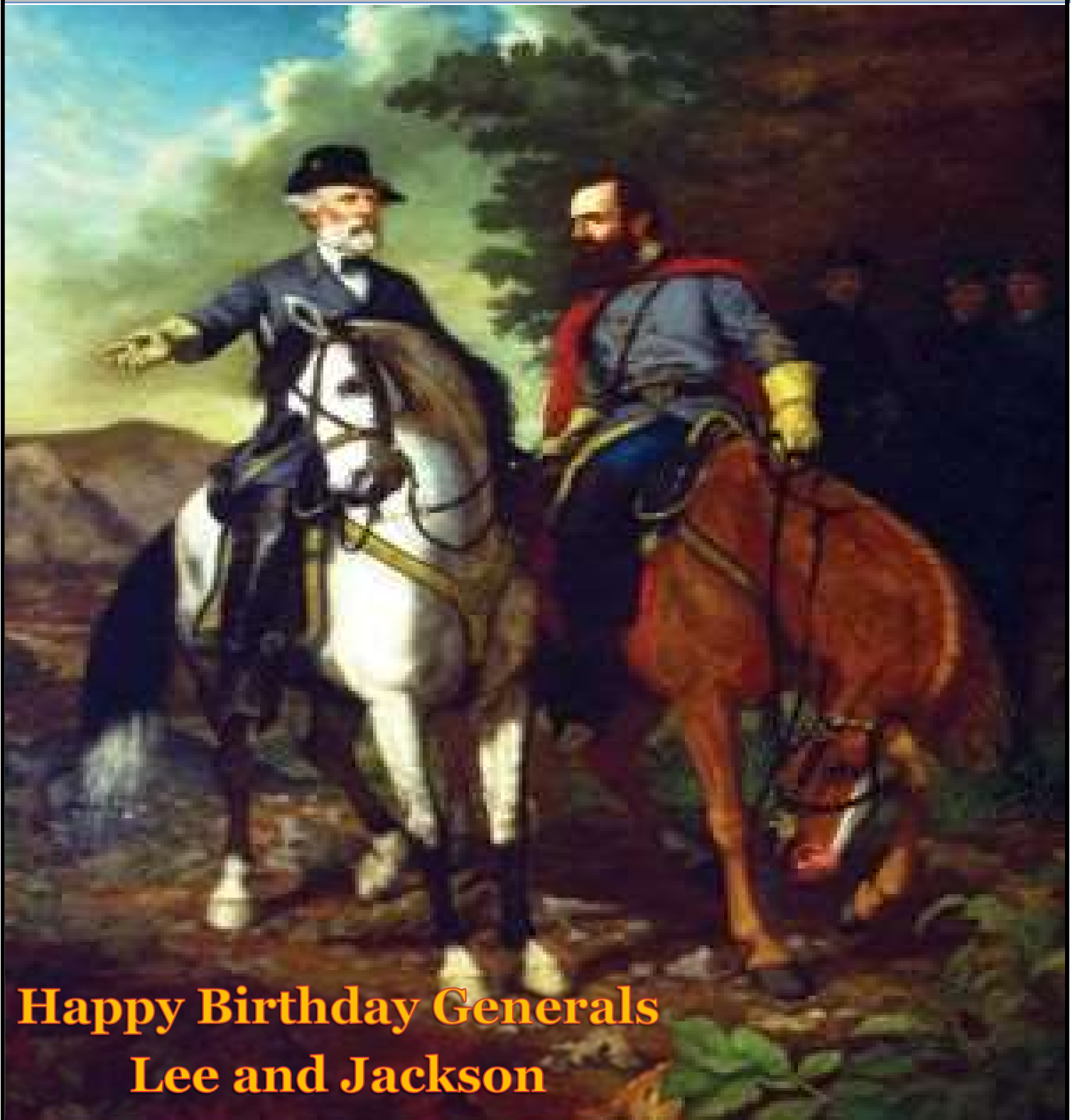
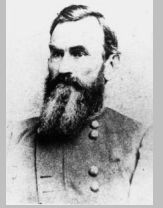


Camp Website: www.humphreys1625.com



The Delta General

Richard Dillon, Camp Commander



**Happy Birthday Generals
Lee and Jackson**

January Issue - 2018, Volume 21, Issue 1

Dedicated to the memory of Brig. General Benjamin G. Humphreys

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 - Texas – an Australian Perspective

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Lee/Jackson Banquet – January 13, 2018 – 6:00 PM
- February Camp Meeting – February 1, 2018

CAMP COMMANDER

Richard Dillon

rld846@gmail.com

EDITOR

Larry McCluney - (662) 453-7212
confederate@suddenlink.net

The Delta General is published 12 times a year by the Brig/Gen. Benjamin G. Humphreys Camp #1625, SCV, as a service to its members. The articles, photographs, or content of The Delta General may not be reproduced without the consent of the editor. The opinions expressed by the authors of signed articles reflect the personal views of the writers and are not necessarily the views of the Brig/Gen. Benjamin G. Humphreys Camp #1625, SCV. The Delta General reserves the right to accept or reject content.

Brig. General Benjamin G. Humphreys Camp #1625, SCV
website: www.humphreys1625.com

Cover

Lee and Jackson's Last Meeting

Camp News:

Commander's Report – Richard Dillon

Compatriots,
HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

I certainly hope that 2018 is kinder to our Confederate Heritage than the past couple of years have been. I have been sickened by the liberal shenanigans that have taken place, especially the removal of the statues in Memphis, which was a clear violation of Tennessee State Law. I can only hope and pray that the Memphis City officials responsible for this act are made to pay and pay dearly for their decision.

This is my final Commander's Note as a new slate of Camp Officers will be installed during our Lee Jackson Banquet on January 13th. Serving as Camp Commander for the past two years has been one of the highlights of my life, and I surely appreciate the support from all of you.

Please, make every effort to attend the Lee Jackson Banquet. Brother James Taylor will be our Guest Speaker, and he never fails to deliver an inspiring program.

I look forward to seeing each of you at the Banquet.

Camp Meeting Minutes, November 2017

Adjutant's Report – Larry McCluney

The December meeting was a small turnout, but very productive. Members made preparations for our Lee/Jackson Banquet and the election for new officers. Our speaker for the Lee/Jackson will be Army of Tennessee Chaplin Bro. James Taylor. The date of the event is Saturday, January 13, 2018, at the First Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall in Indianola. Social hour begins at 6:00 PM, dinner at 7:00. Cost will be \$5.00 per member to cover the entree and supplies. We are asking everyone attending to bring a covered side dish to go with the entree just as we have in the past.

