

# The Delta General

Camp Website: [www.humphreys1625.com](http://www.humphreys1625.com)



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May 2025, Volume 28, Issue 5

Dedicated to the Memory of Brigadier General Benjamin G. Humphreys

## Commander's Comments — Michael Anthony

Greetings men and ladies of the Benjamin G Humphreys Camp and the Ella Palmer Chapter of the Order of the Confederate Rose and our friends and followers who read this newsletter. Though this is the May edition of "Commander's Comments", I actually write this in April: Confederate Heritage and History Month. Unfortunately, the celebration this event deserves does not receive the recognition it really deserves; however, you can Live the Charge by celebrating and honoring your Confederate Heritage EVERY month of the year!

I am always writing about how to Live the Charge that was given to us by one of our great Confederate generals: Steven D Lee. Attending Camp meetings is one way; but another way is to educate yourself and learn as much as you can about the military history of the War Between the States. Members of the Benjamin G Humphreys Camp had the opportunity to do both during our April Camp Meeting. One of our Camp's favorite activities is participating in Alan Palmer's Trivia Nights and the topic this night was the Battle of Shiloh. Alan chose this topic because our meeting closely coincided with the 163<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of the Battle; and the annual reunion of the Mississippi Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans will be held very close to the Shiloh Battlefield. I learned a lot from the fifteen questions Alan asked and was actually shocked when I won third place in the Contest! Learning about our military heritage teaches us about the wisdom of our leaders and the bravery, valor, and honor of our soldiers, leaders, and all of the men who served in the Army and Navy of the Confederate States of America. If your child talks about superheroes, tell him or her about the Confederate soldier, sailor, or officer. He is a true superhero, willing to sacrifice all that is loved and dear to uphold Constitutional Liberty and Freedom.

In honor of Confederate Heritage and History Month, the Benjamin G Humphreys Camp will host its annual Confederate Memorial Service on Saturday, May 3 at two o'clock at the Confederate Cemetery in Greenville. The Confederate Memorial Service is one of the most solemn, yet meaningful, events of the year. It is at this time when the members and friends of the Camp gather together before the granite and marble memorials to our Confederate dead. We honor their service to their Country, we pay our respects to their lives, and we revere their sacrifice. Sometimes in the contemporary battle to save Confederate Monuments and Heritage, we forget that the Confederacy was made of actual men who served their nation in its fight for freedom. Some returned to their families and their homes; and others never did. We memorialize them all; not just for their individual sacrifices, but for the awesome and humbling legacy they left us: the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

May is a beautiful month in the calendar. Take the time to enjoy the wonderful weather and pleasant spring air before the heat and humidity we are famous for arrives. Visit a War Between the States Battlefield: Vicksburg, Raymond, Corinth, Shiloh, or maybe a weekend trip to more distant places. See the land our ancestors fought to preserve as a bastion of liberty and Constitutional freedom. Learn their histories. Remember their sacrifice. Live the Charge.

**Guest Speaker for Memorial / Camp Meeting May 3, 2025**

### Bro. Earl McCown

Our Camp meeting for April will coincide with our Camp's Confederate Memorial Day Service on April 20th at 2:00 PM at the Greenville Cemetery in the Confederate Plot. Bring a chair and possibly an extra one for guests. Our speaker for the service is Bro. Earl McCown. After the service, we will have a short Camp meeting. Reenactors are asked to be on site at 1:00 PM. The ladies of the Ella Palmer Chapter, OCR, will provide refreshments as usual. In case of bad weather, memorial service will be held on May 10, "Same Bat time, Same Bat place!"

## Adjutant's Report — April 12, 2025 Minutes — Dan McCaskill

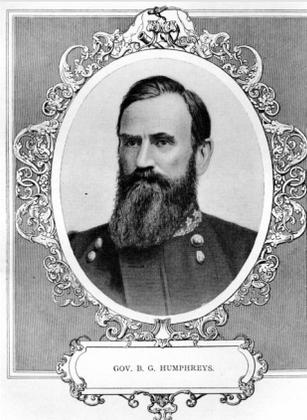
**Call to Order:** At 6:00 PM CDT by Commander Michael Anthony  
**Opening Prayer and Blessing:** 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Commander Larry McCluney  
**Pledge and Salutes:** Camp Color Sergeant Earl Allen, Jr.  
**Reading of The Charge:** Camp Color Sergeant Earl Allen, Jr.

Commander Michael Anthony welcomed everyone to our monthly Camp Meeting. While the ladies prepared the evening meal, Commander Anthony moved on to new Camp Business.

**New Camp Business: 1) Division Reunion Delegation** – Adjutant Dan McCaskill reported that the Camp will have five Delegate votes at the Division Reunion. At present, Commander Michael Anthony, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Commander Larry McCluney and Adjutant Dan McCaskill will be attending the Reunion and will be the Camp's Delegation. After a brief discussion on issues to be considered at the Reunion, Larry McCluney made a motion to allow the Camp's Delegation to vote in the best interest of the Camp on all issues. The motion was seconded by Alan Palmer and passed without objection.

**Old Business: 1) Confederate Headstones** – Dan McCaskill reported that the two headstones to be purchased will cost \$434 (tax included) each and they will be shipped to Dave's Monument in Greenwood at no additional cost. The Camp will pickup and install the headstones. Total cost will be \$868. With \$151 in the Headstone Fund, \$717 will have to be raised before ordering the stones. Kenneth Ray made a motion to proceed with the project and raise the \$717. The motion was seconded Earl Allen and passed without objection. \$200 was raised at the meeting leaving \$515. **2) Camp Website** - Larry McCluney was asked to research creating a new Website. Larry presented several options to the Camp members. After discussing the various options, Kenneth Ray made a motion to keep the Homestead Website, have Larry do some further research and re-visit the issue by the end of the year. David Floyd seconded the motion and the motion passed without objection.

