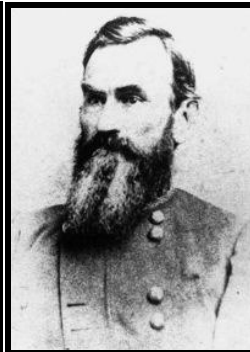


# The Delta General

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## Upcoming Events

Our May meeting will be a work meeting to prepare for the State Convention we are hosting

May 29-31, MS SCV / OCR Convention in Greenwood, MS

## COMMANDER'S CORNER

My Fellow Compatriots,

Our Camp capped off Confederate Heritage Month with its annual Confederate Memorial Service at the Greenville Cemetery on Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup>. As in years past, rain threatened but as in years past the rain gave way to a glorious day to honor our Confederate Ancestors. It has never rained on our Confederate Memorial. We dedicated a headstone to Lee Trotman, Private in Company D, 1<sup>st</sup> Mississippi Cavalry. What makes this stone unique is that it was retrieved from a junkyard where it had lain for several years. We may never know where Lee is buried but he is honored by preserving his headstone.

We are now in the home stretch for the Reunion. The Reunion program has been sent to the publisher and the medals should be here by the 15<sup>th</sup>. The next Camp Meeting will be used to tie up loose ends and nail down volunteers for the different jobs that weekend. Also, bring all Raffle Items to the Meeting so they can be turned over to the OCR since they will be conducting the raffle and they will decide how they will be raffled. Any last minute ideas will be welcome so be thinking. Let all of us do our best to welcome all SCV, OCR and other guest to the Reunion.

God Bless the South,

Dan A. McCaskill,  
Camp Commander

## ROBERT DUVAL STANDS UP TO WAL-MART

LOCUST GROVE, Va. (AP) — Academy Award-winning actor Robert Duvall has fired a verbal salvo against plans to build a Wal-Mart Supercenter near a Virginia Civil War battlefield where Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee first fought the Union's Ulysses S. Grant.

Duvall, who is a descendant of Lee, said he will help preservationists in "chasing out" the retailer from a site near the Wilderness Battlefield.

At a news conference on Monday, Duvall said he has no grudge against Wal-Mart but believes in capitalism coupled with sensitivity.

Duvall was joined by Congressmen Peter Welch of Vermont and Ted Poe of Texas, representing states that lost many lives at the Wilderness battle 145 years ago.

The Wal-Mart proposal must first be approved by Orange County supervisors.



## ATTENTION: Address Changes

If anyone in our Camp has a mailing address change, e-mail address change, or has not received their Newsletter; please contact Larry McCluney at 662-453-7212 or e-mail – [confederate@roadrunner.com](mailto:confederate@roadrunner.com)

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**MISSISSIPPI DIVISION NEWS:**

**REPORT ON DIVISION MEMORIAL SERVICE AND HERITAGE THREAT**

Compatriots,

I would like thank everyone who came out to celebrate the Confederate Memorial Day Ceremonies. It was a great day, exactly 143 years to the day of the first Mississippi observance in Columbus of Confederate Memorial day. The turn out was good for our camp service at the Gulfport Monument. We had guests from around the Division both in our Honor guard and in the audience. The speaker was a little long winded, but all in all, it was a great time. The Sam Davis Honor Guard did a great job posting the flags at the Beauvoir Service. The Honor Guard Committee is doing a great job. (Hat's off - James, David, Micah, Bryce , Tom and Steve). Beauvoir's Key speaker,



Division Commander McCluney gave a great speech on the importance of Memorial Day. I would like to give a special thanks to all those who participated in April's workday, our members worked on clearing a large fallen Magnolia tree on the Beauvoir grounds. There is plenty more to do and we will continue having our regularly scheduled workdays, Beauvoir needs us! As you read this, the State recognized Confederate Heritage Month, April has come to an end. But as we know, every day is Confederate Heritage day and we need to stay vigilant in our defense of our Heritage. Remember, we are of their blood and descendant of their deeds!

