

The Delta General

Camp Website: www.humphreys1625.com



This Issue: General Robert E. Lee's Children

**May 2026 Volume 29, 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, the Brigadier General Charles Clark Chapter of the Military Order of the Stars and Bars, the Ella Palmer Chapter of the Order of the Confederate Rose, and our friends and followers who read this newsletter. It seems that the days are spring are really here for good; and the memory of the great storm of '26 is just that: a memory. As the flowers of April bloom, I hope you were able to attend one of the many Confederate memorial services occurring throughout Mississippi and the entire Southland. April is of course National Confederate Heritage Month where we remember the great sacrifices of our ancestors and their incredible bravery, nobility, and sense of honor and sacrifice. We take the time out of our busy weekend to attend a service, say a prayer of thanks for their duty, and forever remember them.

If you study the War Between the States, it is truly amazing the Confederate States of America lasted as long as it did. I am currently reading The Civil War by Shelby Foote. Throughout the War, the Confederate Army and Navy, and the civilians at home were plagued by constant shortages of food and materials, poor decisions by commanders and politicians, and just plain bad luck. But the Confederate States of America endured for over four years. So you have to ask yourself why. If you are student of the War and read history and original source material and not the altered history of the twenty-first century, the key to the longevity of the Confederate States of America becomes fairly obvious. The Confederate soldier, with the invaluable support of the Confederate civilian, was imbued with a sense of duty and honor that is missing from too many Americans today. He left his home and family, and the civilians worked twice as hard with half as much, to fight for Constitutional liberty, freedom and a homeland governed by it. By 1860, the northern states became an economic and political monster bent on trampling and devouring the southern states. The Constitution written and ratified by ALL of the states in 1787 was no longer applicable to the South because the Northern states would not abide by its provisions. To preserve his home, the Confederate soldier fought and the Confederate civilian went without. It was that incredible sense of right, of duty, and honor that pushed the Confederate soldier to overcome obstacles which would have quickly defeated any other fighting force.

The twenty-first century narrative that the War Between the States was strictly about the preservation of slavery is completely false. As Foote stated in a 1991 interview with National Public Radio when talking about his book, "There wasn't a soldier from the North or the South who gave a damn about the slaves". This from a man who dedicated twenty years of his life to the study of the War and to the writing of what is considered one of the best printed works of the War. Educate yourself about the War and you will quickly realize the Sons of Confederate Veterans is telling the truth about the War and the nonsense you hear in the popular press and from so-called "conservative" politicians is a false narrative spoken out of ignorance or political expediency from people who do not care about the Confederate soldier or his sacrifice, nobility, or duty. By educating yourself you are Living the Charge and better preparing yourself to tell the honest history of the United States of American. Remember: Confederate history is American history.

Enjoy the days of spring. The hazy, hot, humid days of summer will be here very soon!

Deo Vindice,
Michael

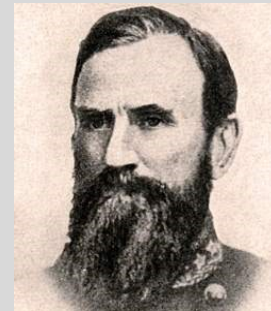
1st Brigade Councilman Michael Anthony

Good evening. As your Brigade Councilman and Chairman of the Division Awards Committee, it is my duty to collect your award nominations for members of your Camp for 2026. If you have a Camp member you would like to nominate for a Division Award, please send me the name of the Camp member, the Award you are nominating him for, and the reason you choose this person for nomination. All Awards will be distributed at the Division Reunion June 6 at Beauvoir in Biloxi.

The Mississippi Division is also looking for veterans who are interested in receiving the Sons of Confederate Veterans Service Medal. This Medal is open to any COMBAT veteran who was honorably discharged. The Division needs five veterans per Brigade to honor at a public ceremony in Jackson in November or December of this year. If you have a Camp member who meets the qualifications for the Sons of Confederate Veterans Service Medal, please send me the name of that veteran, his military branch, and his years of service

Please do not forget to register for the Division Reunion, held in Biloxi at Beauvoir on June 6. If you have any questions about anything in this eMail or anything at the Division level, please do not hesitate to respond to this eMail or call me directly: **662-902-8307**

The SCV War Service medal is not restricted to combat veterans. The only restriction is to have served at least 90 days on active duty during a period of war as defined by the Department of War as shown by your DD214



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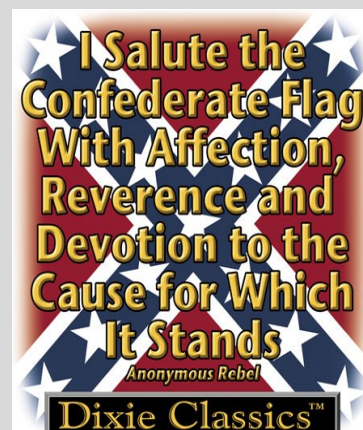
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Larry McCluney, Editor:
Confederate @suddenlink.net

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Adjutant's Report—Dan McCaskill

April 11, 2026

Call to Order: At 6:00 PM CDT by Commander Michael Anthony
Opening Prayer and Blessing: 1st Lt. Commander David Floyd
Pledge, Salutes, and Reading of The Charge: Adjutant Dan McCaskill

Commander Michael Anthony welcomed everyone to our monthly Camp Meeting and stated this will be a short meeting due to the lack of known new business and very little old business to consider. While Annette McCluney prepared the evening meal, Commander Anthony moved on Officer Reports.

Officer Reports: Commander Michael Anthony did not have report; 1st Lt. Commander David Floyd stated he has booked Jimmy Jones as our speaker for our June Meeting. Adjutant Dan McCaskill reported that the Camp's checking account balance stood at \$3,005. This balance includes the \$500 for our monument donation, \$1,075 in Capital Reserve, and \$299 for Heritage Defense. Thus far, only \$50 has been spent from the budget. A request has been sent to members inquiring if any were interested in receiving the SCV War Service Medal and if so, proper documentation must be submitted. So far, three members have responded. In the Camp's quest for the Superior Camp Award, clarification is needed for point 10 under qualifications. MOSB: Commander Earl McCown was absent due to a minor injury.; Editor: Larry McCluney was absent. OCR: Missy Stillman was absent. PCIC: Larry McCluney was absent. Chairman of Awards Committee: Michael Anthony is serving as Chairman and announced that the deadline to submit nominations for a Division Award will be May 8th at 5:00 o'clock pm.

At this time, Commander Anthony recessed to meeting for our evening meal.

New Business: 1) Commander Michael Anthony gave a report on the Division Workshop held on March 14th. The Workshop was well attended with every Brigade represented. On point that was stressed was that Camps and members need to become more socially active. We need to develop social activities that will connect us with the community. A report was given on the SPLC Campaign to erase everything Confederate. Michael stated he would be working with David Floyd to develop a future program for the Camp at a future date. 2) **Division Reunion Delegates:** Adjutant Dan McCaskill stated he needed an idea of who was going to the MS Division Reunion in June and who would be willing to serve as a Delegate. Michael Anthony, Dan McCaskill, and Larry McCluney were confirmed as Delegates with Michael being the Delegate Chairman. The Camp is entitled to four Delegates. Nation Reunion Delegates will be taken up at the June Meeting.