**Officer Reports: Commander:** Michael Anthony stated Camp Members need to live The Charge by supporting projects like the Division Confederate Heritage billboard project. The billboard has been erected along Interstate 20 near Brandon. Also, the Camp's Confederate Memorial Service will be Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> starting at 2:00 pm at the Greenville Cemetery. Rain date will be May 10<sup>th</sup>. **1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Commander** Larry McCluney reported he will be searching for a speaker at our June Camp Meeting. **Adjutant Dan McCaskill** reported that the account balance stands at \$2299 with only \$45 spent from the Camp's Budget. The Friends of the SCV Certificate and pin have been mailed to Louie Parrish in Arkansas. We have two potential new members and two past members desiring to join the Camp. If these join, Camp membership will be 50. No one attended the Celtic Fest in Carrollton due to rain. Finally, the cemetery clean-up has been indefinitely postponed.



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Larry McCluney

Camp Commander / Editor:  
 Confederate @suddenlink.net

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MOSB: Chapter Adjutant Dan McCaskill reported dues from Larry McCluney have been received making Larry the 10<sup>th</sup> member of the Chapter. OCR: Chapter President Sandra Stillman did not have a report but the ladies offered to make a \$50 donation to the Camp to go toward the cost of the Camp's Website. Gator Stillman made a motion to accept this generous donation of \$50 from the OCR. The motion was seconded by Kenneth Ray and passed without objection. Past CIC Larry McCluney reported the National Confederate Memorial Service will be held on May 3<sup>d</sup> at Elm Springs; cabinets for the Museum donated by the Order of the Southern Cross valued at \$20,000 value have been received and installed in the Museum; improvements to the property are being made.

The was recessed for the evening meal of homemade Lasagna prepared by Annette McCluney.

**Program:** Our speaker for the evening was past Division Commander Alan Palmer. Alan gave one of his famous "Trivia Test" on the Battle of Shiloh. A copy of the test will be on file with the minutes. With Alan's test, you learn some of the lesser known facts. Alan also twisted some questions to test your knowledge. Larry McCluney was banned from taking the test due to his recent research on the Battle of Shiloh for the April Camp Newsletter. The top three scorers were 1<sup>st</sup>, Dan McCaskill; 2<sup>nd</sup>, David Floyd and 3<sup>rd</sup>, Michel Anthony. Each received a prize.

The MS Division Memorial Service will be held at Beauvoir, Saturday, April 26, 2025 at 2:00 pm.

With no other business coming before the Camp, Gator Stillman made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Kenneth Ray and the motion passed without objection. Attendance for the meeting was 14. Next Camp Meeting will be May 3, 2025 after the Memorial Service.

The Camp Meeting was closed with the singing of Dixie.

*Confederate Memorial Service and  
Headstone Dedication  
Saturday, May 3, 2025  
Greenville Cemetery  
South Main Street, Greenville, MS*



*Hosted by  
B/G Benjamin G. Humphreys 1625, SCV  
Ella Palmer Chapter # 9, OCR*

*Service Starts at 2:00 pm at the UDC Plot  
Speaker: Camp Chaplain Earl McCown*

The Camp will hold its Annual Confederate Memorial Service on Saturday, May 3, 2025, at the UDC Plot in the Greenville Cemetery. The Service will start at 2:00 pm, CDT. Our Speaker for the Service will be Camp Chaplain Earl McCown. During the Service, there will be a headstone dedication to Richard McAtee by the Honor Guard led by Larry McCluney. Re-enactors are needed for the Honor/Rifle Guard and are asked to be at the cemetery no later than 1:30. The Ladies of the OCR Chapter will be providing refreshments. Bring your chairs! There will also be a short Camp Meeting after the Service. May 10 will be an alternate date in the event of rain. A reminder will be sent as the event draws near.

## The Chaplain's Pen — Earl McCown

Let's address a very serious question in this message: "What if John 3:16 were NOT true?" Look at this verse: "*For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*" (JOHN 3:16, KJV).

When we visit this verse, we are walking on very familiar ground. This is, in my opinion, the most familiar verse in all Scripture. It is a favorite verse of children, and is often quoted to dying people. In Scripture, it was spoken to a good and religious man to explain salvation. It was used to win the ruler of the Jews to Jesus. Truly, a very inspiring verse.

But what if this great verse were not true? But, what if God had not loved the world? Without His love, there would be no hope at all. Our world would be a dark planet hurtling through space without hope; with nothing to live for and no purpose for existence. Every death would be the end of personal hope and every grave a place of despair. A world where prayers were but useless cries to the skies.

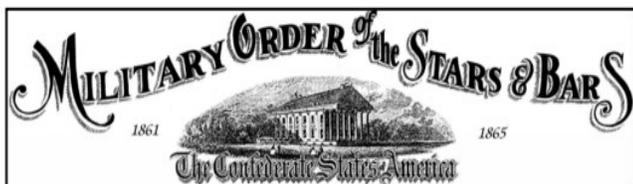
But, God does love the world! Everything speaks of His love. Every sunrise, every blade of grass, every fountain of water, every birth, the face of every child. But the greatest demonstration of His love is the cross!