Senator David Baria, was on the Rip Daniels show on April 27, in which he agreed with Daniels that Confederate Memorial Day should be done away with and combined into Memorial day in May. Daniels used money being spent to close the state down for Confederate Memorial Day as a reason for getting rid of our heritage. This strategy will be used to convince the legislature to do away with Confederate Memorial Day. They will never stop until they have done away with or made it a hate crime to be Southern. If we as Southerners do not support what we have they will win.

State Senator David Baria, 46 District Hancock County

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S Fax: 601-359-5345 H 228-466-0815 W 228-270-0001

Beauvoir, April 25, 2009



**BEAUVOIR UPDATE**

Greetings from Beauvoir!

The painting of President Davis is back in place above the fireplace mantle in the front parlor. The art restoration in Beauvoir House is completed.

Bids have been awarded for the utilities(water, sewer, etc.) that will feed the new Jefferson Davis Presidential Library, work will begin in 10 days.Blueprints for the JDPL will be finished April 10, 2009. The Maintenance Department is remodeling the Guard Building at the entrance to Beauvoir. (

The Gift Shop keeps adding great items for everyone. Beauvoir is featured on the cover of the AT&T 2009 Phone Book! Yellow Pages Local Directory - [YELLOWPAGES.COM](http://YELLOWPAGES.COM) Stay tuned, more good news to come!

Rick Forte Sr.  
Chairman of the Combined Boards and Acting Director

## NATIONAL NEWS:

### UPDATE ON THE JEFFERSON DAVIS STATUE

The statue of Jefferson Davis and his two sons is nearing completion and the statue will be placed at Beauvoir in Biloxi, MS. Fund raising is continuing to proceed less quickly than the work on the statue. The cost of the project is approximately \$100,000, and the total contributions to date have reached \$45,616. The South Carolina Division has made the largest contribution of \$6001, closely followed by the Alabama Division at \$5100, the North Carolina Division at \$2000 and the Fayetteville NC Arsenal Camp 168 contributed \$2000 each, the Virginia Division \$1500, while a \$1000 contribution has been received from the Tennessee Division, \$1550 from Compatriot Reinhard Dearing (LA), \$1000 from Compatriot William D. Melton (AL), and the Louisiana Division has contributed \$500.

If you would like to make a contribution please go to this site <http://www.scv.org/pdf/DavisAppeal2008.pdf> to obtain the current letter from CiC Charles E. McMichael with a contribution return form.



## NEWS FROM THE GRAYLINE

The 114th SCV annual general reunion/convention will be held from July 22 through 25, 2009 at the Arlington Hotel, 239 Central Ave, Hot Springs AR 71901, (800) 643-1502. The registration fee is only \$60 to November 1, 2008 which includes a name badge, a reunion medal, program and discount tickets to rides and attractions in Hot Springs. The registration fee will increase to \$70 on November 1, 2008 and remain at that level until May 1, 2009. However, after May 1, 2009 you will be a late registration, which along with walk ins, are not guaranteed to receive any item other than a name badge as there may not be sufficient programs and reunion medals remaining. Please go to the convention site, <http://scv2009reunion.com/> for more details on the many wonderful opportunities that will be available for your entertainment in this historic resort city. Don't delay your registration.



**Important Notice** – If you or any of your Compatriots would like to receive occasional notices and announcements from the official SCV news source, the Telegraph, please visit <http://www.scv.org/maillistSubscription.php>. The Gray Line is only beingsent via email on the internet through the official SCV Telegraph! If any member of your camp would like to join the list to receive the SCV Telegraph please direct him to the link above where he can sign up for this service. He will need his SCV member number which can be found on the CV magazine address label. Please forward this Gray Line to all members of your camp as it contains useful information. The SCV currently has 29,004 members including 45 Real Sons and 3410 Life Members plus an additional 335 cadet members 86 Friends of the SCV. Please vigorously recruit new members and encourage current members to make the commitment to be long term members. An easy way to strengthen the SCV is to persuade former members of your camp to reinstate. If you would like a mailing list of your camp's dues delinquent former members, please contact the GHQ staff.