Old Business: 1) **Confederate Memorial Service:** It was re-confirmed that the Memorial will be on May 2, 2026 starting at 2:00 pm and that our speaker will be Camp Chaplain Earl McCown. We will be dedicating three Confederate Headstones. The Camp in Missouri has been notified but no response to date. We are in need of riflemen to serve in the Color and Honor Guard. We also need someone willing to take photographs of the event for the Confederate Veteran and Newsletters. Final preparations will be made at our April Meeting. 2) **Division Workshop:** Commander Anthony reminded everyone of the Division Workshop / DEC Meeting will be held on March 14th at the War Memorial Building in Jackson, MS starting at 9:00 am.

With no other business coming before the Camp, Commander Anthony recessed the meeting for the evening meal.

Program: The program for the evening was a film featuring Duffy Neubauer from the Starkville Civil War Arsenal telling the history of wooden mortars used by Grant at the during the Siege of Vicksburg and demonstrating the loading and firing the mortar both day and night firing. Very, very interesting.

With no other business coming before the Camp, a motion to adjourn was made by Kenneth Ray, seconded by Gator Stillman and the motion passed without objection. The Meeting was closed with prayer by 1st Lt. Commander David Floyd and the singing of Dixie. Attendance for the meeting was 7. A short Camp Meeting will be May 2, 2026 after our Confederate Memorial Service.

The Chaplain's Pen — Earl McCown

It is true that all people belong to God, as creatures to their Creator, as property to its owner, as subjects to their ruler. All things and all people were made by God and for God and all are ruled by God's sovereign will. This is God's right as the absolute Sovereign of all creatures (Romans

9:15-26). But we who believe belong to God as a child belongs to its father, as a wife to her husband, as a willing bond slave to his master. Ours is an intimate, loving, family relationship with the eternal God

We belong to God by the sovereign purpose of His grace. In eternity God said, 'I will be their God, and they shall be my people' Were it not for God's electing grace, no one would ever be saved. Indeed, were it not for God's election and determination to save some, the world would never have been created. We belong to God because He chose us as His own (2 Thessalonians 2:13-14)

We are the Lord's by the special purchase of His Son. 'Ye are bought with a price,' Paul said.

It is not expected that the ungodly and unbelieving should seek the honour of Christ. They were not redeemed by Him. But it is most reasonable that we should willingly give ourselves to the service of our Saviour's glory. He bought us out from under the curse of the law (Galatians 3:13).

Again, we belong to our God by the saving power of his Spirit (Ephesians 2:1-4; Psalm 110:3). We were lost hopeless, depraved and spiritually dead. But the Spirit of God came to us and called us to life. He created faith in our hearts and brought us to Christ by His sovereign, irresistible, power and grace. He made us willing, voluntary bond slaves of the Lord Jesus Christ.

And we belong to God by the solemn profession of our faith. Believers, following their Lord in baptism, publicly declare to all the world their faith in heart allegiance to the Lord Jesus Christ (Romans 6:4-6). Baptism is the believer's obedient public confession of faith. It identifies him as one who belongs to God. Since we belong to God, it is only reasonable that we should glorify God in our bodies and in our spirits, which are God's.



SCV_CHAT

RECLAIMING THE NARRATIVE

ONE WEEK AT A TIME



Monday and Thursday nights at 7:00 PM CT on Facebook. If you have never seen an episode I highly recommend watching and learning more about what is going on around our nation that is Southern related and vindicating the Cause that our ancestors fought for. They currently have over a million viewers last year and several sponsors that has boosted their programming. Check it out.

*Confederate Memorial Service and
Headstone Dedication
Saturday, **May 2, 2026**
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 2, 2026, 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 three headstones dedicated one for a Missouri soldier financed by the Missouri Division, SCV. Representatives from the Missouri Division will be in attendance. 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 9 will be an alternate date in the event of rain. A reminder will be sent as the event draws near.

Mississippi Division News

MS Division Sons of Confederate Veterans

Vehicle License Plates



At the 2005 MS Division, SCV, convention, the Division renewed its pledge to preserve/conservate MS's original Confederate Battle flags. Show your support for your Division and our Flags by purchasing a Mississippi Sons of Confederate Veterans "vanity" car or motorcycle tag today (if you haven't already done so)! If you've already done so, please continue to purchase the tags when tag replacement time rolls around!

When you purchase a MS SCV car or motorcycle tag, \$26 of your purchase price comes directly to the MS Division. The majority of these funds are used for the restoration of the original MS Confederate Battle flags in the Old Capitol Collection in Jackson. The remainder being used to fight heritage violations.

The Mississippi division has to date restored nine original MS Confederate Battle flags and two more are in process, at a total cost of approximately \$100,000! Thus conserved, these flags should now last for at least two-hundred more years! What a gesture to our noble Confederate grandsires!

A sampling of conserved flags are beautifully framed, then put on display at the Old Capitol (3rd Floor) and Beauvoir (Museum). According to the Department of Archives and History, many more will be displayed in the new Museum of Mississippi History currently under construction and scheduled to open during our state's bicentennial in December of 2017

Restoration of these storied emblems is exceedingly expensive, with typical conservation costs ranging from \$3,000 to \$27,000 per flag. This vital work is done by hand, using the latest methodologies and state-of-the-art materials. One of the finest conservation services in the nation performs all the work in-house in West Virginia.

If not conserved, these most-precious artifacts of our history — the very "colors" that our Patriot forebears fought and died under — will simply crumble into dust. We can't let that happen!

Anyone can buy a MS SCV car or motorcycle tag! You need not be a Member of the Division! You don't have to show a Membership card or any other SCV identification. Ask friends, family, and co-workers to buy one today and, thus, help preserve a little bit of MS's proud history! Make your family fleet of vehicles an "all SCV" fleet!

To purchase a tag, simply go to your county tag office and request a MS Sons of Confederate Veterans tag! Take your present tag, fill out the forms, write a check, and affix your SCV tag to your vehicle, showing all who see your car/truck/motorcycle that you are a Mississippian who cares about your "Heritage of Honor"!

Note: Some tag offices do not have the SCV car tag on display, but it is available. You might respectfully request that your local office display the tag in their tag displays, so that other folks can become aware of its availability for purchase. Make sure that tag office personnel know that anyone can purchase the tag, not just SCV Members!

If you have any problems obtaining a MS SCV tag or employees claim that they can't get such tags, immediately contact the MS State Tax Commission, register a gentlemanly complaint, and respectfully request that

the State Tax Commission make your local tag office comply with State law and procure a MS SCV tag for you.