What if God had not given His Son? ("He gave his only begotten Son...". God's love would be frustrated without the cross. We all know that real love requires giving. A man marries; then works, provides, cares... A woman marries and gives of herself for her family... Man anticipates his death; so he provides with insurance. God has given His Son; and apart from this there would be no salvation.

What is God's offer of salvation were not for the "Whosoever"? ("*that whosoever*") This is a wonderful word, it is general yet particular. It embraces all and yet touches each one. It reaches out to you. Suppose God had offered salvation only to the rich. Supposed God offered salvation only to the healthy or educated. But God calls all people ("whosoever"), individually to trust Him.

What if God's offer were not based on faith alone? (remember He said "*whosoever believeth*"). Picture, if you would, men working, trying, dying. Picture men learning, earning, failing. Above all, consider the dying thief on the cross; and the offer to other dying men.

Let me just close by telling you, for sure, JOHN 3:16 IS TRUE! You can be saved by faith in Christ. And it is important that we take this message to the world today.



### Brig/General Charles Clark Chapter 253, MOS&B.

Greetings:

I have just received great news from a very reliable source; Compatriot Larry McCluney has submitted his application for membership in the Military Order of the Stars and Bars. This will bring our active membership up to eleven members.

This is great... We are still looking for a "few good men" with ancestors that served as Confederate officers or held office of Confederate politician.

I know that several of our SCV Camp members are, in fact, qualified for membership. How about it, let's talk about it. It would be a very good thing to enroll all our qualified members in the B/G Charles Clark Chapter 253, MOS&B.

Congratulations to our newest member!!!



## Over 16,000 Brave Confederate Heroes Need Your Help!



*There is no greater honor that you can pay to our ancestors than to erect a grave marker at an otherwise unmarked grave!*

The Oakwood Cemetery Restoration Committee wishes to thank The Society of the Order of the Southern Cross for their generous grant which has allowed us to mark the graves of forty-two Unknown Confederate Soldiers. This project has enhanced the appearance of the cemetery and honors our revered Confederate ancestors who rest here.



We are respectfully challenging SCV Divisions to consider sponsoring upright markers for unmarked graves from your respective states. The Oakwood Restoration Committee will walk you through the process of sponsoring a veteran, ordering the marker, having it properly lettered, etc. **We have found another, less expensive source for upright granite markers. The cost has dropped to \$450 engraved. We will install the markers at no charge!** Donations for the upkeep of the cemetery are also greatly appreciated.

The Confederate soldiers buried in Oakwood Cemetery deserve to be remembered. Won't you help us?

Oakwood Restoration Committee

C/o Richard A. Moomaw

69 Old Kiln Lane

Mt. Jackson, Va. 22842

[rmoomaw@shentel.net](mailto:rmoomaw@shentel.net)

Learn more about Oakwood at: <https://www.scviregina.org/oakwood-overview>

## Mississippi Division News

### **2025 Mississippi Division Reunion Pickwick Landing, TN June 6-8, 2025**

Compatriots of the Mississippi Division SCV and Ladies of the Mississippi Society OCR,

We are honored to invite you to the 2025 Mississippi Division Annual Reunion, hosted by Col. William P. Rogers Camp 321. The Reunion will be held on June 6-8, 2025, at the Lodge at Pickwick Landing State Park, Pickwick Landing, TN.

Our Annual Reunion serves as a gathering of our compatriots, families, and friends. It is a time when we come together to transact the business of our organization but also as a time to celebrate our shared honorable heritage, reflect on our achievements from the past year, and envision the future of our organizations. Please make plans to join us for a memorable weekend.

Our host hotel is the Lodge at Pickwick Landing, located on the banks of the Tennessee River in Pickwick Landing, TN. The Lodge offers 119 rooms, all of which directly face the Tennessee River, as well as a great restaurant and bar. Room Rates are \$155.00 a night. Please use Group Code 8244 to receive this room rate when booking.

Pickwick is close to many sites of the War for Southern Independence: the battlefields of Shiloh, Brice's Crossroads, Corinth, and Davis Bridge. The state park also offers some amazing fishing and golfing. Registration is now open, and we encourage you to secure your spot at the reunion at your earliest convenience. Please take advantage of our early registration rates.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out to the Reunion Planning Committee at [msdivadjutant@gmail.com](mailto:msdivadjutant@gmail.com).

We look forward to seeing you next June at Pickwick!  
In the Bonds of the Old South,

Mike Moore, Chairman  
2025 Reunion Host Committee

### **Commander Michael Anthony Declares for 1st Brigade Councilman**

To the Members of the First Brigade of the Mississippi Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans; my name is Michael Anthony and I am proud to announce my candidacy for First Division Brigade Commander for the Mississippi Division. I am a proud resident of Clarksdale and I have been a member of the Benjamin G Humphreys Camp for four years, where I currently serve as Camp Commander.

I am running for Brigade Commander because as the Camp Commander, I am constantly telling my Camp members to Live the Charge; and one of my personal mottos is "Be the Change You Want to See in Others." So now is my time to step out of my Camp and step up. I sincerely believe the words of the Charge; trying to "emulate his virtues" every day. As a student of my favorite Confederate: General Robert E Lee, I model my life after his, carrying within me compassion, empathy, grace, honor, and dignity in all I do. I want the Mississippi Division to move forward and move past the personality conflicts of the past. I want our [Division](#) to be a leader among all divisions of the SCV and show the rest of the world how Sons of Confederate Veterans protect, preserve, and promote the Confederate Soldiers' good name. All of us share one of God's greatest gifts: we are sons of Confederate soldiers. Men who laid down their plows, their axes, their oars, their ledgers, their pulpits to fight for the Constitutional Liberty and Freedom given to us by our Revolutionary forefathers. Our Confederate ancestors are true American heroes. Our bond should unite us to Live the Charge every day. Whether I personally like you or not, I respect your desire to Live the Charge and promote Confederate history and heritage; and I will work with you.

