member will then receive an 11" X 14" certificate (an 81/2" X 11" certificate is available upon request) and the "Supplemental Ancestor" will then be listed in the SCV Membership Directories whenever printed.

A detailed explanation is available on the SCV website, <u>www.scv.org</u> > Services > Forms and Documents > Life Membership Application or on the SCV website, www.scv.org > Services > Forms and Documents > Instructions for Supplemental Ancestor Certificates or at <u>http://www.scv.org/pdf/SUPPLEMENTALMEMBERSHIPS.pdf</u>.

Cadet Membership - As per the SCV National Constitution: 3.8.1. Program Participation: Cadet Membership shall be by election of the Camp only. No part of this shall be constructed as being a requirement placed on the Camp. Participation is solely by Camp elective and the Camp shall hold full responsibility for all aspects of the program.

It is certainly true that we are not a "dying" organization simply because most of our members are 40 years or older. Thankfully we have an endless supply of 40 year-old men! The good Lord makes them every day BUT we must attract those men to our ranks and what better way than to introduce ourselves to them at a younger age? Cadet Membership certainly does that and has the potential to preserve our struggle in perpetuity! All that is necessary is for YOUR Camps to participate!

While the Cadet Membership program has yet to be developed beyond the bounds set in the National Constitution it still delivers an attractive Membership Certificate and keeps that Cadet's name in the records of the SCV and all for a very affordable \$10 per year. Cadets have proven to be valuable members of their Camps by participating in SCV protocol, delivering salutes, reading of the Charge, assisting the Camp or Division Quartermaster, etc., which not only provides valuable education and camaraderie with like minded men but also plants a seed that may someday blossom into a future leader of our organization.

As per the Constitution, participation in this program is entirely optional but the perpetuation of our organization is NOT. I encourage you to urge its adoption in all the Camps of your Division!

Latest Membership Statistics – December 3, 2013

Status 2012	4,647
2013	22,385
LM	3,463
Real Sons	5
Total	30,500

2 Civil War museums in Virginia team up for new center

RICHMOND, VA. – One museum has among its vast Confederate-centric collection Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson's sword and the flag that flew at Robert E. Lee's headquarters. The other museum strives to tell the story of the Civil War through the eyes of Northerners and Southerners, freed and enslaved blacks, soldiers and civilians.

Now the Museum of the Confederacy and the American Civil War Center are joining forces to build a \$30 million museum in Richmond with the goal of creating the top Civil War museum in the nation 150 years after the deadliest conflict fought on U.S. soil.

The marriage of museums, announced to The Associated Press, will meld the collection of Confederate battle flags, uniforms, weapons and other historic relics with a narrative-based museum that uses bold, interactive exhibits and living history events to relate its 360-degree

telling of the war.

What some might view as an unlikely partnership "makes so much sense" to Christy Coleman, president of the American Civil War Center, which opened in 2000 at a site where the new museum will rise.

"That's part of the point," Coleman said in an

Christy Coleman, left, director of the American Civil War Center at Tredegar Iron Works, left, and Waite Rawls of the Museum of the Confederacy, pose in front of the ruins of the old Tredegar Iron Works in Richmond, Va., Wednesday, Nov. 13, 2013. (AP Photo/Steve Helber)

interview with The Associated Press. "They have an incredible collection that is absolutely Confederate strong, but there are a lot of artifacts that have not been able to be fully explored or used to relate to the African-American experience or immigrants or the role of Jews." Coleman said the Confederacy museum's collection will complement her museum's mission of looking at the social and political stories of

the Civil War. "The combination of that is what makes this so exciting to us," she said. In a joint announcement, the museums said the new historic attraction in the former capital of the Confederacy has yet to be named, but \$20 million has been committed to its construction. Ground will be broken in 2014, with an expected opening the following year.

The new museum will be located along the James River, at the Tredegar Ironworks, where much of the South's cannons were forged during the war. It's also the home of the Civil War Center. The museums said bringing together both institutions will "further establish Richmond as the foremost Civil War destination in the United States."

Richmond continues to draw from its past to bring tourists to the city. Efforts include the creation of a Slave Trail tracing the city's past as a lucrative center in the commerce of enslaved people to a more contemporary narrative offering tours that highlight the Thomas Jeffersondesigned Capitol and other central Virginia locations used in Steven Spielberg's film "Lincoln."

At the new attraction, Coleman will share the title of CEO with Waite Rawls, president of the Confederacy museum. It dates to 1890 and traces the origins of much of its collections to the men who fought for the South and their descendants, in particular Lee and other Southern military leaders. The museums have collaborated in the past, Rawls said the merger is "a natural evolution of that relationship."

The Museum of the Confederacy claims the world's largest and most comprehensive collection of Confederate artifacts: thousands of carefully preserved battle flags, dolls used to smuggle medicine to troops, Jackson's sword. Only a fraction of the collection is on display at the museum's downtown Richmond site, next to the former White House of the Confederacy.

While the Civil War Sesquicentennial has drawn visitors to the museum, overall it has seen a sharp decline in attendance through the years as the Virginia Commonwealth University Medical Center and related facilities have grown around it, enveloping both buildings. Finding the museum can be a challenge even for city residents.