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Life Memberships

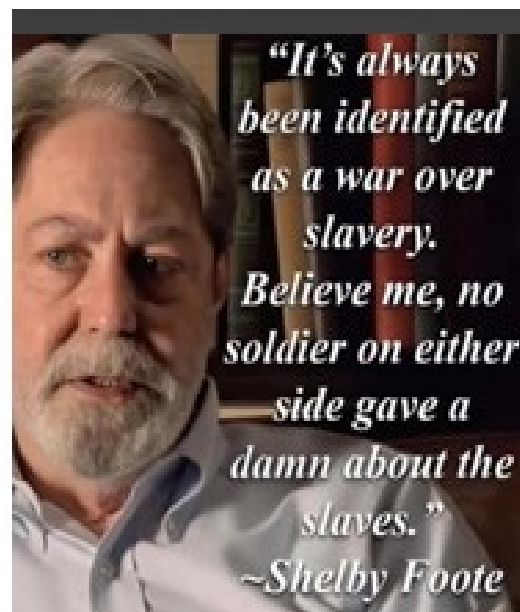
Life memberships in both the International Confederation and the Mississippi Division are available for Members who make a qualifying contribution to the respective Life Membership Endowment Fund.

The amount of the qualifying contribution shall be twenty-five (25) times the amount of annual dues for applicants up to 65 years of age, twelve and one half the amount of annual dues for applicants 65 to 80 years of age and six and one fourth the amount of annual dues for applicants 80 years of age or older.

International Life Members shall be exempt from the payment of per capita dues to General Headquarters.

Mississippi Division Life Members shall be exempt from the payment of per capita dues to the Division.

Life Members may receive such special recognition, certificates and badges as the respective Executive Council shall deem proper. Request and Send applications





Brig/General Charles Clark Chapter 253, MOS&B

I am happy to report that one of our Chapter members, Larry McCluney, has won the MOS&B National Literary Award in History, the Douglas Southall Freeman Award, for his book *Paradox of Freedom*. Please join me in congratulating him and

bringing honor to our Chapter.

The MOS&B national reunion is being held in Harrison, Arkansas this year where Larry will be attending to formally be recognized for the award and represent our Chapter.

Earl McCown, Chapter Commander

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.



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

**130th Reunion – Mississippi Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans
32nd Reunion- Mississippi Society Order of Confederate Rose
1st Confederation- Mississippi Division SCV Cadets
Beauvoir Biloxi, Mississippi – June 5-7, 2026**

The Mississippi Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans Heritage Operations Committee, in conjunction with the State Society of the Order of Confederate Rose, cordially invites you to the 130th Mississippi Division SCV Reunion, the 32nd Mississippi Society OCR Reunion, and the inaugural Confederation of Mississippi Division Cadets. This historic weekend will take place Friday, June 5, 2026, through Saturday, June 6, 2026, at the beautiful and historic Beauvoir.

The inaugural Confederation of the Mississippi Division Cadets represents a special milestone, opening a new chapter in our organization's history as our first-ever cadet-focused event. Cadet Fun Day will be held on the back field or battlefield at Beauvoir, designed for cadets aged 6 and older. This exciting opportunity allows our young cadets to connect with peers, learn the true history of the South, enjoy quality family time, and become familiar with reunion traditions. Activities will include a "Small Muster" with toy muskets (encourage cadets to bring their own, though some may be provided, or purchase one at the Beauvoir gift shop), a guided tour of the Beauvoir Museum, and the honor of a special address from Division Commander Daws and others. Several younger OCR members have graciously volunteered to supervise the cadets. The cadet registration fee covers snacks, water, juices, and sunscreen to keep them hydrated, refreshed, and protected in the Mississippi Gulf Coast summer heat—please dress them appropriately for active outdoor play.

Cadet membership is open to children from birth to age 11. We strongly encourage enrolling any son, grandson, or young person in both the national and our new Mississippi Division Cadet Programs, and bringing them to the reunion to participate in this landmark event. Participation and registration for the Confederation do not require active membership this year, though it is highly encouraged. Stay tuned for updates, as more activities may be added. We hope this becomes an eagerly anticipated annual tradition for our cadets. For more information, please reach out. The Dr. W. D. McCain Memorial Awards Banquet promises a memorable evening on Saturday night, featuring a delicious, well-balanced menu sure to please every palate. Guests will choose between two enticing entrées: the luxurious Pontchartrain Pasta, brimming with succulent shrimp, tender redfish, bold andouille sausage, vibrant bell peppers, garlic, and mushrooms tossed in a silky white wine, cream, and butter sauce, or perfectly seared pork chops served over aromatic herbed rice and smothered in a rich, savory mushroom pan gravy—both accompanied by a refreshing house garden salad, crisp green beans sautéed with colorful carrots, peppers, and onions, and warm artisan dinner rolls. For dessert, indulge in either the decadent White Chocolate Croissant Bread Pudding, with buttery croissants and brioche baked into a rich white chocolate custard and finished with glossy salted caramel sauce for the perfect sweet-salty contrast, or a classic New York Style Cheesecake, ultra-creamy with a buttery graham cracker crust, topped with juicy fresh strawberries and fluffy whipped cream.

We're especially excited to welcome Rev. Cecil Fayard as our keynote speaker—a dedicated Baptist pastor and missionary, Vietnam veteran, author, and a legend in the Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCV). He has served with distinction as Past Chaplain-in-Chief of the national SCV as well as Chaplain for the Mississippi Division, alongside his decades of service including chaplaincy with Ship to Shore Regions Beyond International ministering to international seafarers in Gulf ports. Rev. Fayard will speak on the religious life of Confederate President Jefferson Davis, exploring Davis's deep Christian faith. Drawing from his lifelong devotion, frequent scriptural references, and reliance on divine providence (as seen in proclamations emphasizing dependence on God and prayers for protection), the address will highlight how faith sustained Davis through personal and national challenges, offering timeless insights into biblical themes, steadfast belief, and everyday Christian living—making Rev. Fayard the ideal voice to inspire us as we honor Dr. W. D. McCain's legacy.

We can't wait to gather with you for this special celebration!

**Hosted by the Mississippi Division SCV Heritage Ops Committee,
Mississippi Society Order of Confederate Rose, and
Beauvoir The Jefferson Davis Home and Presidential Library Staff**



**130th Reunion – Mississippi Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans
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1st Confederation- Mississippi Division SCV Cadets
Beauvoir Biloxi, Mississippi – June 5-7, 2026**

SCV REGISTRATION FORM

SCV Member Name: _____

Title/SCV Camp 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 MUST REGISTER FOR THE FRIDAY NIGHT RECEPTION AND SATURDAY NIGHT BANQUET USING THIS FORM. OCR BUSINESS MEETING REGISTRATION ATTACHED.