New Camp Officers were elected:
Larry McCluney – Camp Commander
Zack Kiker – Lt. Commander
Johnny Gaugh – 2nd Lt. Commander
Earl Allen – Color- Sgt

There are still a few members who have not renewed their dues and have missed the deadline and will have to pay a late fee. Lets get them in ASAP. Please make checks of 57.50 to SCV and send dues to:

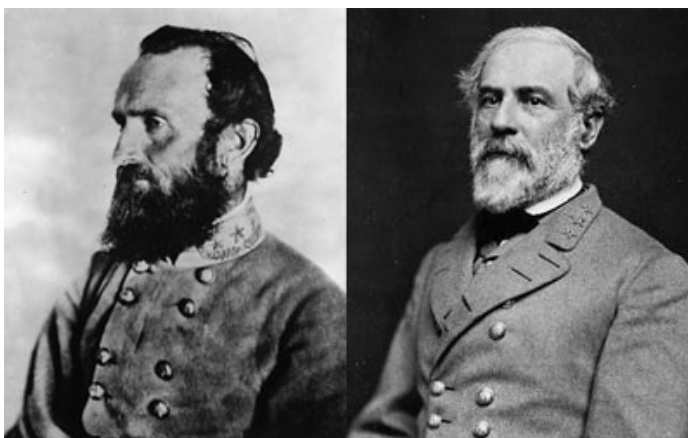
Larry McCluney
1412 North Park Dr
Greenwood, MS 38930

By the time you read this, the Holiday season will have come and passed. I do want to take this time to welcome the New Year! Let us not forget our ancestors who fought away from home during four holidays. Let us remember the sacrifices they made for a Cause that was just.

Lee and Jackson Birthday Celebration; Saturday, January 13, 2018 @ 6:00 PM

The Brig. General Benjamin G. Humphreys Camp# 1625, Sons of Confederate Veterans The Ella Palmer Chapter #9, Order of Confederate Rose And The Brig. General Charles Clark Chapter #253, Military Order of the Stars and Bars

Cordially invite you and your family too celebrate the birthdays of Generals Robert E. Lee and Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson at our annual banquet on Saturday, January 13, 2018 at the First Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall in



Indianola, MS. The main entrée is Bar-B-Q Brisket and Pulled Pork. To offset the cost of the entrée we ask everyone to purchase a ticket of \$5.00 per person and to bring a covered dish or dessert. Social hour starts at 6:00 PM and meal at 7:00 PM. The guest speaker that night is Bro. James Taylor Army of Tennessee Chaplain

Please contact Larry McCluney by e-mail: confederate@suddenlink.net what your covered dish will be so as to not have too much retentiveness of dishes.



PETITION GUIDE



Initiative 62 - Should the current State Flag be adopted by Constitutional Amendment?

Initiative Handbook by Mississippi Division SCV Heritage Defense Committee

THE PETITION Initiative Measure No. 62 proposes to amend the Mississippi Constitution to establish the 1894 flag as the ONE Official State Flag for the State of Mississippi, and require that the flag be flown at the principal installations of all State supported institutions, State agencies and political subdivisions.

This is an official form please keep clean of debris and liquids

PHOTO COPIES You can make copies of the petition form; HOWEVER, it must be copied in 8.5 X 14 size, front and back. If you copy it to 8.5 X 11, the entire form will be rejected.

Signatures cannot be submitted as a photo copy, must be original

CIRCULATION OF PETITIONS Anyone can collect signatures for this petition, please properly train them on all details of this handbook or give a copy of handbook and ask them to review it.

Ask persons collecting signatures for you to return completed forms to you (or County Captain if that is someone other than yourself) so they can be submitted for certification.

MUST BE CERTIFIED before submitting to the address on the back of the petition.

COLLECTION OF PETITIONS Designate a drop off location for petitions or ask those helping you to call when ready for pick up.

Be sure to inform anyone you give a form to that they return it to you for certification, DO NOT send to address on back of petition until it has been certified with local Circuit Clerk.

FILLING OUT PETITION Always use BLUE INK

PRINT LEGIBLE, this is VERY important in obtaining certification

ONE COUNTY PER SHEET - If signed wrong county, ask to resign correct county sheet PRINT all information except Signature – Legibility is very important for certification.

You can fill out all information except Signature, the VOTER is required to SIGN

Only 1 signature per voter is valid and MUST match what is on voter rolls.

Use NAME and ADDRESS exactly as voter registered, even if recently moved

Address MUST include CITY / TOWN NAME

Voter have a VoterID card? If YES, use it to fill out petition with accurate info

Registered to vote? If NO, see Voter Registration section

Voted recently? If NO, see Voter Registration section

PRECINCT & CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: In most cases this is never needed, ask your Circuit Clerk when submitting your first copy just in case they want it on there. If they do then you can ask for their help to obtain the information for each entry. DO NOT DATE bottom of form until you turn in for Certification. This date cannot be before any other date on the form or that signature will be invalid.

"CERTIFICATE OF PETITION CIRCULATOR": The person that signs the petition as the circulator MUST be a registered voter of Mississippi. Does not have to be voter of county petition is submitted to.

VOTER REGISTRATION Anyone signing petition must be registered to vote, please do not date signature as the date must come after the person is registered to vote.

Voter Registration forms can be obtained from Circuit Clerks office.

Have person fill out a voter registration for their current address and give the registration back to you so you can turn submit it to the circuit clerk in your county, otherwise ask the person to turn it in to the circuit clerk of their county as soon as possible.

Hold the petition with this signature for at least 2 weeks before submitting for certification. This will allow the voter registration to be entered by the clerk.

CERTIFICATION It is preferred that a County Captain handle certification, unless there is no CC for your County. If you wish to serve as CC where one is not already listed, please contact us.

Review each form before submitting to Circuit Clerk, ensure the following o Every entry is dated. Circulator information at bottom is completely filled out.

Submit petitions with a cover sheet that indicates the following (can be hand written) Your name, phone number and address o Total number of sheets submitted for certification o Total number of signatures submitted for certification o Your signature and date o Signature and date from person receiving

Take a photo of cover sheet then give it to circuit clerk representative.

Ask to be called when completed or return in 1 week to check on status.

When picking up certified petitions you should also get an official Certification letter for those petitions. Keep this certification with those petitions.

Mail petitions with certification to the clearing house (address on the back of the petition).

UPDATING STATE SUMMARY For the purpose of tracking the state-wide progress, send weekly updates of your progress to SaveTheFlagMS@gmail.com A state summary based on these numbers from all County Captains will be presented to the HDC on a weekly basis and used to help determine progress and needs throughout the campaign.

Submit the following per county you have o Signatures on hand (not certified) o Signatures on hand (certified) o Signatures at Clerk's office o Note number of certified signatures you have mailed within past 5 days