**New SCV Recruiting Awards** – The GEC has approved two new recruiting awards effective August 1, 2008. The David O. Dodd Award recognizes members who contribute greatly to the SCV's long term goals by recruiting new members who are age 18 or younger. The cut off date will be applications postmarked as of July 1, 2009 and each subsequent year. An application with more detail may be retrieved at this link: <http://www.scv.org/pdf/dodd.pdf> The General Jo Shelby Award recognizes any member who reinstates at least five dues delinquent former members during the year with the cut off date again being correspondence postmarked NLT July 1, 2009 and each subsequent year. An application with more detail may be obtained at this link: <http://www.scv.org/pdf/shelby.pdf>

**Friends of the SCV (FOSCV)** - TheFOSCV is a terrific way to recognize persons who support the SCV, but do not meet the requirements to qualify as a member. The General Executive Council (GEC) has approved the "Friends of the SCV" concept which has now come to fruition. For a minimum initial donation of \$40, the "Friend" receives a nice certificate suitable for framing, a FOSCV lapel pin and a one-year subscription to the Confederate Veteran magazine. Subsequent donations of \$30 or more each year will maintain the CV subscription and friendship. Please note that "Friends" are not SCV members, may not exercise any rights of membership to include claiming to be members. The "Friends of the SCV" application may be accessed on the SCV website at this link: [http://www.scv.org/pdf/FOSCV\\_MembershipApplication.pdf](http://www.scv.org/pdf/FOSCV_MembershipApplication.pdf) Camps which already have associate membership programs in place for their supporters who do not have Confederate ancestry are free to either participate in this program or continue their current system.

## TRUTH ON THE SCAFFOLD AND WRONG ON THE THRONE

"I am not one of those who, clinging to the old superstition that the will of heaven is revealed in the immediate results of 'trial by combat,' fancy that right must always be on the side of might, and speak of Appomattox as a judgment of God. I do not forget that a Suvaroff triumphed and a Kosciuszko fell; that a Nero wielded the scepter of empire and a Paul was beheaded; that a Herod was crowned and Christ was crucified. Instead of accepting the defeat of the South as a divine verdict against her, I regard it as but another instance of 'truth on the scaffold and wrong on the throne.' Robert Catlett Cave

### THE DAY ROBERT E. LEE CRIED Ó

By Curt Steger

I was there the day Robert E. Lee cried. It was Palm Sunday in 1865. I saw him don his finest uniform when the morning broke, and I heard the last artillery sounds and I saw the smoke.

I rode the last ride with him to meet his foe.  
He was Master Lee to us and we loved him so.

I saw him dismount Traveller at the McLean house and go in, and I thought of the battles this man and horse had fought to win.

There was a countenance about him as he waited for Grant to arrive that confirmed within my soul that he was the noblest man alive.

He was beaten but not defeated as he sat there and waited for that dreaded moment to occur that both he and The South hated.

He rose erect when the two foes in the parlor there did meet, and it was Lee that day that taught me that there can be dignity in defeat.

I watched him sign his honorable name and then be the first to depart.  
I saw his last duty done-I saw his heavy heart.

He stopped on the porch at the top of the steps to look across at his last battlefield, and I thought of this man's character and how it would be needed to help our country heal.

I saw the salutes from his former foes gathered there in the yard, and I thought of how his will to battle them had made their last four years so hard.

We rode back down that lane together to a different world, and I watched how his Army of Northern Virginia around him swirled.

Then I saw the saddest thing that ever a man's eyes could meet.  
I saw the tears of this great General roll down and off his cheek.

A sight I knew that I would never forget-the day I saw grown men cry;  
half starved and shoeless, yet still proud men lifting hats as he rode by.