REGISTRATION AMOUNTS

SCV Member – on or before May 6, 2026, \$60.00 / After May 6, 2026, \$70.00 QTY ___ \$ _____

Friday Night President Davis Birthday Reception

on or before May 6, 2026, \$25.00 / After May 6, 2026, \$35.00 QTY ___ \$ _____

COMMEMORATIVE Jefferson Davis Cockade- \$25.00 QTY ___ \$ _____

Must be ordered before May 6, 2025

Awards Banquet - \$45.00 per Adult QTY ___ \$ _____

Please Indicate:

Blackened Seafood Pasta : _____ Pork Chop: _____

(NO RECEPTION OR BANQUET REGISTRATION AFTER MAY 10, 2024, **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 **Mississippi Division SCV** & Mail to:
MS Division Heritage Operations Committee PO BOX 36, Florence, MS 39073

SCV Contact: George Conor Bond (601) 813-7820 or gbmosb007@gmail.com

OCR Contact: Suzi White (601) 813-1191 or suziwhitemocr@gmail.com

HOTEL INFO

We won't have a host hotel since all events will take place at Beauvoir. June is the peak tourism season on the coast, and hotels aren't offering affordable group rates. You'll find better deals by booking your own room through sites like Expedia or Priceline.

**Hosted by the Mississippi Division SCV Heritage Ops Committee,
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ALL EVENTS AT BEAUVOIR
JDPL- Jefferson Davis Presidential Library

Friday June 5th

- **12:00 PM- 5:45 PM SCV/OCR Registration**
 - Lobby JDPL
- **5:00 PM-6:00 PM Division Executive Council Meeting**
 - Board Room JDPL
- **6:00 PM- 6:30 PM Memorial Service- Tomb of the Unknown Confederate Soldier**
 - Cemetery
- **6:30 PM- 8:30 PM President's Reception and Birthday Party**
 - Beauvoir Room or Front Lawn depending on weather

Saturday June 6th

- **8:00 AM- Color Guard Muster**
 - Lobby JDPL
- **8:30 AM- Opening Ceremonies**
 - Beauvoir Room JDPL
- **9:00 AM- Mississippi Division, SCV Business Meeting with Beauvoir Corporate meeting to follow.**
 - Beauvoir Room JDPL
- **9:30 AM- Mississippi Society, OCR Tea and Business Meeting**
 - Library JDPL
- **9:30 AM- Mississippi Division SCV Cadet fun day**
 - Beauvoir Battlefield
- **6:00 PM- Cocktail Hour- Cash Bar**
 - Library JDPL
- **6:30 PM- Awards Banquet**
 - Beauvoir Room JDPL

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CADET REGISTRATION

Cadet Name: _____

SCV Camp Name & Number: _____

Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Parents: _____

All cadets will receive a name badge and snacks during their events

REGISTRATION AMOUNTS

Cadet Member – on or before May 6, 2026, \$10.00 / After May 6, 2026, \$15.00 QTY _____ \$ _____

Friday Night President Davis Birthday Reception

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COMMEMORATIVE Jefferson Davis Cockade- \$25.00 QTY _____ \$ _____

Must be ordered before MAY 6

Awards Banquet - \$25.00 per Cadet QTY _____ \$ _____

(NO RECEPTION OR BANQUET REGISTRATION AFTER MAY 10, 2024, **INCLUDING WALK-UPS**)

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

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

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Compatriots of the Mississippi Division SCV and Ladies of the Mississippi Society OCR,
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32nd Reunion- Mississippi Society Order of Confederate Rose
1st Confederation- Mississippi Division SCV Cadets
Beauvoir Biloxi, Mississippi – June 5-7, 2026



OCR REGISTRATION FORM

OCR Member Name: _____

Chapter Name & Number: _____

Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone #: _____ Email: _____

Spouse/Guest: _____

*All preregistered OCR members will receive a name badge, a bag of goodies.
Registrations at the door will receive a name badge and bag of goodies as supplies last.*

. OCR MEMBERS MUST REGISTER FOR THE FRIDAY NIGHT RECEPTION AND SATURDAY NIGHT BANQUET USING THE SCV FORM.

REGISTRATION AMOUNTS

OCR Member – on or before May 6, 2026, <u>\$40.00</u> / After May 6, 2026, <u>\$45.00</u>	QTY _____ \$ _____
Individual Ancestor Memorial - <u>\$10.00</u> each	QTY _____ \$ _____
Half Page Ancestor Memorial - <u>\$40.00</u> each	QTY _____ \$ _____
Full Page Ancestor Memorial - <u>\$100.00</u> each	QTY _____ \$ _____
TOTAL REGISTRATION AMOUNT =====>	\$ _____

Please Make Checks Payable to **Mississippi Division SCV** & Mail to:
MS Division Heritage Operations Committee PO BOX 36, Florence, MS 39073

SCV Contact: George Conor Bond (601) 813-7820 or gcbmosb007@gmail.com
OCR Contact: Suzi White (601) 813-1191 or suziwhitemocr@gmail.com

HOTEL INFO

We won't have a host hotel since all events will take place at Beauvoir. June is the peak tourism season on the coast, and hotels aren't offering affordable group rates. You'll find better deals by booking your own room through sites like Expedia or Priceline.

**Hosted by the Mississippi Division SCV Heritage Ops Committee,
Mississippi Society Order of Confederate Rose, and
Beauvoir The Jefferson Davis Home and Presidential Library Staff**

National News



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

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,

- 1) your camp, etc.
- 2) 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.
- 3) 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:

Looking for New Recruits!

When was the last time you tried to recruit new members for the Sons of Confederate Veterans and the Brig/Gen Benjamin G. Humphreys Camp?

Do you ever approach anyone and ask if they are interested?

Try it once in awhile and you will find that there are prospective members waiting to hear about our organization.

Don't just wait for someone to ask you first.

Lead the Charge!

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

SPLC and Anti-Confederate Bias



The Sons of Confederate Veterans congratulates the Director of the FBI and the acting Attorney General for their sweeping indictment of the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC). The SPLC has been accused of funding hate groups in order to raise money for the SPLC. The recent indictment of the Southern Poverty Law Center for "manufacturing extremism it purports to oppose" demonstrates how this left-wing organization has created a false narrative for its financial gain. The SPLC has, for many years, attacked all things Confederate by misrepresenting the truth about the causes and consequences of the War Between the States. The SPLC has been at the forefront of efforts to take down and destroy monuments, memorials, and even gravesites of anyone associated with the defense of the South during that tragic conflict.

While the SPLC and many Marxist-inspired groups have been busy misrepresenting the truth about why Confederate monuments were erected, unfortunately, conservative media outlets have protected the left-wing false narrative about the South. While most conservative media will decry removing Confederate monuments, none have made an effort to let the public hear the "rest of the story" about why that war was fought and why those monuments are important. By refusing to allow an opposing view of what the Confederate Cause truly represents, conservatives have given the SPLC, BLM, and the NAACP free rein in promoting hate against men such as Robert E. Lee and Jefferson Davis.

Even though slavery existed for 73 years longer in Massachusetts than it did in Mississippi, and the last slave state to be admitted into the Union was done so by the effort of Abraham Lincoln and the Republican Party, SPLC and such groups present slavery as strictly a Southern issue. Even though former Presidents Thomas Jefferson and John Q. Adams advocated the right of secession, left-wing hate groups will still accuse Robert E. Lee of treason.

The Sons of Confederate Veterans hope the exposure of the SPLC's less-than-honorable actions will open the minds of those who choose to view the South in a negative manner.