QUESTIONS? Send any questions or suggestions for this handbook to

SaveTheFlagMS@gmail.com

Upcoming Mississippi Division Reunion Locations

2018 Private Samuel A. Hughey camp 1452 Southaven, Ms

2019 The Rankin Rough and Ready's camp Brandon, Ms

2020 John C Pemberton 1354 Vicksburg Ms

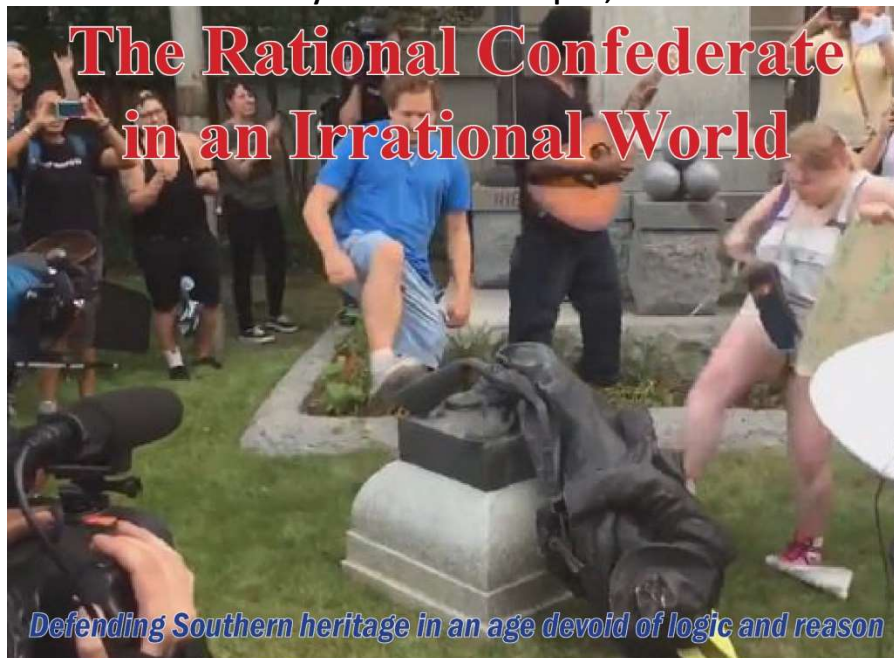
Upcoming National Conventions

2018 Franklin Tennessee

2019 Mobile Alabama

2020 Jacksonville, Florida.

2018 Stephen D. Lee Institute Symposium
The Rational Confederate in an Irrational World
Defending our Southern heritage in an age devoid of logic and reason.
17 February 2018 Shreveport, Louisiana



The attacks on our Southern heritage are beyond all reason: emotion and insanity rage while facts, rationality, and logic are being driven from public discourse. It is the purpose of the Stephen D. Lee Institute to provide the antidote to these toxins by bringing together some of the best minds in the South to make the case for Dixie.

We are pleased to announce the 2018 Stephen D. Lee Institute will be held February 17, 2018 in Shreveport, Louisiana. Our host hotel for the event is the Hilton Hotel Shreveport; the symposium will take place at the Shreveport Convention center, which is connected to the Hilton.

We are once again putting together a very distinguished line-up of speakers, including...

- Marshall DeRosa - professor of American Constitutional Law and author of numerous books including *The Confederate Constitution of 1861: An Inquiry into American Constitutionalism*
- Ron Kennedy - noted trouble-maker and, along with his brother Don Kennedy, perhaps the most prolific author in the modern Southern movement. Among his many books are *The South was Right* and *Dixie Rising: Rules for Rebels* and many others
- Paul C. Graham - editor of Shotwell Publishing and author of *Confederaphobia!*
- Lee Bright - Two-term S.C. State Senator and renowned defender of Southern heritage
- Jeffery Addicott -- law professor and expert on terrorist tactics; author of *Radical Islam Why?: Confronting Jihad at Home & Abroad* among others
- Charles E. McMichael - Educator, Past SCV Commander-in-Chief and relentless defender of Southern heritage

Special Offer for Current SCV Members

Thanks to the support of the SCV General Executive Council, this year, in an effort to make the SDLI as accessible as possible, we are able to offer a special early registration discount for SCV members of just \$95. That's a \$30 savings off our regular registration fee of \$125.

This special \$95 registration fee is only available to current SCV members, and to take advantage of it you must register before January 17.

Registration Package

Admission to all symposium programs including a special panel discussion with all of our distinguished speakers Saturday afternoon.

Desert Reception Friday night at the hotel.

Lunch Saturday

Registration Cost

\$95 for SCV members who register before January 17.

\$125 for SCV members after January 17

\$150 for non-members (the public is invited)

A limited number of scholarships are available for high-school seniors, college students, and high-school teachers. To register for the event click here: <http://www.stephendleeinstitute.com/events.html> Our host hotel is the Hilton Shreveport, 104 Market St, Shreveport, LA 71101, (318) 698-0900. The Hilton is extending a special SDLI rate of \$107 (\$119 double-occupancy, plus applicable taxes). The SDLI rate includes free Wi-Fi and complimentary breakfast. You can make a reservation online at the special SDLI rate by clicking here: <https://aws.passkey.com/go/StephenDLeelInst>

Please note: to receive the special SDLI room rate, reservations must be made by January 26, 2018. Questions may be directed to Chris Sullivan at SDLeeInfo@gmail.com or (864)660-9188

The Mayor of Memphis has declared WAR on the State of Tennessee and Southern Heritage!

When Memphians woke up Wednesday (December 20), they lived in a city that owned Health Science Park and Fourth Bluff Park, and that featured prominent public statues of Confederate President Jefferson Davis and General Nathan Bedford Forrest. When they woke up Thursday morning, neither was true.

In a surprise move Wednesday evening, Memphis's city council voted to sell the two parks to a new private nonprofit corporation that will run them. In an action that the State Legislature has already declared to be ILLEGAL, Mayor Jim Strickland signed a contract with the nonprofit, Memphis Greenspace, on Friday, and the City Council ratified it. Within minutes, Greenspace, which was incorporated in October, began removing the statues, with celebratory crowds gathering to watch, singing, "Na Na Hey Hey Kiss Him Goodbye." The statues have been removed to a place nobody can find, according to the City's chief legal officer.

The removal of the Forrest and Davis statues in Memphis is likely to draw legal challenges, both from the State government and from the Sons of Confederate Veterans. Presumably, if the City's sale were to be overturned in court, they could be forced to put the statues back up? Which is why we are speculating that the City of Memphis is either planning to, or already has destroyed them.

Memphis's strategy also raises other uncomfortable questions. While the State law effectively protects monuments the City's sale of the parks, if unchallenged, provides a means for other jurisdictions to brazenly circumvent the law.

Ideally, Memphis's action is a declaration of war to the State governments that continue to defend Confederate monuments.

Judge-Advocate in Chief, Scott Hall

SUBJECT: LAST NIGHT'S EVENTS IN THE CITY OF MEMPHIS

December 20th and 21st were extremely sad and disgraceful days for the City of Memphis, our State, and our Republic. For civilized people throughout the world and for all Tennesseans that believe in the rule of law, the acts of the Memphis City Council should be recognized as being abhorrent and diametrically opposed to a government of the people. The Memphis City Council violated our system of laws, due process, and respect for the law.

The Sons of Confederate Veterans has fought efforts to destroy history, and specifically fought for four or five years to prevent the Memphis City Council from removing the Forrest Monument, headstones, and graves. In the courts and through administrative proceedings, the SCV has successfully defended the wrongful and bad intent of the Memphis City Council.

Specifically, this past October, in Athens, Tennessee, the Tennessee Historical Commission voted 18 to 6 to deny Memphis's petition to move the Forrest Statue and Monument. The SCV was present and was instrumental in having the City Council's actions denied.

In legal and administrative proceedings, Memphis admitted that the Tennessee Historical Commission had jurisdiction over the Forrest Statue. Still, in defiance of the law and legal procedures, they coordinated and sanctioned removal of the Forrest Monument.

It has been reported to the SCV that the Tennessee Attorney General repeatedly confirmed that the Forrest Statue and Monuments were being watched and safeguarded against illegal action. The Monument, and grave site, was to be protected until and unless legal proceedings resulted in alternative courses of action. Such was not the result last night.

Under the cloak of darkness and in defiance of our State's legal system, Memphis's claim that "We sold the parks to a 3rd party" is under the law, a sham, a deceit, and a subterfuge. It has been reported that Memphis sold the parks for \$1,000.00. Any such action would be shameful and would serve as the Memphis City Council's mockery of both our Judicial system and the Tennessee General Assembly.