Men of the First Division of the Mississippi Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans; I appreciate your vote for Brigade Commander. Your trust and faith in me will never be forgotten or dismissed. I will work for you because we all will work together to Live the Charge. Thank you.

## BEAUVIOR

Beauvoir, the historic post-war home of President Jefferson Davis, is owned and operated by the Mississippi Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. There are several ways that you can participate in the continued preservation of this beloved landmark located in Biloxi, Mississippi.



*Beauvoir - Post-war home of Jefferson Davis.  
Biloxi, Mississippi*

### ***Friends of Beauvoir***

For as little as \$25 annually, you can become a member of the Friends of Beauvoir. Membership includes tour admission and a 10% discount at the Beauvoir gift shop.



*The Jefferson Davis Presidential Library located on the grounds of  
Beauvoir in Biloxi, Mississippi.*

### **Friends of Beauvoir**

For as little as \$25 annually, you can become a member of the Friends of Beauvoir. Membership includes tour admission and a 10% discount at the Beauvoir gift shop.

### **Bricks for Beauvoir**

Honor your Confederate ancestors while supporting Beauvoir. Each brick that you purchase will be engraved with your ancestors rank, name, unit, and company. The memorial bricks will be laid creating a sidewalk from the UDC Arch to the Tomb of the Unknown Confederate soldier. For more information on these opportunities, please visit [www.visitbeauvoir.org](http://www.visitbeauvoir.org) or contact Beauvoir directly at (228) 388-4400



### 2025 SCV MS Division Reunion

#### Registration Form

129<sup>th</sup> Reunion – Mississippi Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans

31<sup>st</sup> Reunion – Mississippi Society, Order of Confederate Rose

Pickwick Landing, TN – June 6-8, 2025

Hosts: Col. W.P. Rogers Camp 321 SCV and Ladies of Col. W.P. Rogers Chapter 25, OCR



SCV Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

SCV Camp Name & Number: \_\_\_\_\_

OCR Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

OCR Chapter Name & Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse/Guest: \_\_\_\_\_

*All registered SCV members will receive a name badge, a convention medal, a program, and a bag of goodies (quantities limited). Registration at the door will receive the same as long as supplies last. OCR members will receive a medal if payment is provided below.*

#### REGISTRATION AMOUNTS

SCV Member – on or before May 6, 2025, \$60.00 / After May 6, 2025, \$70.00 QTY \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

OCR Member – on or before May 6, 2025, \$30.00 / After May 6, 2025, \$35.00 QTY \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Commander’s Reception - on or before May 6, 2025, \$25.00 per person QTY \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Awards Banquet – on or before May 6, 2025, \$50.00 per person QTY \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(NO RECEPTION OR BANQUET REGISTRATION AFTER MAY 6, 2025, **INCLUDING WALK-UPS**)

Individual Ancestor Memorial - \$10.00 each QTY \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Half Page Ancestor Memorial - \$40.00 each QTY \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Full Page Ancestor Memorial - \$100.00 each QTY \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL REGISTRATION AMOUNT =====> \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please Make Checks Payable to **Col. W.P. Rogers Camp 321** & Mail to:  
Camp 321 C/O: Dwight Johnson, 3470 CR 100, Corinth, MS 38834

SCV Contact: Mike Moore (732) 962-5335 OCR Contact: Laura Moore (662) 416-7949

#### HOTEL INFO

The Lodge at Pickwick Landing  
120 Playground Loop, Counce, TN 38326  
(888) 867-2757  
or online at:

[www.tnstateparks.com/lodges/pickwick-landing](http://www.tnstateparks.com/lodges/pickwick-landing)

Use Group Code **8244** when booking for \$155.00 room rate.



### 21st Century Confederate Heroes

The National Sons of Confederate Veterans welcomes you to the 21st-Century Confederate Heroes. Your generous donation will serve to remember and honor our Confederate Heroes and our beloved Southland. The program comes with many perks.

- 1) Flag streamer or Neck Ribbon a. If you submit as an individual, you will receive a neck ribbon with a 21st Century Confederate Heroes medal on the ribbon. b. If you submitted as a camp, division or organization, you will receive a 21st Century Confederate Heroes streamer for your flag.
- 2) Paver – a paver placed on the Walkway of Confederate Heroes from the Museum to the Forrest Plaza
- 3) Certificate – A certificate documenting for future generations your membership as a Confederate Hero
- 4) A copy of the hardcover book 21st Century Confederate Heroes with a page dedicated to the information provided by you that details the individual or camp, etc. you wish to memorialize. Up to three photos may be included
- 5) Donor recognition in the National Confederate Museum – A Television will be placed inside the Museum's gift shop. This TV will display PowerPoint slides of the information 21st Century Confederate Heroes members provide. It can be you, your family, your ancestor, your camp, etc.
- 6) A Flag flown from the Forrest Plaza – One of the purposes of the 21st Century Confederate Heroes is to restore the Forrest Plaza. Once the plaza has been rebuilt and the flagpole is placed, every month for a year a donor will be drawn to receive the flag flown the previous month.
- 7) A QR Code on a sign will be placed near the Forrest Plaza identifying all those who donated \$1,000 or more to the restoration of the Forrest Plaza prior to the 21st Century Confederate Heroes campaign.