Their devotion to him still in their eyes as each reached out to touch this famous rider they had fought for-this one they loved so much.

Then this man of character forever immortalized himself in Southern lore when he spoke to those gallant men there, "I have done the best I could for you. My heart is to full too say more."

And when our Cause was no more, I heard the last Rebel Yell and I thought of our great General of which one day the world will tell.

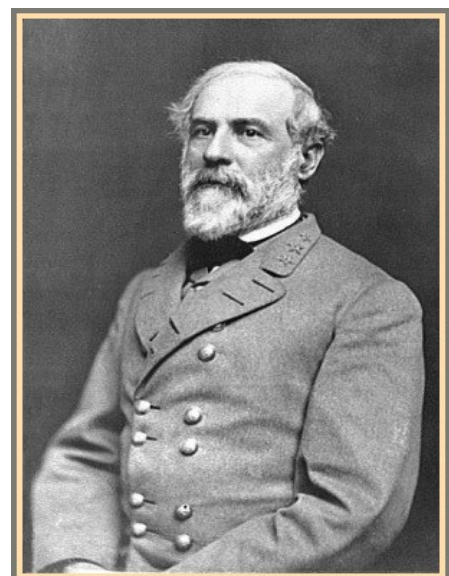
It is to the future generations I ask forgiveness for being unable to describe the sadness I felt deep inside me on the day Robert E. Lee cried.

The victors of the War of 1861-1865 declared the issues of State sovereignty and the right of secession settled by superior military force. However, the above wise words of Southern author Robert Catlett Cave cast the surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia in a different light. The brave soldiers in gray laid down their arms on that sad day in April of 1865, but not their principles. Indeed, the principles of fidelity to solemn covenants, maintained honor in the face of adversity, and self-government under God are as right as they are eternal.

The motto of the Confederate States of America says it all: Deo Vindice. The august Judge of all men will vindicate the right, if not in this world, then certainly on that Last Day in which all scores will be settled and the secret purposes of Providence will be made manifest.

Greg Durand, editor of 'The Rebel Yell',  
April 2009

Confederate History is American History too!



## FORT PEMBERTON . . . CONTINUED FROM THE APRIL ISSUE

Edward laughed. "As to War, sir, the feeling is reciprocal. He's of those personalities who do not improve on acquaintance. — Dear Fauquier! The family idolizes him now, if you like!"

"Yes, he 's of the finest. I knew him in Mexico. Gallant as they make them! — He has lost an arm." "Yes — at Sharpsburg."

"It's no little loss," said Loring. "By the way — you knew Maury Stafford ? "

"Yes."

"The word `Sharpsburg' brought him up. He was taken prisoner there — unfortunate fellow! There has been no exchange ?" "I have heard of none. They will not exchange."

"Infernal tactics! "

"It's all infernal. I have grown to see no sense in this war. North and South, we surely might have been wiser."

"That may be," said Loring. "But we are in it now and must act according to tradition. — Maury Stafford! — He was with me during that wretched, abortive, freezing, and starving Romney expedition. I was very fond of him. It aches me to think of him in prison." Edward sighed. "Yes, I am sorry, too." " Was he not," asked Loring, "was he not engaged to your sister?"

"No."

"Indeed ? I thought some one told me so... He has a fine nature."

"In many ways - yes."

"Well, we may be talking of the dead. No one seems to have heard. It 's like a tomb — prison! North and South, they die like flies. . . . Damn it all, such is war!"

" Yes, sir. . . . I beg your pardon, but is n't there something moving on the river — very far up, beyond that line of purple ? "

Loring whipped out his field-glass, looked, and rose from the driftwood. "Gunboats!" A bugle blew from the earth-and-cottonbale fort, drums began to roll. "Get to your places, men! If Grant thinks I am going to let him get by here, he's just mistaken, that's all!"