Legal action by the State of Tennessee should be taken against the Memphis City Council. All residents of Tennessee are encouraged to request legal proceedings against the City by the State of Tennessee, and against anyone responsible for altering, moving, or disturbing the Forrest Statue, monument, or graves.

The Sons of Confederate Veterans, especially those members in the Memphis area, have valiantly defended the sanctity of the Forrest Monument, Statue, and graves. The Sons of Confederate Veterans and the legal team fighting to protect State history via the rule of law and through the legal bounds of the Courts and Administrative offices are to be highly commended. Such successful legal action stymied the ISIS-like action of the Memphis City Council, until lawlessness stole the night.

The Sons of Confederate Veterans will continue to uphold the law, and will continue to fight against injustice, such as the events in Memphis, Tennessee, on December 21, 2017.

Scott D. Hall, Esq, Judge Advocate-in-Chief
Sons of Confederate Veterans

Chief of Heritage Operations, Carl Jones

21 December 2017

In the dark of night on Wednesday, December 20, 2017, the City of Memphis, Tennessee, in violation of State law, removed the statue of General Nathan Bedford Forrest and President Jefferson Davis. This was done in a backdoor manner wherein the City, which has lost every court case, hearing, and legal appeal to remove the Statues themselves, conveniently sold the properties to a "private" entity under the belief that this entity could legally remove the statues.

The Sons of Confederate Veterans has been engaged in an ongoing lawsuit with the City for the better part of five years. As stated, the City has lost on every front and they've lost every appeal. This latest action is a blatant and underhanded attempt at legal wrangling that we believe, once again, violates multiple State laws.

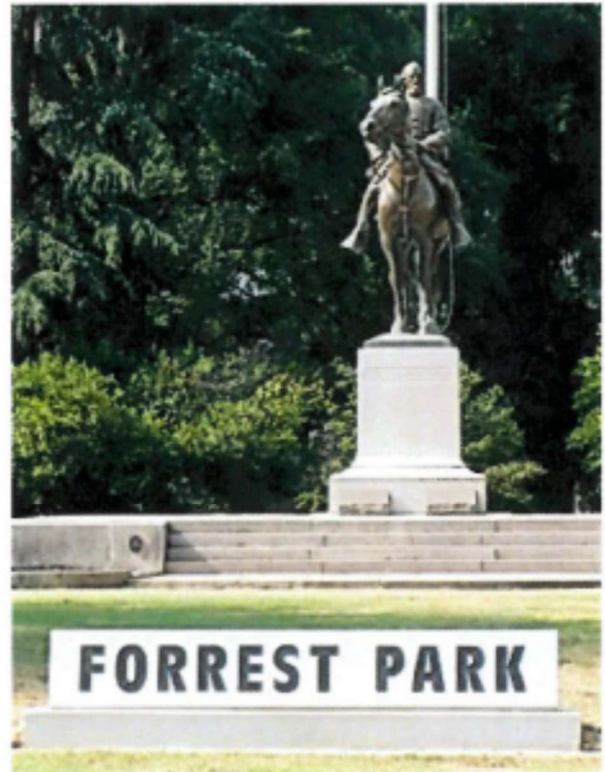
Tennessee Division Commander James Patterson moved on this situation as soon as he was notified and the Tennessee Division is in the process of seeking further actions against the City. I assure you, the Tennessee Division WILL have the full backing of the National General Executive Council in this matter and we will fight until the last breath.

We are absolutely outraged at the continual attempts of Memphis to besmirch the good name of our ancestors, their Cause, and their leaders. General Nathan Bedford Forrest was a good man, a gallant leader and an ambassador for positive relations between all races of people in the South after the war. He is a figure that any City should be proud to have memorialized and any honest look at history will easily prove this. The ignorant, shameful, and dishonest tactics used against his memorial will not be tolerated by us, or by the American people, and the Sons of Confederate Veterans will exhaust every resource at our disposal to, once again, fight against the politically correct and perpetually ignorant who are behind this putrid, evil, and hate-inspired travesty of justice.

Deo Vindice,
Carl Jones, Chief of Heritage Operations
Sons of Confederate Veterans

SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

Help Save General Forrest



The Memphis City Council has passed a resolution to remove the Forrest Equestrian Statue from Forrest Park and to dig up the graves of General Forrest and his wife MaryAnn from beneath the statue.

The SCV and the Forrest family descendants must raise money to fight the city in this second attack on General Forrest. We need your help.

Help us to save the graves and monument of General Forrest

Can you, or your camp or Division donate \$100, \$500 or \$1000 to the defense ?

Please sign me up as a supporter. No membership fee.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Contribute through PayPal at our ally at : www.citizenstosaveourparks.org

Please donate to our cause: Amount \$ _____ check number _____

Forrest Park Defense Fund

PO Box 241875, Memphis, TN 38124



Army of Tennessee Workshop



Revival Building
9 AM to 3:30 PM
February 24, 2018
303 Washington St.
Athens, Alabama 35611

Hosted by the Alabama Division and the Captain Thomas H. Hobbs Camp #768 Athens, AL.

During the Army meeting at the Memphis Reunion, Commander McCluney announced that an AoT workshop would be held in Athens, Alabama in the upcoming months. I am pleased to announce that the meeting will be held on February 24th, 2018 at the Revival Building in downtown Athens. Varied topics will be discussed including, SalesForce, how to cope with Confederate negativity, Community involvement and others. The cost of the event is \$20 and this includes lunch. Due to caterer constraints, lunch reservations will be cut off on January 24th. After January 24th, the registration fee will be \$5, which does not include lunch. Food sites are nearby in walking or driving distance.

On Friday, the 23rd we will have a Jambalaya Supper, prepared by our Commander in Chief Tom Strain. This will be held at the Trinity – Fort Henderson site. Donations will be accepted in lieu of a ticket price. The profits from this event will go to the restoration effort of Fort Henderson and the Confederate Museum at Elm Springs. See below for information about Fort Henderson.

A registration form is attached. Directions to both sites will be posted on the Alabama Division website, alscv.org as well as the AoT Facebook page. Updates on the meeting and topics will be added to the sites.

We look forward to seeing you in Athens!

Jimmy Hill

Commander
Alabama Division

(256) 614-3613
aldivcommander@aol.com



Army of Tennessee

Workshop



Revival Building
9 AM to 3:30 PM
February 24, 2018
303 Washington St.
Athens, Alabama 35611

Hosted by the Alabama Division and the Captain Thomas H. Hobbs Camp #768 Athens, AL.

Registration is \$20 which includes lunch (Ribeye Steak Sandwich, Baked Beans, Chips, Dessert and choice of drink). Pre registration by February 1st for lunch (Caterer) After Feb. 1st, \$5 (no lunch included) Lunch sites are close by (short drive or walk)

Hotel rooms are available with room rates posted on the Alabama Division website, alscv.org

There will be a Meet and Greet hosted by CiC Tom Strain on Friday night, February 23rd at the Trinity School - Fort Henderson center, on Browns Ferry St. Athens, AL. 35611. Jambalaya and the fixins' will be provided for a donation. Proceeds go to the restoration of Fort Henderson and the Confederate Museum at Elm Springs.