Notes:  
 Make checks out the Sons of Confederate Veterans and note 21st CCH in the memo line of your check.  
 For more information contact Commander-in-Chief Walter D. Kennedy at: CiC@scv.org  
 Or contact National HQ by mail or email:  
 SCV, P.O. Box 59, Columbia, TN 38402  
 exedir@scv.org



## THE NATIONAL CONFEDERATE MUSEUM AT ELM SPRINGS

The truth about the South's struggle to form a new nation is under attack as never before. The National Battlefield Parks have been taken over by the "it's all about slavery" provocateurs. Museums have changed their collections and interpretations to present what they call the cultural history of the War for Southern Independence. In reality this new perspective is nothing more than South bashing. The forces of political correctness have gone into high gear. They attempt to ban any and all things Confederate through their ideological fascism.

There needs to be at least one place where the people of the South and others can go to learn an accurate account of why so many struggled so long in their attempt to reassert government by the consent of the governed in America!

The General Executive Council of the Sons of Confederate Veterans made the commitment in October of 2008 to start the process to erect a new building that will have two purposes. One of the uses of this new building will be to give us office space and return Elm Springs to its original grandeur. However the main function is to house The Confederate Museum. We are planning a museum that will tell the truth about what motivated the Southern people to struggle for many years to form a new nation. At the SCV Reunion in July of 2009 the GEC set up a building fund for this purpose. One of the goals is to provide an accurate portrayal of the common Confederate soldier, something that is currently absent in most museums and in the media.

These plans have now become a reality. The ground breaking has taken place and the museum is now open.

Take this journey with us and support the museum as a donor or join the Friends of the Museum today!

- Send Donations to:  
 Sons of Confederate Veterans  
 Attn: National Confederate Museum  
 P.O. Box 59  
 Columbia, TN 38402

Or you can call 1-800-MY-DIXIE to pay by credit card.  
[www.theconfederatemuseum.com](http://www.theconfederatemuseum.com)



SCV Chat — Every Monday Night on Facebook at 7:00 PM Central time and on Thursday Nights at 7:00 PM for Look



## 130th Annual National Reunion Houston, Texas

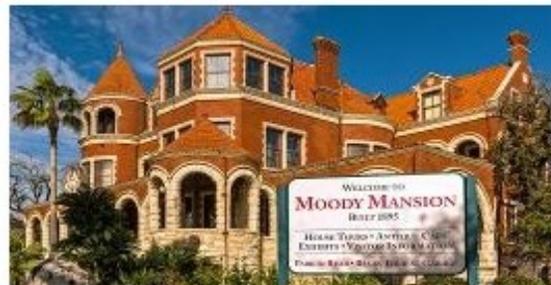
In the heart of Texas, Houston stands as a city of dualities—a place where the “Spirit of the Confederacy” monument whispers tales of valor, while rockets at the Johnson Space Center defy gravity. Here, Hermann Park cradles tranquility—a lush oasis with McGovern Lake and the bronze gaze of Sam Houston. Moody Mansion guards secrets within its red-brick walls, and Sabine Pass, where sea meets land, echoes bravery from the Civil War. But it’s San Jacinto that resonates—a battlefield where Texas won its independence, and the bay murmurs courage and sacrifice. Houston isn’t just a city; it’s a symphony of resilience, launching expectations beyond the stars.



Battle of Galveston Tour



Dick Dowling Grave / San Jacinto Tour



Moody Mansion



### Host Hotel

**Houston Marriott South Hobby Airport**

**9100 Gulf Fwy.**

**Houston, TX 77107**

**(713) 943-7979**



**Sons of Confederate Veterans**  
**130th Annual National Reunion**  
 Houston, Texas      July 17-20, 2025



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

SCV Camp Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Number \_\_\_\_\_ Division \_\_\_\_\_

Current Rank, Title, or Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse Name (For Name Badge): \_\_\_\_\_

*Note: Please only provide your spouse's name if they are attending a Reunion Meal or Tour. Spouses **DO NOT** need to pay for registration.*

Date	Time	Event	Price	Qty	Total
SCV REUNION EARLY BIRD	REGISTRATION	ALL SCV MEMBERS MUST REGISTER (through May 31, 2025) includes medal & program	\$75.00		
SCV REGULAR REUNION	REGISTRATION	ALL SCV MEMBERS MUST REGISTER (June 1, 2025 through July 7, 2025) includes medal & program	\$85.00		
Thursday, July 17, 2025	12:00 PM	Heritage Defense Luncheon	\$48.00		
Thursday, July 17, 2025	1:45 PM	Battle of Galveston Tour/Dinner/Cemetery Tour	\$100.00		
Friday, July 18, 2025	7:30 AM	Chaplain's Breakfast	\$38.00		
Friday, July 18, 2025	12:00 PM	SCV Awards Luncheon	\$48.00		
Friday, July 18, 2025	1:45 PM	Battle of San Jacinto Tour/ Dick Dowling Grave	\$40.00		
Saturday, July 19, 2025	7:30 AM	Mechanized Cavalry Breakfast	\$38.00		
Saturday, July 19, 2025	8:30 AM	Ladies Tour to Galveston - Moody Mansion/ Lunch/ Museum	\$70.00		
Saturday, July 19, 2025	6:00 PM	Commander in Chief Reception	\$30.00		
Saturday, July 19, 2025	7:00 PM	SCV Banquet/Debutante Presentation/Grand Ball <i>Note: Dress Attire is Coat &amp; Tie or Period Uniform</i>	\$80.00		
Ancestor Memorials ~ Each		<i>You Must Submit Ancestor Info on Separate Form</i>	\$10.00		
Extra Reunion Medal		Note: 1 Medal is included with your registration, order extras here	\$25.00		
Reunion Medal		Limited Edition - Numbered 1-100. Note: This medal is NOT included with registration.	\$100		
		<b>FINAL TOTAL - Registration, Tours, Extra Medals</b>			