The James River location for the new attraction, a little more than 1 mile from Museum of the Confederacy, offers a more expansive and accessible site. It's also home to the National Park Service's Richmond Visitor Center, already is a popular destination for Civil War buffs. Concerts and other events also draw city-dwellers and tourists to the grassy grounds along the river. "The ability to attract a much bigger audience and really stake the claim that Richmond is the premier museum experience for the Civil War -- this is a tremendous opportunity for us," Rawls said.

Rawls agreed with Coleman that the combined museums will build on each other's mission. "Their strength is their site at the Ironworks and their access to the river and their room for living history," he said. "Ours is our collection." For his part, Richmond National Battlefield Park superintendent Dave Ruth welcomes the new collaboration along the James. The new museum, he said, "will define how visitors experience the dramatic story of the Civil War and will communicate the powerful and untold stories that provide transcendent meaning for this event, which shaped our country's history."

Coleman could barely contain her enthusiasm as she offered a sneak peak at some of the future exhibits at the yet-unnamed museum, including a look at the extraordinary growth of Richmond as the Confederate capital. "The idea is to create experiences for our guests that are really different so they can understand the conflict more deeply," she said. "It's really exciting."

Editor's Note: This article is dedicated to those that thought it would never happen. We must always be vigil for the enemy sometimes disguises themselves as one of us. We should always be on the guard for dangers to our Confederate heritage.

Sesquicentennial Of the War for Southern Independence Articles: The Seven Confederate Knights

Civil War prisons were terrible places to be. Many stories have been told of horrendous conditions, lack of food, and gross mistreatment the prisoners suffered. Rock Island Prison was just such a place. It was there, in large part because of the conditions, that a secret organization formed among the Confederate prisoners: the Seven Confederate Knights. Rock Island Prison was built on an island in the Mississippi River near Davenport, Iowa. Prison life got off to an ominous start for Confederate prisoners when it was opened in December 1863. Though the prison camp was not finished, 5,000 Confederates were delivered there in temperatures of 30 degrees below zero. Almost immediately the camp was hit by a smallpox epidemic. It was a tough start for what would become a tough place.

One of the problems prisoners faced was a shortage of food. It got to the point where prisoners were eating anything they could get, including dogs and rats. The union authorities used that to their advantage. An offer was extended to the prisoners that if they took an oath of allegiance to the United States and served in the army fighting Indians on the frontier or join the navy, they would receive better rations and living conditions. They were promised that in joining the army, they would only be sent to the frontier to fight, not to the South . This was a very tempting offer to men who were starving. There were those who took the offer. The idea that any of their fellow soldiers would take the oath and



Rock Island Prison – Davenport, Iowa

join the Federal army was disturbing to some of the prisoners. They knew that it was something they would never do, no matter how bad things became. It was from this that a secret organization was formed.

Seven prisoners decided to form the group, pledging to stand by each other under any circumstances. They swore to suffer any conditions or treatment and die in prison rather than swear allegiance to the United States as long as the Confederate government existed. They did not remain a group of seven, but sought out others who felt as they did. One thing they did to test their fellow prisoners was for a member to suggest to a friend or acquaintance that they take the oath together to get better conditions and get out of the prison. If the prisoner agreed to the idea, the organization left them alone and stayed clear of them. If the prisoner rejected the proposal and was ready to swear allegiance to the Confederacy, they were deemed worthy to join the organization. One of the founding members, Thomas F. Berry, wrote after the war that





The badge of the Seven Confederate Knights

Bohon wrote that he didn't blame all of them and had "no unkind word for any of those poor sufferers from disease and starvation."

taking the oath of allegiance, founding member William J.

As a secret organization, they developed secret handshakes, signs, and passwords. They also created a symbol for the group and badges. The badges were made of pearl, bone, or highly polished rubber. The symbol was a star with seven points. In the center of the star were the letters C, K, and a number 7.

The organization's motto was *Dulce et decorum est pro patria mori*, which means *"It is sweet and glorious to die for one's country."* The first letter of each word of the motto was included in the points of the star on the symbol.



Confederate Soldiers taking the Oath of Allegiance

In addition to keeping the prisoners faithful to the Confederacy, the Seven Knights of the Confederacy planned to storm the guards with anything they could use for weapons and force a mass escape. Even with the secrecy of the organizati

could use for weapons and force a mass escape. Even with the secrecy of the organization, however, the plan was discovered. The guards were doubled and made ready for trouble. The plan was then abandoned. One man, who took the oath of allegiance, told the guards that Thomas Berry was one of the Seven Knights. Berry was asked about the secrets of the organization. When he wouldn't reveal anything, he was put in a sweat box. The box was barely large enough for a person and had a pipe that brought in steam. Berry was put in the box and the steam was turned . He suffered this punishment without telling anything. During the existence of Rock Island Prison, the Seven Knights of the Confederacy played an important role for many of the prisoners as they aided each other in trying to endure and survive their horrific ordeal.

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