Name _____ Title _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone Numbers: Home: (____) _____ - _____

Cell: (____) _____ - _____

E-mail Address: _____

SCV Camp Name & Number: _____ Division: _____

Check here if you plan to attend the Friday night supper

Please send this completed form, together with a check or money order in the amount of \$20 (by Jan. 24th for lunch) made payable to Alabama Division, SCV After Feb. 1st, send this form and \$5 (No lunch) and mail it to:

AoT Workshop
PO Box 375
Capshaw, Alabama 35742

Contact Workshop Coordinator Jimmy Hill at 256-614-3613 if you have questions.

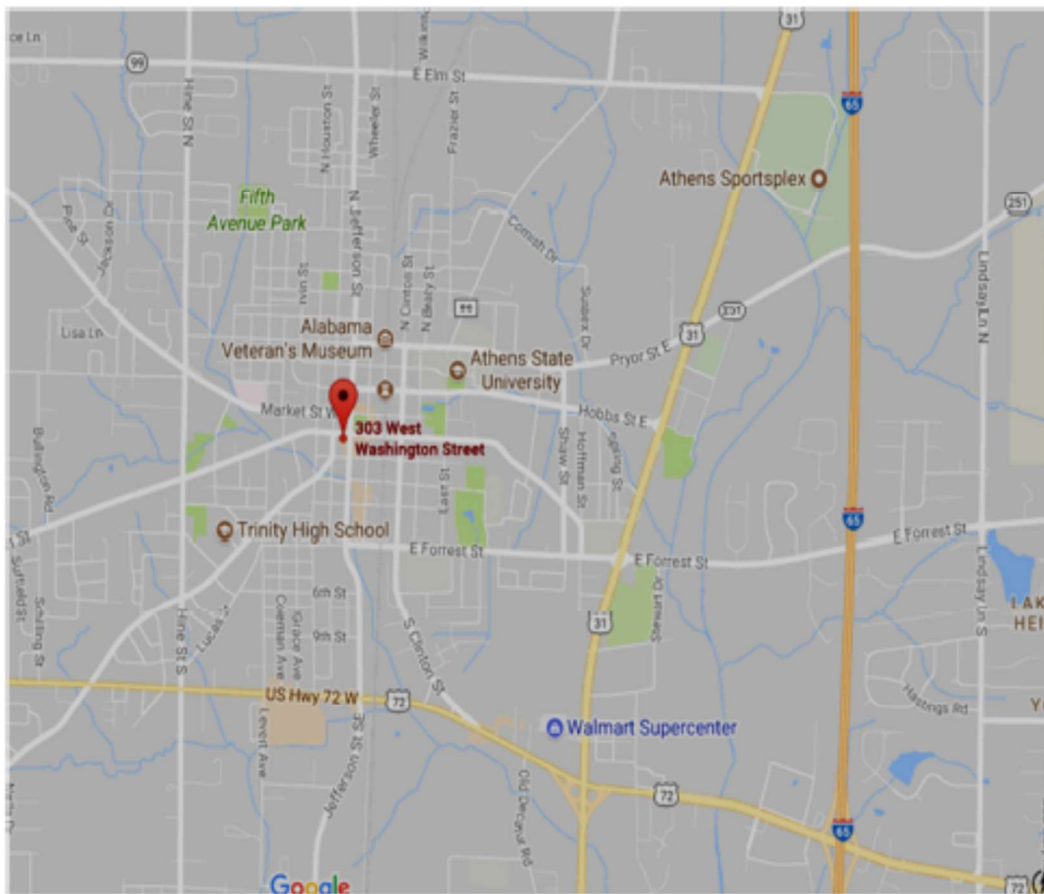
Hotels

The Host Hotel will be the Hampton Inn. It is located at 1222 Kelli Drive, Athens, AL. 35613 Just off I-65 behind the Cracker Barrel. Phone (256) 232-2377. There is a special room rate of \$109 for Friday night 2/23.

Other hotels at the exit are: Quality Inn, Travel Inn, Sleep Inn, Best Western and Days Inn. Rates run from \$60 to \$80.

We have been notified that TVA will have a work outage at the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant outside of Athens during this date. Rooms (especially the low to mid price) will book quickly.

Saturday, February 24th the workshop will be held at the Revival Building in downtown Athens. The address is 303 Washington Street. From I-65 (Exit 351) Take U.S. Hwy 72 west to Jefferson Street (you will go under a railroad bridge just before Jefferson St.) Turn right onto Jefferson St. Follow Jefferson St. to Washington St. (Courthouse square) Turn left onto Washington St. The Revival building will be on your left, directly across from the First Presbyterian Church.



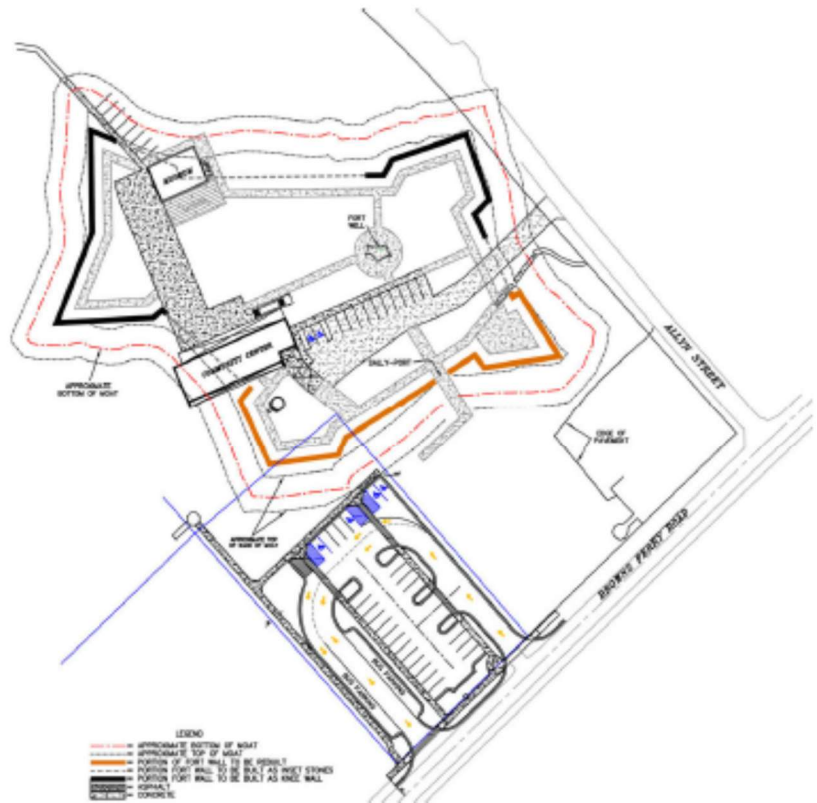
Trinity – Fort Henderson

Fort Henderson was built in 1863 by federal forces occupying Athens. The fort, situated on Coleman Hill, was a five-sided earthen fort with some frame buildings and underground bomb-proofs. Abatis lined the 15-foot deep perimeter ditch, a small portion of which is still visible. On September 24, 1864, after a brief fight and a clever ruse orchestrated by Confederate Gen. Nathan B. Forrest, the fort and its 900-man garrison of mostly the 110 U.S. colored infantry were surrendered. After moving the prisoners and captured supplies South, Forrest's campaign followed the railroad North to the Union fort at Sulphur Creek Trestle which he took the following day. Federals re-occupied Athens shortly after Forrest's departure.