Walter D. (Donnie) Kennedy
Commander-in-Chief, SCV





131st Annual Sons of Confederate Veterans

National Reunion: July 15-19, 2026

Griffin Gate Resort and Conference Center Lexington, Kentucky



Griffin Gate Marriot

See the Marriot

Lexington, Kentucky - the heart of the Bluegrass!

*We have reserved a select number of rooms - Monday & Tuesday nights are already near capacity. Consider staying at **The Beaumont Inn** in Harrodsburg, Kentucky (same group rates) and touring the nearby Perryville Battlefield early in the week.*

Still plenty of available rooms - Thursday thru Saturday, but they are filling quickly. Reserve your rooms early.

If the hotel site will not easily accept your reservation - call 502-229-2925 and we will increase the number of available rooms.

131st Sons of Confederate Veterans National Reunion

Griffin Gate Resort and Conference Center Lexington, Kentucky

July 15-19, 2026



REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____ Member # _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Email _____ Phone _____

SVC Camp Name _____ Camp # _____ State _____

Your Rank, Title or Position _____

Spouse Name (for name badge) _____

DATE:	TIME:	EVENT:	PRICE	QTY	TOTAL
ALL		SCV Only Reunion Registration includes 1 Medal (All SCV Members must pay for Registration.) Early Registration at: Houston \$90/After Houston \$110) Registration Ends June 20, 2026	\$90.		
Sat July 11, 2026	5:00 pm	"Welcome to Kentucky!" BBQ No Charge . Please check for attending/how many			
Tues July 14, 2026	6:00 pm	Dinner- Battle of Richmond - Phil Seyfrit	\$85.		
Wed July 15, 2026	9am-5pm	Richmond Battlefield Tour - Lunch included	\$90.		
Thurs July 16, 2026	6:45-7:45	Chaplain's Breakfast	\$55.		
Thurs July 16, 2026	12:30-1:30	Heritage Luncheon	\$65.		
Thurs July 16, 2026	1:45-6 pm	Kentucky Military Museum Tour and Bourbon Tour	\$85.		
Fri July 17, 2026	6:45-7:45	History Breakfast	\$55.		
Fri July 17, 2026	12:15-1:30	SCV Awards Luncheon	\$65.		
Fri July 17, 2026	6:45-7:45	Mechanized Cavalry Breakfast	\$55.		
Sat July 18, 2026	6-7 pm	SCV Awards Banquet and Ball	\$130.		
		EXTRA Ancestor Memorial Ad (1 free with registration) to submit extra ancestor use the back of this form or separate sheet	\$10.		
		EXTRA Reunion Medal (note: 1 medal is included with registration)	\$35.		
		2026 Numbered (1-25) Reunion Medal (<i>This medal is NOT included with registration</i>)	\$110.		
		FINAL TOTAL - Registration Only _____ PAID _____ CHECK			
		<i>Prices for Tours and Meals will be determined at a later date.</i>			

Make Check Payable to : 2026 SCV Reunion
 Mail to: Kentucky Bluegrass 2026 / Kris Hawkins
 P.O. Box 122 Harrodsburg, KY 40330



Army of Tennessee

Workshop

May 2, 2026,

9 AM to 3 PM at the Southern Cultural Center,
12814 U.S. Hwy 231
Wetumpka, AL 36092

Register early to guarantee your spot!

Registration is \$20 which includes lunch. Pre-register by March 15th for lunch.

After April 20, 2026, the registration fee will still be \$20 (no guaranteed lunch included).

All Divisions are welcome to attend!

Name _____ Title _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone Numbers: Home: (____) ____ - _____

Cell: (____) ____ - _____

E-mail Address: _____

SCV Camp Name & Number: _____ Division: _____

Please send this completed form, together with a check or money order in the amount of **\$20 (by April 20th for lunch)** made payable to **AL Division** and mail it to:

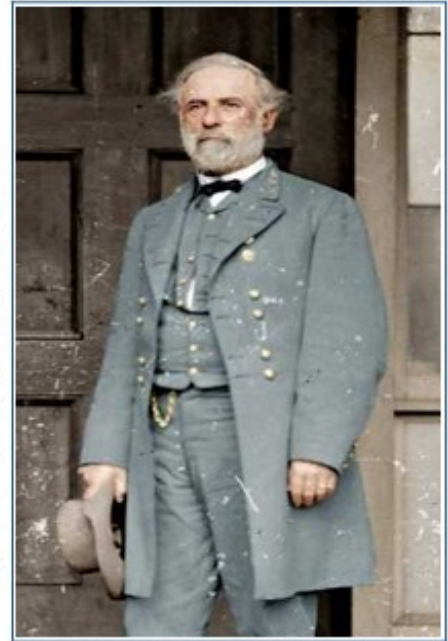
**AoT Workshop
c/o Jimmy Hill
13476 Wendy Drive
Madison, AL 35757**

**Registrations after April 20th are \$20 but without a lunch guarantee.
Send them to the same address above.**

R. E. LEE'S REMARKABLE CHILDREN.

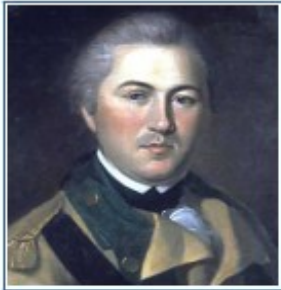
By **Eddie Quinlan ACWRTQ.**
(Additional material and illustrations by Editor).

Introduction: In the many battles fought by the *C. S. Army of Virginia* they were always outnumbered two-to-three, yet won most of those battles due to the solid leadership of *Robert E. Lee* and the ingenuity of officers like *Thomas Jackson*. The longer the war lasted, the greater those odds stacked against Lee, combined with the introduction of new rifles, such as *Sharps* and *Henry* to Union soldiers by far outmatching the rate of fire from conventional muzzle loaders used by the South. Such was the admiration for Lee that to this day in Southern States, he's commemorated with a State holiday on the date of his birth *19th January (1807)*. It's a tradition that is slowly being eroded. This study journal may not reach you until some weeks after compilation but **Robert E. Lee Day** occurred and inspired your editor during this construction of *Issue 107*. It also adds relevance to this fascinating story by our local member of ACWRTQ, Eddie Quinlan-Editor.



Robert Edward Lee (January 19, 1807 – October 12, 1870).

Lee's early actions in the *War Between the States* led to appointment as overall commander of the *Confederate States Army* near war's end. He led the *Army of Northern Virginia*, the Confederacy's most powerful army, from 1862 until its surrender in 1865; in the process, Lee earned the reputation as one of the war's most skilled tacticians. A son of Revolutionary War officer *Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee III*. Robert E. Lee was top graduate of the *United States Military Academy*; for 32 years he was an exceptional officer and military engineer in the *United States Army*. With service across the *United States*, he distinguished himself during the *Mexican-American War*, and was *Superintendent of the United States Military Academy*. He married *Mary Anna Custis*. When *Virginia* declared secession from the Union in 1861 Lee, while opposing slavery from a philosophical perspective, supported its legality.



Light Horse Harry Lee III.