*Please Make Checks Payable to: "Texas Division SCV"*  
 Mail the Form & Check to **733 W 3rd Ave. Corsicana, TX 75110**

# The Last Witness to Appomattox

Norman Dasinger, Jr., March 28, 2025, [blueandgrayeducation.org](http://blueandgrayeducation.org)

In a quiet cemetery near Lincoln, Alabama, lies Pleasant Riggs Crump, believed to be the last living witness to one of the most defining moments in American history: the surrender of Robert E. Lee to Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox Court House, Virginia, on April 9 and 10, 1865.

Born in 1847 in St Clair County, Alabama, Crump—known simply as “Riggs” to those who knew him—traveled to Petersburg, Virginia, in 1864 to enlist in Company A of the 10th Alabama Infantry Regiment of the Confederate States Army. Many of the men in the 10th hailed from Crump’s home region, and by the time he joined, the unit had already witnessed the death and misery of the Civil War in the Eastern Theater. Crump arrived just in time to participate in the Battle of Hatcher’s Run, Virginia, and the siege of Petersburg.

When General Lee decided to end the bloodshed, Crump and the 10th Alabama were with the Army of Northern Virginia at Appomattox. Reflecting on that moment years later, Crump wrote that he stood “just across the road from the McLean House ... and took his little part in the stacking of the arms.”

More than just a witness, Crump has also been recognized by some historians in recent years as the last documented surviving Confederate soldier. He passed away in 1951 at the remarkable age of 104.

After the war, Crump returned home and married Mary Hall. Following her death in 1901, he married Ella Wallis. According to *The Anniston Star* (May 5, 2006 edition), Crump applied for a Confederate veteran’s pension in 1915 and received a check until his death. “He continued to work on his farm until after World War II.” He served as a deacon of Refuge Baptist Church for 71 years.

His obituary noted that President Harry S. Truman honored him with the ceremonial title of “Colonel.” In *The South’s Last Boys in Gray* by Jay

Hoar, family members remembered Crump fondly:

“Mr. Crump was active all his life. He loved pies and cakes and meat. He smoked his pipe all the time. ... He liked to do things and had a sound mind as long as he lived.”



Pleasant Riggs Crump observed Lee’s surrender at the McLean House in Appomattox Court House from across the road. | NPS

## CHILD SOLDIERS.



When first I came across this charming photograph of a young boy dressed in a Union uniform, I was immediately moved to clean the image and return it to its normal perspective. As I did this I became intrigued by the boy’s identity and the shocking use of children in war generally. Frankly, it seems a barbaric practice to me, cruel and inhumane. How can people permit these young innocents to be exposed to the horrors of battle and for many death, or the most agonising of mutilations? With a little digging, I discovered the original framed (reversed) image and this innocent boy with a tin cup is drummer *Johnny Jacobs* (his age not given but possibly 8 years). America has much shame in its history, particularly with its treatment of child-labour in coal mines. They experienced conditions many times worse than slavery, this heartless abuse applied equally to war.



The surrender at Fort Sumter saw men and boys of all ages (7-17) on both sides of the conflict permitted to enlist. *Abraham Lincoln*, thinking the war would be over in a few days, initially called for a 90-day enlistment.

However reality soon struck home when the Union army was driven off the field at *Manassas (Bull Run)* and out of *Richmond* in the disastrous *Peninsular Campaign* with Southern soldiers marching towards *Washington*.



It was a stunned *Lincoln* who issued a call for 300 thousand volunteers and a three year term. Amidst the rush of glory seekers were young boys with many of the same motives for joining the military as their adults. In the North, boys felt a desire to defend the North and the Union. Southern boys equally wanted to repel the North, who they viewed as hostile invaders which of course they were.

**Samuel W. Doble, a drummer boy in Company D., 12th Maine Infantry. The drummers were far from ornamental, essential in the heat of battle to issue commands via a variety of drum beats they also provided rhythm on the march-Editor.**



Much has been made of slavery as a cause but in reality very few soldiers were motivated by a willingness to fight either for or against it. Slavery wasn't even a topic for discussion at the time between boys or adults. By and large, the most popular reason boys joined the military was to escape farm or other tortuous work conditions, or an abusive family life, while for some, it was just a boys' own spirit of adventure. (In 1860 the population of the United States was mostly rural.) Almost none imagined the conflict would drag on as long as it did, nor present such horrific battle scenes.



*Shaal*

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The official minimum enlistment age was 18 but there were various ways boys got around this. His appearance often fooled recruiters, it was common for teenagers to appear much older than they were because of the hardships of life in those times, beyond the imaginings of people today. This was made easier by *Lincoln's* demands during the chaos at recruiting stations where new units were hastily and desperately formed. With few documents, it was easy to lie about age, especially given the poor record keeping and accounting. Recruiters had quotas to fill motivated by profit; even though required to certify on enlistment papers that they judged the volunteer to be of lawful age, they often falsified authority for underage recruits. As the war ground on consuming large numbers of men, both sides were desperate for more. One ploy developed to ensure recruits remembered their false age and to avoid the guilt of lying was to have them write "18" on their boots so they could truthfully reply to the recruiter, "I am over 18."