The site became the location of Trinity School, the first black school in Limestone County. It opened in 1866 and closed in 1970.

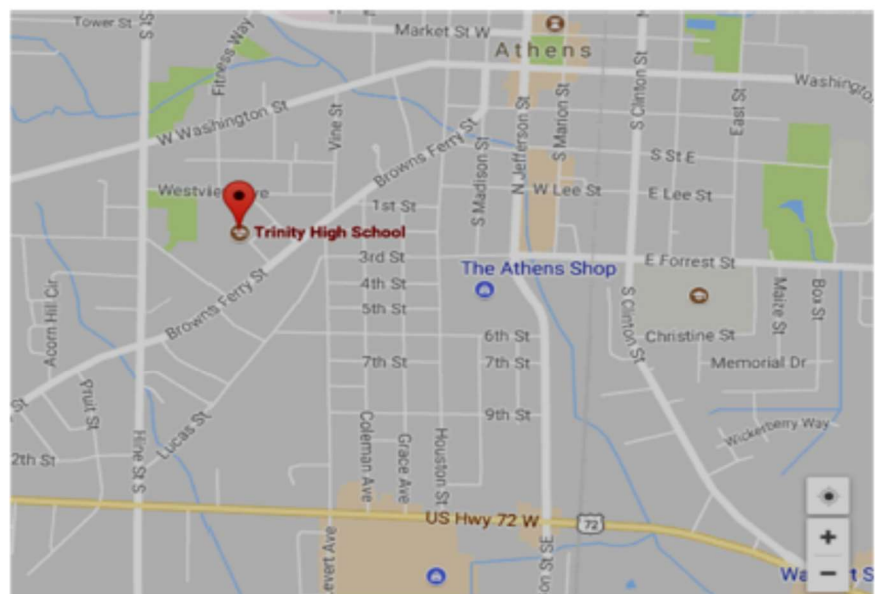
Today the Fort and school property is being restored in part to tell the story of both. The community center has been built and work is now underway on the partial restoration of the fort perimeter. There is a planned museum at the site.

On Friday, February 23rd, 2018, in conjunction with the AoT meeting on the 24th, there will be a Jambalaya supper held at the community center on the Fort Henderson site. Commander in Chief Tom Strain will be preparing the meal. Join us at this historic site where General Forrest captured over 900 Union soldiers on his move into Tennessee. Donations will be taken for the restoration of the Fort and the Museum at Elm Springs.



Site plan for the restoration of Fort Henderson
Fort layout is in bold black and orange lines

The Fort is located at on Browns Ferry Street, Athens, Al 35611. Take Hwy 72 to Levert Ave. Turn right onto Levert. Follow Levert to Browns Ferry Street, turn left, the road to the fort will be just past the Trinity Congregational Church. Turn right at the sign for Pincham-Lincoln Center. Google Trinity High School Athens Alabama for driving directions from your actual location.



PRAISE FOR LEE AND JACKSON By Chuck Baldwin January 6, 2010 NewsWithViews.com

January is often referred to as "Generals Month" since no less than four famous Confederate Generals claimed January as their birth month: James Longstreet (Jan. 8, 1821), Robert E. Lee (Jan. 19, 1807), Thomas Jonathan "Stonewall" Jackson (Jan. 21, 1824), and George Pickett (Jan. 28, 1825). Two of these men, Lee and Jackson, are particularly noteworthy. Without question, Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson were two of the greatest military leaders of all time. Even more, many military historians regard the Lee and Jackson tandem as perhaps the greatest battlefield duo in the history of warfare. If Jackson had survived the battle of Chancellorsville, it is very possible that the South would have prevailed at Gettysburg and perhaps would even have won the War Between the States. In fact, it was Lord Roberts, commander-in-chief of the British armies in the early twentieth century, who said, "In my opinion, Stonewall Jackson was one of the greatest natural military geniuses the world ever saw. I will go even further than that--as a campaigner in the field, he never had a superior. In some respects, I doubt whether he ever had an equal." While the strategies and circumstances of the War of Northern Aggression can (and will) be debated by professionals and laymen alike, one fact is undeniable: Robert E. Lee and Thomas J. Jackson were two of the finest Christian gentlemen this country has ever produced. Both their character and their conduct were beyond reproach. Unlike his northern counterpart, Ulysses S. Grant, General Lee never sanctioned or condoned slavery. Upon inheriting slaves from his deceased father-in-law, Lee freed them. And according to historians, Jackson enjoyed a familial relationship with those few slaves that were in his home. In addition, unlike Abraham Lincoln and U.S. Grant, there is no record of either Lee or Jackson ever speaking disparagingly of the black race. As those who are familiar with history know, General Grant and his wife held personal slaves before and during the War Between the States, and, contrary to popular opinion, even Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation did not free the slaves of the North. They were not freed until the Thirteenth Amendment was passed after the conclusion of the war. Grant's excuse for not freeing his slaves was that "good help is so hard to come by these days." Furthermore, it is well established that Jackson regularly conducted a Sunday School class for black children. This was a ministry he took very seriously. As a result, he was dearly loved and appreciated by the children and their parents. In addition, both Jackson and Lee emphatically supported the abolition of slavery. In fact, Lee called slavery "a moral and political evil." He also said "the best men in the South" opposed it and welcomed its demise. Jackson said he wished to see "the shackles struck from every slave." To think that Lee and Jackson (and the vast majority of Confederate soldiers) would fight and die to preserve an institution they considered evil and abhorrent--and that they were already working to dismantle--is the height of absurdity. It is equally repugnant to impugn and denigrate the memory of these remarkable Christian gentlemen. In fact, after refusing Abraham Lincoln's offer to command the Union Army in 1861, Robert E. Lee wrote to his sister on April 20 of that year to explain his decision. In the letter he wrote, "With all my devotion to the Union and the feeling of loyalty and duty of an American citizen, I have not been able to make up my mind to raise my hand against my relatives, my children, my home. I have therefore resigned my commission in the army and save in defense of my native state, with the sincere hope that my poor services may never be needed . . ." Lee's decision to resign his commission with the Union Army must have been the most difficult decision of his life. Remember that Lee's direct ancestors had fought in America's War For Independence. His father, "Light Horse Harry" Henry Lee, was a Revolutionary War hero, Governor of Virginia, and member of Congress. In addition, members of his family were signatories to the Declaration of Independence. Remember, too, that not only did Robert E. Lee graduate from West Point "at the head of his class" (according to Benjamin Hallowell), he is yet today one of only six cadets to graduate from that prestigious academy without a single demerit. However, Lee knew that Lincoln's decision to invade the South in order to prevent its secession was both immoral and unconstitutional. As a man of honor and integrity, the only thing Lee could do was that which his father had done: fight for freedom and independence. And that is exactly what he did. Instead of allowing a politically correct culture to sully the memory of Robert E. Lee and Thomas J. Jackson, all Americans should hold them in a place of highest honor and respect. Anything less is a disservice to history and a disgrace to the principles of truth and integrity. Accordingly, it was more than appropriate that the late President Gerald Ford, on August 5, 1975, signed Senate Joint Resolution 23, "restoring posthumously the long overdue, full rights of citizenship to General Robert E. Lee." According to President Ford, "This legislation corrects a 110-year oversight of American history." He further said, "General Lee's character has been an example to succeeding generations . . ." The significance of the lives of Generals Lee and Jackson cannot be overvalued. While the character and influence of most of us will barely be remembered two hundred days after our departure, the sterling character of these men has endured for two hundred years. What a shame that so many of America's youth are being robbed of knowing and studying the virtue and integrity of the great General Robert E. Lee and General Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson. Furthermore, it is no hyperbole to say that the confederated, constitutional republic so ably declared by Thomas Jefferson in the Declaration of Independence of 1776 and codified into statute by the U.S. Constitution of 1787 was, for the most part, expunged at the Appomattox Court House in 1865. After all, it was (and is) the responsibility of the states to be the ultimate vanguard of liberty. Without a tenacious, unrelenting defense of liberty by the sovereign states, we are reduced to everburgeoning oppression--which is exactly what we see happening today. Thankfully, freedom's heartbeat is still felt among at least a few states. State sovereignty resolutions (proposed in over 30 states), Firearms Freedom acts (passed in 2 states--Montana and Tennessee--and being proposed in at least 12 other states), official letters (Montana), statements (Texas Governor Rick Perry), and resolutions (Georgia and Montana) threatening secession have already taken place. Yes, freedom-loving Americans in this generation may need to awaken to the prospect that--in order for freedom to survive--secession may, once again, be in order. One thing is for sure: any State that will not protect and defend their citizens' right to keep and bear arms cannot be counted on to do diddysquat to maintain essential freedom. It is time for people to start deciding whether they want to live free or not--and if they do, to seriously consider relocating to states that yet have a heartbeat for liberty. I will say it straight out: any State that will not protect your right to keep and bear arms is a tyrannical State! And if it is obvious that the freedom-loving citizens of that State are powerless to change it via the ballot box, they should leave the State to its slaves and seek a land of liberty. I, for one, am thankful for the example and legacy of men such as Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson. They were the spiritual soul mates of George Washington and Thomas Jefferson. They were men that loved freedom; they were men that loved federalism and constitutional government; and they were men of courage and understanding. They understood that, sometimes, political separation is the only way that freedom can survive. Long live the spirit of Washington, Jefferson, Lee, and Jackson!