It was while Lee was stationed at *Fort Monroe* that he married *Mary Anna Randolph Custis (1807–1873)*. She was the great-granddaughter of *Martha Washington* by her first husband *Daniel Parke Custis*, and step-great-granddaughter of first president *George Washington*. Mary was the only surviving child of *George Washington Parke Custis*, *George Washington's* step grandson, and *Mary Lee Fitzhugh Custis*, daughter of *William Fitzhugh* and *Ann Bolling Randolph*. Robert Lee and Mary married 30 June 1831, at *Arlington House*, her parents' homestead just across the *Potomac* from *Washington* with the *3rd U.S. Artillery* serving as *Honour Guard*. The Lees eventually had seven children, three boys and four girls. On 1st May 1864, *General Lee* was present at the baptism of



General A. P. Hill's daughter, *Lucy Lee Hill*, to serve as her Godfather. This is portrayed in the painting shown here, *"Tender is the Heart"* by *Mort Künstler*. *R. E. Lee* was also Godfather of actress and writer *Odette Tyler*, daughter of *Brigadier General William Whedbee Kirkland*. Now that we've established the various connections, let's take a closer look at *R. E. Lee's* children.

1. **G**eorge Washington Custis Lee (*Custis, "Boo"*) (1832–1913) served as major general in the Confederate Army and *aide-de-camp* to *President Jefferson Davis*. *Custis Lee* served in *Virginia State* forces until July 1861. At that time he was given a commission as captain in the *Confederate States Army*. During the next few months, *Custis Lee* worked in the *Confederate Engineers*, constructing fortifications for the new capital city of *Richmond*. At the end of August 1861 *Custis Lee* was offered and accepted the position of *aide-de-camp* and promotion to colonel. Lee served in this position for the next three years of the war. He was often sent on missions to assess the military, and would then return to report directly to *Jeff Davis*. When *Robert E. Lee* became commander of the *Army of Northern Virginia*, *Custis Lee* had constant contact with his father. In 1862, during the *Peninsular Campaign*, *Custis* was put in charge of supervising engineers at *Drewry's Bluff*. In June 1863, he was promoted *brigadier general*. *Custis Lee* was discouraged from taking field command by *Davis*, but his father knew his son's attributes could prove beneficial and encouraged his son to take a more active part. *Custis Lee* asked his father for a field command, but his father replied that his highest duty was obedience to superiors. For the most part, *Custis* obeyed his president and father, but during the *Battle of Gettysburg* he was given command of troops in *Richmond*.



Major General Custis Lee (c.1862)-Editor.

In 1864, *Custis Lee* was placed in command of *Richmond's* local defences against *Generals Grant and Butler*. So successful was he in this new command that *Custis* was given command of *Richmond's* eastern defences at *Chaffin's Bluff*. He remained there throughout the next months, and later that year was promoted major general. Shortly before the end of the war, he commanded troops in the field, but 6 April he was captured at *Sailor's Creek* by *Pvte David Dunnels White*, of the *37th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment*. It was just three days before the surrender of his father at the *McLean House*, on *Palm Sunday* 9 April 1865. *Custis Lee* never married.



2. **M**ary Custis Lee (*Mary, "Daughter"*) (1835–1918). Born in *Arlington House*. Unmarried, during the war she became stuck behind Union lines unable to travel to *Richmond* and attend her sister's funeral in 1862. Her former beau, *General J. E. B. Stuart*, sent Confederate scouts to rescue her, but she refused to leave. Throughout the war and the tumultuous *Reconstruction* era, she remained distant from the family and devoted her time to World travel. *Mary* wouldn't attend funerals for any of her sisters, not even those for her parents. Somewhat eccentric, she used inheritance from her share of the sale of *Arlington House* to fund trips abroad. She spent time in the *United Kingdom, Italy, France, Russia, Monaco, Ottoman Empire, Ceylon, the Dutch East Indies, Palestine, Egypt, Sudan*, and in the late 1870's visited our golden shores in *Australia*, in particular *Hobart, Tasmania*. (I cannot find a record of her activities in *Tasmania*-Editor) Other countries in her extensive and expensive world tour included *China, India, Japan, Mexico, and Venezuela*. During her travels,

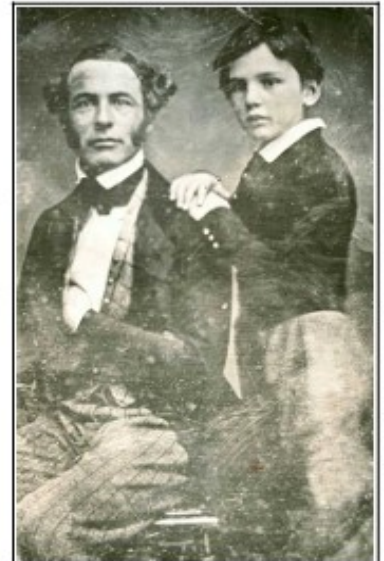
she used social status as the daughter of *Robert E. Lee* to obtain audiences with foreign royalty, nobility, and political leaders like *Queen Victoria*, *Pope Leo XIII* and an Indian *Maharaja*.

In 1902, while in *Alexandria, Virginia*, *Mary Custis* was arrested for refusing to sit in the "Whites-Only" section of a segregated tram (*street-car*), opting instead to sit with her *black-maid* who had become an inseparable companion and friend. Her arrest was controversial, and used by some as a symbol for desegregation, although historians, not wishing to view Confederates as accepting racial equality, debate what *Mary Custis'* intentions were. Frankly it's obvious...she merely wanted to sit with her friend. Many factions joined the public debate and some hostile comments were directed at *Mary Custis* from the suffragette movement. Soon after, *Mary Custis* left for *France*, where she lived until the outbreak of *World War 1* at which time she returned to America. *Mary Custis Lee* died a few days after the end of WW1 in *Hot Springs, Virginia*, 22 November 1918. Her body was cremated with ashes placed in the family crypt in *University Chapel*.



Brig. Gen. William Henry Fitzhugh Lee.

3. William Henry Fitzhugh Lee ("Rooney") (1837–1891); served as major general in the Confederate Army (*cavalry*); married twice; surviving children by second marriage. Known as "*Rooney Lee*" (often spelled *Roony* among friends and family) or *W. H. F. Lee*. He was the second son of *General Robert E. Lee* and *Mary Anna Custis*. *William* was a planter, and after the war a *Democratic Congressman* from *Virginia*. *William Lee* was born at *Arlington House* and named for *William Henry Fitzhugh* (died 1830), his mother's uncle. At an early age, his father began to call him "*Rooney*"; what prompted this nickname isn't known, but it stuck as a way to differentiate him from his cousin *Fitzhugh Lee*.



Lee aged 38 with 'Rooney', 1845.