**This boy defies statistics and reveals that very young boys were recruited as drummers-Editor.**

**S**ome underage boys were able to enlist with the endorsement of an adult. *Ned Hutter* was aged only sixteen but able to join the Confederate army in *Mississippi* when his father vouched for Ned's work ethic and shooting ability. The recruiter accepted *Ned* into the unit. Many boys joined the military legitimately by signing up for non-combat positions such as musicians, drummers, buglers or flautists. Incredibly, there were places for 40,000 such positions in the Union Army alone. These boys often performed other tasks, such as carrying canteens, bandages, and stretchers, assisting surgeons and nurses with wounded; relaying orders on the battlefield; and at least a few picked up

rifles and participated in the fighting. Sadly, many were caught up in the fortunes of war and killed or wounded. Food was always an issue for soldiers but particularly for boys with a body still requiring sustenance to grow. They often devised intricate ways to sneak out of camps and forage for food, either gathering it from the land, or stealing it from local farmers or other soldiers in camp. Sickness was rampant in camps with men rarely exposed to living in close quarters with large numbers of people. Boys succumbed as much to disease as the men.

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**Edwin Francis Jemison** enlisted in 1861 aged 16; he was killed in 1862 at the Battle of Malvern Hill when a cannon ball decapitated him. (Image coloured by Mads Dahl Madsen)-Editor.

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**Y**oung boys often found themselves in uniforms that were far too big. Additionally some had uniforms cut short and taken in, only to find their continued growth had them soon outgrow uniforms. Some units lacked resources to provide uniforms to boys, so many had to wear their own clothes from home. As a result, many boys resorted to taking uniforms from dead soldiers, or bartering food and supplies in order to have clothes tailored by locals. Life was tough for all but especially the children, One young lad wrote, *"Day after day and night after night did we tramp along the rough and dusty roads 'neath the most broiling sun with which the month of August ever afflicted a soldier; thro' rivers and their rocky valleys, over mountains—on, on, scarcely stopping to gather the green corn from the fields to serve us for rations.... During these marches the men are sometimes unrecognizable on account of the thick coverings of dust which settle upon their hair, eye-brows and beard, filling likewise the mouth, nose, eyes, and ears."*

**C**hildren were not spared any of the horrors of war including violent deaths, injuries, brutal medical treatment, sexual abuse disease and if captured the appalling living conditions. Being children, they also suffered terribly from homesickness and would sneak away to see their mothers, risking being tried and shot for desertion. They suffered hunger, fatigue, discomfort, every aspect of soldiering, as revealed in letters and diaries. Some of the offenses for which they were punished were, *"Back talking"* (i.e. addressing a superior with insolence) or refusal to follow military etiquette. *Drunkness. Absence from camp without leave. "Turbulence after taps"* (i.e. causing a commotion after lights-out). *Sitting while on guard. Gambling*". In short young boys were totally corrupted by the men with whom they served and punishments were equally hard, taking no account of their age.



The Clinch Rifles, Company A. 5<sup>th</sup> Regiment Georgia Volunteer Infantry, photographed in their home town of Augusta 10 May 1861. A. K. Clark is the boy in the centre with drum. He preserved this photograph and its one of very few to survive. Near 50 years later Clark wrote, "I weighed only 95 pounds and was so small they would only take me as a drummer. Of 17 men in this picture I am the only one living." Uniforms are makeshift, official uniforms didn't arrive for many months. The boy filled out but his associates all lost weight quickly in furious campaigns that followed, earning them the nickname "The Fighting Regiment". Confederate armies didn't receive uniform grey until the second year of war, uniforms were so variable, or of the same colour, that at 1<sup>st</sup> Manassas, Union and Southern soldiers mistakenly fired on their own men-Editor.

**P**

erhaps the most famous account of schoolboys at war was the so called 'baptism by fire' of the *Virginia Military Institute Cadet Corps* at the *Battle of New Market*. The corps was 215 strong when it reached the battle. The boys were 18 or under, some only 14. The famed painting (*part of it reproduced below*) is displayed in *Jackson Memorial Hall* at VMI depicting the successful bayonet charge on 15 May 1864 in *New Market, Virginia* where they captured the Union artillery batteries resulting in the rout of Union forces from the entire *Shenandoah Valley*, so vital as the bread-basket of the Confederacy.



This painting by 1880 graduate, Benjamin West Clinedinst, depicts the charge of the VMI Corps of Cadets in the Battle of New Market 15 May 1864. Measuring 18 x 23 feet, it's located in VMI's Jackson Memorial Hall. The painting may be at risk as is the name of the memorial hall due to the sensitivities of people who don't appreciate history-Editor.

Image courtesy of the [Virginia Military Institute Archives](http://www.vmi.edu/archives/) <http://www.vmi.edu/archives/>-Editor



**T**he *Washington and Lee University* provided a company of 64 boys in the first days of the war. Their average age was about 17, of 65 present in the two battles of *Manassas*, 23 were killed or wounded. In the 40 battles they fought with the *4<sup>th</sup> Virginia Infantry*, the company lost 100 dead or wounded, and 46 captured from a total strength of 150 recruits. In the Union ranks, *Mancil V. "Manny" Root* was said to be the youngest soldier in the Union Army. *Root* was born in Ohio in 1854 and enlisted as a drummer boy at the age of 11, serving in the *36<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin Infantry*. He died in *Cedar Rapids, Iowa* 1929. *William Black* was the war's youngest wounded soldier on record, he was twelve when his left hand and arm were shattered by an exploding shell. *Avery Brown* enlisted in 1861 at age 8 as a musician and most famous was *John Clem* who joined the *22<sup>nd</sup> Michigan Volunteer Infantry Regiment* as a drummer boy at 11 years of age, and became a mounted orderly on the staff of *George H. Thomas*. At the *Battle of Chickamauga*, he defiantly killed a Confederate colonel who ordered his surrender. For this, he was promoted to sergeant and went on to become a career soldier, retiring in 1915 with the rank of Brigadier General.