Traveller. A difficult horse but Robert E. Lee loved him and made him famous

The reason I chose Traveller is because I know nothing about Southern history and because it seems that Robert E. Lee was in the minority in his love for this particular horse... Traveller wasn't your garden variety, easy to love, easy to ride horse. He was a bit of a pain.

It gives me pleasure to write about a horse that most would dump but that one cherished – and from that, they built a very strong, unbreakable bond. From all accounts, Traveller was difficult, high strung, a bit unruly, pranced or jiggered wherever he went and was generally on Defcon 1 most of the time. But, he was also striking and regal. He wasn't too tall, conformed well, of good flesh and was a flashy dappled grey horse with a black mane and tail. Here is how Traveller was described before he was sold to General Lee: Greenbrier (his name then)... was greatly admired in camp for his rapid, springy walk, his high spirit, bold carriage, and muscular strength. He needed neither whip nor spur, and would walk his five or six miles an hour over the rough mountain roads of Western Virginia with his rider sitting firmly in the saddle and holding him in check by a tight rein, such vim and eagerness did he manifest to go right ahead so soon as he was mounted.

There are other accounts that don't hold Greenbrier in such acclaim... Oh sure, he was pretty and spirited, but not that many wanted to ride him, if you know what I mean...The first time General Lee saw Greenbrier, owned by Joseph Broun, he called the mount, "My Colt". Hmmmmm. I guess you don't mess with a General when he wants your horse...

Actually, that wasn't exactly how it happened. The owner of young Jeff Davis (Traveller's born name in honor of the Confederate president) was honored to have General Lee take an interest in his colt. Luckily, I found a first hand account of that encounter and the subsequent sales transaction. Here you go: "In view of the fact that great interest is felt in the monument about to be erected to General Lee, and that many are desirous that his war-horse should be represented in the monument, and as I once owned this horse, I herewith give you some items respecting this now famous war-horse, Traveller.?"

"He was raised by Mr. Johnston, near the Blue Sulphur Springs, in Greenbrier county, Virginia (now West Virginia); was of the 'Gray Eagle' stock, and, as a colt, took the first premium under the name of 'Jeff Davis' at the Lewisburg fairs for each of the years 1859 and 1860. He was four years old in the spring of 1861. When the Wise legion was encamped on Sewell mountain, opposing the advance of the Federal Army under Rosecranz, in the fall of 1861, I was major to the Third regiment of infantry in that legion, and my brother, Captain Joseph M. Broun, was quartermaster to the same regiment.?"

"I authorized my brother to purchase a good serviceable horse of the best Greenbrier stock for our use during the war.?" After much inquiry and search he came across the horse above mentioned, and I purchased him for \$175 (gold value), in the fall of 1861, from Captain James W. Johnston, son of the Mr. Johnston first above mentioned. When the Wise legion was encamped about Meadow Bluff and Big Sewell mountains, I rode this horse, which was then greatly admired in camp for his rapid, springy walk, his high spirit, bold carriage, and muscular strength.

"When General Lee took command of the Wise legion and Floyd brigade that were encamped at and near Big Sewell mountains, in the fall of 1861, he first saw this horse, and took a great fancy to it. He called it his colt, and said that he would use it before the war was over. Whenever the General saw my brother on this horse he had something pleasant to say to him about 'my colt,' as he designated this horse. As the winter approached, the climate in the West Virginia mountains caused Rosecranz's army to abandon its position on Big Sewell and retreat westward. General Lee was thereupon ordered to South Carolina. The Third regiment of the Wise legion was subsequently detached from the army in Western Virginia and ordered to the South Carolina coast, where it was known as the Sixtieth Virginia regiment, under Colonel Starke. Upon seeing my brother on this horse near Pocotalipo, in South Carolina, General Lee at once recognized the horse, and again inquired of him pleasantly about 'his colt.'

"My brother then offered him the horse as a gift, which the General promptly declined, and at the same time remarked: 'If you will willingly sell me the horse, I will gladly use it for a week or so to learn its qualities.' Thereupon my brother had the horse sent to General Lee's stable. In about a week the horse was returned to my brother, with a note from General Lee stating that the animal suited him, but that he could not longer use so valuable a horse in such times, unless it was his own; that if he (my brother) would not sell, please to keep the horse, with many thanks. This was in February, 1862. At that time I was in Virginia, on the sick list from a long and severe attack of camp fever, contracted in the campaign on Big Sewell mountains. My brother wrote me of General Lee's desire to have the horse, and asked me what he should do. I replied at once: 'If he will not accept it, then sell it to him at what it cost me.' He then sold the horse to General Lee for \$200 in currency, the sum of \$25 having been added by General Lee to the price I paid for the horse in September, 1861, to make up the depreciation in our currency from September, 1861, to February, 1862.?"

"In 1868 General Lee wrote to my brother, stating that this horse had survived the war—was known as 'Traveller' (spelling the word with a double l in good English style), and asking for its pedigree, which was obtained, as above mentioned, and sent by my brother to General Lee."

TRAVELLER IN BATTLE

Evidently, this horse may have been spooky and hot, but he was brave. It is stated that Traveller went into battle more than any other Civil War horse. In fact, several accounts stated that General Lee's men had to often grab Traveller and push him to the back of the pack because General Lee could not be on the front lines – even though the horse wanted to be there. A recount: Some of the most dramatic incidents involving Lee and Traveller occurred during the Overland campaign in 1864, when soldiers literally grabbed the horse's reins to prevent their commander from personally leading attacks on six occasions between May 6 and May 12.