William had a truly remarkable military career. When war began in 1861, he was commissioned captain and soon promoted major. Initially, *William* served as a cavalry commander for *Brig. Gen. William Loring* in the mountains of western *Virginia*, during his father's *Western Virginia Campaign*. Late in 1861, *Loring's* forces were transferred to the lower *Shenandoah Valley* commanded by *Stonewall Jackson*; early in 1862 they occupied the town of *Romney*. *William* was then assigned to *Maj. Gen. J. E. B. Stuart* who was leading cavalry forces for *Joseph E. Johnston's Army of Northern Virginia* in the *Peninsula Campaign*. After joining *Stuart*, *William Lee's* regiment participated in the famed first ride around the Union army.

During the *Northern Virginia Campaign*, *William* played a leading role in the attack on *General John Pope's* supply base at *Catlett's Station* 22 August 1862, capturing the paymaster's safe full of Union dollars. It was a sensational and brilliantly designed attack. Following the *Battle of South Mountain*, *William Lee* was knocked unconscious when his horse stumbled and fell and he was unable to participate in the *Battle of Antietam*. He would later command *Fitzhugh Lee's* cavalry brigade in *Stuart's Chambersburg Raid*, so well that it earned him promotion to brigadier general. *William* also was engaged in the *Seven Days Battles* around *Richmond*. During this time, his nearby

"White House" plantation was burned to the ground and his son *Robert* died of typhoid fever.

William then commanded the *3rd Brigade of Stuart's Cavalry Division* at the *Battles of Fredericksburg*, mere weeks after the death of his infant daughter. During the *Battle of Chancellorsville* the following year, *William Lee* was detached from *Stuart's* cavalry to defend against *Stoneman's 1863 Raid*. "...Till *Stoneman's* cavalry came and tore up the tracks again". It was at the beginning of the *Gettysburg Campaign*, that *William Lee* was shot in the thigh, during combat at *Brandy Station*. He spent the next two weeks recovering before being captured by Union forces. As a prisoner of war, he was sent to *Fort Monroe* for several months, before being shipped to *New York*, where he was held until returned to the Confederate Army on 25 February 1864, in exchange for *Union Brig. Gen. Neal S. Dow*. In April 1864, *William Lee* was promoted major general and commanded a division in the *Cavalry Corps* during the battles of *The Wilderness*, *Todd's Tavern*, *Spotsylvania Court House*, and *North Anna* in the *Overland Campaign*.



Even in defeat, Lee's men rallied around their leader. To have endured so much and have it come to this at Appomattox. (Painting by Mort Künstler: <https://www.mortkunstler.com>)-Editor.

With the death of *Jeb Stuart*, *William 'Rooney' Lee's* role increased, his cavalry division patrolled the extreme right of Confederate lines during the *Siege of Petersburg*. His division was then sent north to briefly aid in the defence of *Richmond* at the *Second Battle of Deep Bottom*, before supporting *General Wade Hampton III's Beefsteak Raid*, and then returning to *Petersburg* for the *Battle of Boydton Plank Road*. (All of these battles are deserving of further study-Editor). By the last year of the war, *William Lee* had risen to second-in-command of the Confederate cavalry in *Virginia*. *General Hampton* was transferred to *South Carolina* to raise troops, and *William's* cousin *Fitzhugh* was promoted overall command. *William's* cavalry division screened the evacuation of *Petersburg*, notably at the *Battle of Namozine Church* during the *Appomattox Campaign*. *Major General William Lee* surrendered his command along with his father at *Appomattox Court House* with only 300 officers and men, one-tenth the size of his command during the *Petersburg Campaign*.

4. Anne Carter Lee (*Annie*); (1839–1862); Death was not uncommon in those days and apart from battles, disease took far too many lives. *Anne* was to die of typhoid fever and remain unmarried. All of the *Lee* children were attractive, *Anne* being no exception; with her privileged upbringing she was typical of the planter class. As part of American nobility, her family was one of *Virginia's* elite. However, *Anne* was a sickly child, often visiting various natural springs in *Virginia* with her mother in search of healing benefits. Bad luck, if there is such a thing, dogged her. When she was seven, *Anne* suffered an eye injury and while at boarding school in 1857 was sent home with constant intestinal problems. *Anne* enjoyed teaching her young sister and also taught many of the enslaved

children on the family's plantation to read and write...against *Virginian* law at the time but often ignored.

When war came to *Virginia*, young *Annie* was sent with her sister *Agnes* to *Ravensworth*, their cousin's plantation in *Fairfax County, Virginia*. She took along the family silver and portraits for safekeeping. That spring, she joined her mother and sister at "*White House*" (mentioned earlier) along the *Pamunkey River*. When the Union army arrived, the family was placed under house-arrest but released when *General George B. McClellan*, revealing a chivalrous side to his character, arranged for them to be sent across the lines to join their father, *Robert E. Lee* in *Richmond*. When *Anne* died, 20 October 1862, her mother and sister were at her bedside. Upon learning of her death, her father wrote, "*To know that I shall never see her again on earth, that her place in our circle, which I always hope one day to rejoin, is forever vacant, is agonizing in the extreme.*" The love of a father for his daughter is very strong and divided by war made so much more painful. She was buried in *North Carolina*. In 1866, a group of women had an obelisk, known as "*Anne Carter Lee Monument*" built at her grave site. In 1994, members of the *Lee* family arranged for her remains to be brought to *Lexington, Virginia*, where she was re-interred in *University Chapel* alongside her loving father. Moving the remains provoked protest by local chapters of the *Sons of Confederate Veterans* and members of the *Military Order of the Stars and Bars*, but *Robert E Lee's* wishes to be reunited in the '*family circle*' was at last achieved in their final resting place.



Annie's short life was dogged by illness-Editor.



events including the war, the death of her favourite sister *Anne*, and of course the execution of her beau, *Lawrence Orton Williams*.

Attractive, *Agnes* (above) loved *Lawrence* (seen seated on the right with *Lt. W. G Peter* standing). Both executed as spies after a hurried Court Marshal-Editor.

5. Eleanor *Agnes Lee* (*Agnes*); (1841–1873); died of tuberculosis, unmarried. An American diarist and poet, she was affectionately called "*Wiggy*" and "*Agnes*" by her parents. In her youth, she kept a diary about life at *Arlington* but it wasn't until 1984 that the diary was published under the title "*Growing Up in the 1850s*". Considered one of the first and most detailed accounts of the private lives of the *Lee* family at *Arlington*. She was a prolific poet, often writing poems in letters to her family, inspired by real-life