**I**n the Confederacy, *Glenn Reynolds* was born in 1853 and served in Texas against Native Americans. *Charles F. Mosby* enlisted in 1861 aged 13. While *Clell Miller*, born 1849 was 14 when he joined *Quantrill's Raiders* and became part of the *James-Younger* gang, he died in 1876.

**Jesse James** went to war aged 16 in 1863 after Union soldiers raided the James' farm. They were seeking information about Confederate guerrilla bands, they beat young James and threatened his family. James decided he could no longer sit on the fence and joined his brother Frank in a unit led by *William 'Bloody Bill' Anderson*. James adapted quickly to a lifestyle that would set the pattern for the rest of his life: plan, attack, flee and hide. In the summer of 1864, James was shot in the chest during a guerrilla raid. By the morning of 27 September 1864, he had recovered enough to be part of an 80-man raid on *Centralia, Missouri*. Led by Anderson, the guerrillas terrorized the town and killed 22 Union soldiers in what is called the *Centralia Massacre*. Hours later, at the *Battle of Centralia*, they killed over a hundred soldiers in the *39<sup>th</sup> Missouri Infantry, U.S. Volunteers*. James took credit for killing their Union commander, *Major Andrew "Ave" Johnston*. History has marked their raid as murderous but strangely, similar raids conducted by Union troops are considered justified actions of war.



**F**eatured in our lead story on *Samuel Haywood*, *James Morris Morgan* was only 15 when he enlisted in 1861 as a Midshipman and joined *CSS Georgia* as the youngest seaman on board. He would later join the *Egyptian army* (as indeed did many Confederate officers) and would be a prime committee member and organiser in the construction of the *Statue of Liberty in New York*.



**P**erhaps one of the most famous young lads to join the Confederate side was *Isador Straus* who was born in 1845. *Straus* was aged 16, a Bavarian Jew living in *Georgia* when war came. In 1861 he had secured an appointment to *West Point* but opted to stay with the Confederacy. He was elected lieutenant of a *Georgia* company but deemed too young and there was a lack of weapons. In 1863 he went to *England* to purchase ships for blockade-running. After the war *Isador* moved to

*New York City* and quickly proved to have excellent business acumen and by 1893 he was the full owner of *Macy's Department Store* along with his brother *Nathan*. The next year he served in the House of Representatives and after finishing his time there turned down an offer from *Grover Cleveland* to be *Postmaster General*. As a politician he favoured reforms in education and one of the prime causes of the war, Tariffs. *Isador* and his wife *Ida* died in the *Titanic* sinking.



**Isador Strauss** pictured in 1871, with wife to be *Rosalie Ida Blun*. In the film *Titanic*, *Ida* gives up her place in a lifeboat, choosing to die with her husband. Inseparable in death as in life. *Isador's* body was recovered but *Ida* was not. They were greatly admired by the staff of *Macys* who erected a memorial to them in the stores foyer-Editor.



**Arthur MacArthur Jr.** from *Wisconsin*, failed to get into *West Point* in 1861 and instead wangled a place as adjutant of the *24<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry Regiment*. At 17 he was promoted Colonel and nicknamed "*The Boy Colonel*". He commanded a regiment at the bloody battles of *Resaca* and *Franklin* and was wounded three times. He went into the regular army, and retired in 1909 as the last *Lieutenant General* of his era. He was the father of *General Douglas MacArthur* of *WW2* fame.



While battle statistics are not available for Confederate soldiers, Federal Soldiers reveal some amazing data. 2 million were 21 or younger. 1 million were 18 or younger, 500 thousand-seventeen or under, 200 thousand-16 or under, 100 thousand-15 or under and 10 thousand-14 or under. Of 300 who were 13 or under most were fifers or drummers but enrolled in the regular force and sometimes fighters. 25 were ten or under. These numbers are staggering compared to the number of older men, 50 thousand were 25 or older, 15 thousand up to the age of 44 and 1 thousand were born in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Records are not as accurate as today's statistics but this certainly reveals the war was overwhelmingly populated by young boys.

**Charles F Mosby** looks timid and sad in this studio photograph carte de visite. He's dwarfed by his drum and he'll soon outgrow the makeshift uniform. *Charles* was a Confederate drummer-boy who enlisted aged 13 and served from 1861-65 to survive the war. He first served with 'The Elliot Grays, 6<sup>th</sup> Virginia Infantry' and later with 'Henderson's Heavy Artillery'. These lads truly displayed courage and devotion to duty beyond any expectation-Editor.



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### **Charge to the Sons of Confederate Veterans**

"To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will commit the vindication of the cause for which we fought. To your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate soldier's good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles which he loved and which you love also, and those ideals which made him glorious and which you also cherish."

LT. GENERAL STEPHEN DILL LEE, COMMANDER GENERAL,  
UNITED CONFEDERATE VETERANS, NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, APRIL 25, 1906.