The most notable incident occurred in the Wilderness on May 6, when soldiers of the Texas Brigade surrounded Traveller and shouted, 'Lee to the rear!' That day Traveller carried Lee until well after midnight, and when they finally returned to camp, Lee dismounted, and overcome with exhaustion, he threw his arms around Traveller's neck to hold himself up.

Joseph Broun's brother, Thomas L. Broun, praised Traveller for needing 'neither whip nor spur, and would walk his five or six miles an hour over the rough mountain road of Western Virginia...such vim and eagerness did he manifest to go right ahead so soon as he was mounted.' It was often reported that Lee rode Traveller over 40 miles a day. In fact, Lee re-named Jeff Davis "Traveller" because of his ability to walk quickly.

A BIT DIFFICULT, HOWEVER



As much as Lee loved his horse, Traveller was known to be a bit difficult. He jiggled everywhere he went. He had to be in the front of the line. He reared. He spooked. He was fussy.

There was the time that Traveller reared and broke both of Lee's hands... and there was the time that Lee has his son, Robert Jr, ride Traveller. This was supposed to be an honor but here is the tale described by Junior: The general (his father) had the strongest affection for Traveller, which he showed on all occasions, and his allowing me to ride him on this long march was a great compliment. Possibly he wanted to give me a good hammering before he turned me over to the cavalry. During my soldier life, so far, I had been on foot, having backed nothing more lively than a tired artillery horse; so I mounted with some misgivings, though I was very proud of my steed. My misgivings were fully realized, for Traveller would not walk a step. He took a short, high trot — a buck-trot, as compared with a buck-jump — and kept it up to Fredericksburg, some thirty miles. Though young, strong, and tough, I was glad when the journey ended. This was my first introduction to the cavalry service. I think I am safe in saying that I could have walked the distance with much less discomfort and fatigue. My father having thus given me a horse and presented me with one of his swords, also supplied my purse so that I could get myself an outfit suitable to my new position, and he sent me on to join my command, stationed not far away on the Rappahannock, southward from Fredericksburg.

THE LOVE AFFAIR

It seems the love and respect for each other was mutual. Here is how Traveller felt about General Lee: One afternoon in July of this year, the General rode down to the canal-boat landing to put on board a young lady who had been visiting his daughters and was returning home. He dismounted, tied Traveller to a post, and was standing on the boat making his adieux, when someone called out that Traveller was loose. Sure enough, the gallant grey was making his way up the road, increasing his speed as a number of boys and men tried to stop him. General Lee immediately stepped ashore, called to the crowd to stand still, and advancing a few steps gave a peculiar low whistle. At the first sound, Traveller stopped and pricked up his ears. The General whistled a second time, and the horse with a glad whinny turned and trotted quietly back to his master, who patted and coaxed him before tying him up again. To a bystander expressing surprise at the creature's docility the General observed that he did not see how any man could ride a horse for any length of time without a perfect understanding being established between them.

Here is how General Lee felt about Traveller... this excerpt is from a letter to his daughter when she had commissioned an artist to paint Traveller: If I were an artist like you I would draw a true picture of Traveller — representing his fine proportions, muscular figure, deep chest and short back, strong haunches, flat legs, small head, broad forehead, delicate ears, quick eye, small feet, and black mane and tail. Such a picture would inspire a poet, whose genius could then depict his worth and describe his endurance of toil, hunger, thirst, heat, and cold, and the dangers and sufferings through which he passed. He could dilate upon his sagacity and affection and his invariable response to every wish of his rider. He might even imagine his thoughts, through the long night marches and days of battle through which he has passed.

But I am no artist; I can only say he is a Confederate grey. I purchased him in the mountains of Virginia in the autumn of 1861, and he has been my patient follower ever since — to Georgia, the Carolinas, and back to Virginia. He carried me through the Seven Days battle around Richmond, the Second Manassas, at Sharpsburg, Fredericksburg, the last day at Chancellorsville, to Pennsylvania, at Gettysburg, and back to the Rappahannock. From the commencement of the campaign in 1864 at Orange, till its close around Petersburg, the saddle was scarcely off his back, as he passed through the fire of the Wilderness, Spotsylvania, Cold Harbor, and across the James River. He was almost in daily requisition in the winter of 1864-65 on the long line of defenses from Chickahominy, north of Richmond, to Hatcher's Run, south of the Appomattox. In the campaign of 1865, he bore me from Petersburg to the final days at Appomattox Court House. You must know the comfort he is to me in my present retirement....Of all his companions in toil, 'Richmond,' 'Brown Roan,' 'Ajax,' and quiet 'Lucy Long,' he is the only one that retained his vigor. The first two expired under their onerous burden, the last two failed. You can, I am sure, from what I have said, paint his portrait. R.E. Lee

RETIREMENT AND DEATH

Lee spent his final years as president of Washington College in Lexington, Va., where Traveller was allowed to graze the campus. He lost numerous hairs from his mane and tail as admirers plucked them for souvenirs. Ha! I read a letter from General Lee to his daughter where he stated that Traveller is going BALD from all the students grabbing hair samples!

Lee became ill in September 1870, and on October 12 he died at his home in Lexington. Traveller walked behind the hearse at Lee's funeral and continued to be well cared for up until his death in June 1871. After stepping on a nail and contracting tetanus, commonly known as lockjaw, Traveller was euthanized. Traveller was initially buried behind the main buildings of the college, but was unearthed by persons unknown and his bones were bleached for exhibition in Rochester, New York, in 1875/1876.

In 1907, Richmond journalist Joseph Bryan paid to have the bones mounted and returned to the college, named Washington and Lee University since Lee's death, and they were displayed in the Brooks Museum, in what is now Robinson Hall.

The skeleton was periodically vandalized there by students who carved their initials in it for good luck. In 1929, the bones were moved to the museum in the basement of the Lee Chapel, where they stood for 30 years, deteriorating with exposure. (So sad...)

Finally in 1971, Traveller's remains were buried in a wooden box encased in concrete next to the Lee Chapel on the Washington & Lee campus, a few feet away from the Lee family crypt inside, where his master's body rests.

I love this part... The stable where he lived his last days (directly connected to the Lee House on campus) traditionally stands with its doors left open; this is said to allow Traveller's spirit to wander freely as he did when he was alive.

However, the 24th President of Washington & Lee (and thus a recent resident of Lee House), Dr. Thomas Burish, caught strong criticism from many members of the Washington & Lee community for closing the stable gates in violation of this tradition. Burish later had the doors to the gates repainted in a dark green color, which he referred to in campus newspapers as "Traveller Green."

I guess he was trying to redeem himself... but I like it. WAS TRAVELLER A WALKING HORSE? Many people think Traveller was a Tennessee Walking Horse. I've heard he was what became a Kentucky Saddler which then became the Saddlebred. Maybe... But for sure, his sire wasn't. Traveller's sire was Grey Eagle, a great Thoroughbred race horse who was also grey. FINAL THOUGHTS There is a horse for everyone. The great Traveller was considered gorgeous and difficult. But, he was greatly loved, and still is...



The Delta General

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