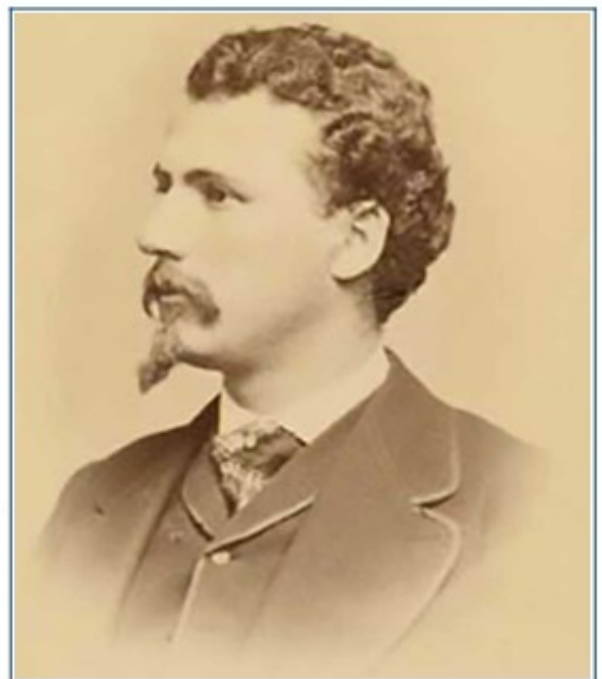
Lawrence Orton Williams and Eleanor Agnes Lee grew up together and were childhood sweethearts. After joining the army, Williams was transferred to the West to serve as aide to *General Leonidas Polk* and fought at the *Battle of Shiloh*. He fell out of favour when he killed an insubordinate private soldier and was transferred to artillery under *Braxton Bragg* where he changed his name to *Lawrence Williams Orton*. He claimed it was because his brother remained in the Union army but many think it was to avoid rumours that sprang up after the killing. This may certainly have influenced *Agnes* who was also a cousin on her mother's side. After rejection by *Agnes*, he married another woman, a *Mrs Lamb*.



On 8 June 1863 *Colonel Orton* (left) and his cousin, *Lieutenant Walter G. Peter*, were arrested by the US Army. They were behind Union lines in *Franklin, Tennessee*, dressed as Union officers, travelling under assumed names. They carried falsified papers claiming to be inspectors of the *U.S. Army*. Under questioning, the two gave their real names to the federal commandant, *Colonel John P. Baird*, of the *85th Indiana Volunteer Infantry*. Baird was ordered by *General William Rosecrans* to have them immediately tried by Court Martial. The court was convened at very short notice, sat during the night, and at three o'clock in the morning, 9th June, found the accused guilty of being spies. *Rosecrans* rejected pleas for clemency and ordered their immediate execution. It was carried out by hanging a mere six hours after the verdict. The nature of *Orton's* mission remains unclear. *Orton* claimed that both officers were on their way to *Canada* and *Europe* on some secret mission for the Confederacy but there were better ways of getting to those places. The execution of

Orton dismayed *General Lee*; although he conceded the officers were technically in violation of the *laws of war*, he believed clemency should have been shown. *Agnes Lee* never got over her grief, so deeply taken by the death of *Orton*, especially coming only a year after the death of her beloved sister *Annie*. Death haunted all families in those tragic times.

6. Robert Edward Lee, Jr. (*Rob*); (1843–1914); served in the Confederate Army, first as a private in the *Rockbridge Artillery*, later as Captain on the staff of his brother *Rooney*; married twice; surviving children by second marriage. When war broke out, his father and two older brothers, *Custis* and *Rooney*, chose to serve *Virginia*. How could you not defend your State? To his mother's dismay, *Rob Lee* joined them in 1862 when he enlisted in the artillery. During the *Battle of Sharpsburg* in September 1862, young *Robert* watched his father ride up to his artillery battery, that had already been heavily engaged. *Rob* stood by expecting to hear a few words of affection from his father, but the general didn't recognise his own son, hidden by the grime of black powder on his face. When *Rob* finally spoke up to ask if they would be thrown back into the fight, the general recognised his voice and replied, "Yes, my son. You must do what you can to drive those people back". After the *Maryland Campaign*, *Rob Lee* was promoted lieutenant and assigned as aide to his older brother *General William Henry Fitzhugh Lee*, rising to the rank of captain before the end of the war.



The family became alarmed near the end of the conflict when *Rob* disappeared for nearly a month. His horse had been wounded on the retreat from *Petersburg* and by the time he found another mount, Federals were between him and his father's army. So *Rob Lee* turned south and made it through the lines. He was in the room in *Greensboro, North Carolina*, when *Jefferson Davis* received word that *General Lee* had surrendered at *Appomattox*. *Rob Lee* also became a writer, gathering memories of his family and life in *"Recollections and Letters of General Robert E. Lee"* (1904). This first-hand account provides valuable insight on the day-to-day life at *Arlington House* during his youth, and includes many items of interest regarding his father's life. *Robert E. Lee Jr.* died 1914 and was interred with his parents and siblings in the *College Chapel*, now known as *University Chapel* with his father and brother *Custis*, each had served as a president of the college, now known as *Washington and Lee University*.



Robert Lee Jr. with his mother Mary (c.1845).



7. Mildred Childe Lee ("*Milly*", "*Precious Life*"); (1846–1905); unmarried. She had many suitors after the war but turned them all down, as none matched her father who she idolised. She said of her father, "*To me, he seems a Hero and all other men small in comparison.*" He relied on her to run the household after accepting the position as head of *Washington College* and they moved to *Lexington, Virginia*. He would often tease her about poor handwriting, poor culinary skills, her penchant for dispensing unwanted advice, and for her love of animals that led to a house filled with cats. They enjoyed taking horseback rides together. *Mildred "Precious Life" Lee* died of a stroke on 27 March 1905 while visiting *New Orleans*. For her passing, flags flew at half-mast throughout the South. War veterans and alumni from *Washington-Lee College* accompanied her coffin on the train to *Lexington*, there met by veteran delegations and members of the *United Daughters of the Confederacy*. She was placed in the crypt with her parents and her sister *Agnes*.

All the *Lee* children except *Annie* survived *General Lee*, they are all buried with their parents in the crypt of the *University Chapel* at *Washington and Lee University* in *Lexington, Virginia*. Seen here (right) is *Lee's* last residence, *President's House, Washington Lee University*. Odd man out is *General Fitzhugh Lee* (1835–1905), a Confederate general and later United States Army general in the *Spanish-American War*, he was *Gen. Lee's* nephew. Without doubt the entire *Lee*



family proved to be exceptional people and a family of which *General Robert E. Lee* must have been very proud. They all served their county to the best of their ability and at the time, fought for what they thought right and just.

Editor Footnote: On 5 November 1873, three years after the death of *Robert E Lee, Mary Anne Randolph Custis Lee* died aged 66. For most of the war, *Mary* was separated from her husband during which time she and her children were forced to stay with various family friends. Never able to return to her cherished *Arlington House* that had been seized by the U.S. government and after the war turned into a National Cemetery. In death, *Mary* joined he loved husband and was laid to rest in the *Lexington University Chapel*. There she remains with her entire family. While the war seemed to have an inevitable end, the men and women bravely fought on, suffering enormously. Their suffering didn't end there and followed soldiers as they desperately tried to return home through hostile territory. While the "*Robert E. Lee Day*" gives additional relevance to this excellent article provided by *Ed Quinlan*, I've never before read such a comprehensive study of the *Lee* family. I was particularly interested to learn that *Mary Custis Lee* had *Australian* connections, with *Hobart, Tasmania*. Now, it would be worth studying her visit here in more detail; that is the benefit of these *Bugle* stories, they entice you into further study and in so doing, make the *War Between the States* even more fascinating. Thanks for your diligence *Ed*, it's a story I would never have thought to bring together-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.