With three guns and fifteen hundred men and cotton-bale walls and the sunken Star of the West, Loring made good his words — though it was not Grant in front of him, but Grant's lieutenants. Two ironclads, two rams, seven tinclads crept up that night, anchoring above the sunken Star. Behind them came slowly on the transports with the forty-five hundred infantry. Dawn broke, and the gunboats, feeling their way, found the Star. Vexation and delay! They undertook to blow her up, and while they sank torpedoes the transports nosed along the river bank trying to find firm landing in a bottom country flooded alike by the spring rains and the far-away broken levee. They could not find it, and on board there was restlessness and complaining. The Star of the West was hard to raise. She clung fast, fought stanchly still for the Stars and Bars. The third day the Chillicothe and DeKalb got by, steamed down to the fort, and began a raking fire. The rams, too, and several of the tin-clads came wriggling through the clearance in the channel. There followed a three days' bombardment of the crazy fort, all hastily heaped earth and cotton bales, rude trenches, rough platforms for the guns, all squat in the marshy land, wreathed with cannon smoke, musket smoke, topped by the red square with the blue and starry cross! Behind the screen of the gunboats the transports sought continuously for some terra firma where the troops might land. They could not find it. All was swamp, overflowing waters, half-submerged trees. Above waved Spanish moss, swung vines spangled with sweet-smelling, satiny yellow bloom.

The smoke from the river, the smoke from Loring's three guns and fifteen hundred muskets met and blended, and, spreading, roofed out the cerulean, tender sky. Looking up, his men saw Loring, mature, imposing, standing high on the cotton-bale parapet, his empty sleeve pinned to his coat, gesturing with the remaining arm, about him the grey battle breath, above him the flag.

"Give them blizzards, boys! Give them blizzards!" roared Loring. (CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE)

# *The Delta General*

1412 N Park Dr  
Greenwood, MS  
38930

## Camp Officers

Commander  
(Adjutant) -  
Dan McCaskill

1st Lt Cmdr- Charles  
"Gator"Stillman

2nd Lt Cmdr-  
Claude Stillman

Color Sgt -  
Ralph Washington

## Appointed Officers:

Editor/Webmaster -  
Larry McCluney

Chaplain -  
Earl McCown, Jr.

Sgt-at-Arms -  
Thomas Haik



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Fort Pemberton Continued from page 5 . . .

The most daring of the transports put a party ashore. But what to do? They struck out toward the fort and plunged waist deep into a mocking slough of the forest. Out of this they crossed a bank like mud turtles, and came into the wide overflow of a bayou. Beyond was a tangle of cane and vine, and here they began to feel the bullets of hidden grey sharpshooters. Beyond the cane was a cypress swamp, impossible twisted roots, knees, and hummocks; between, deep threads of water and bottomless black mire. Miserable and useless fight with an earth like this ! The party turned, got back — torn, bemired, panting with fatigue — to the transports, ranged behind the gunboats and the cloud of smoke and the thunder of the iron men. Night came down, the smoke parted, stars shone out.

Dawn came, and the battle renewed itself. Red flashes tore the mist on the Tallahatchie and the roaring sound made the birds flee the woodland. The gunboats worked hard, all unsupported by the blue infantry. The officers of the last stamped upon the transports' decks. So near and yet so far! After weeks of tortoise crawling! Try again! Boats were lowered, filled, sent up bayous, along creeks spiralling like unwound thread, or brought alongside some bit of bank with an air of firmness. Vain! The bit of bank gave and gave under the cautious foot; the bayou spilled out upon plains of black mire in which you sank to the middle; the creeks corkscrewed away from Fort Pemberton. . . . In the afternoon the Chillicothe got a shell through her sides. The day went down in thunder and sulphurous cloud, the fleet belching broadsides, Fort Pemberton loudly replying, Loring on the ramparts shouting, "Give them blizzards, boys! Give them blizzards!"

In the morning the Rattler turned and went back to the Cold-water, Yazoo Pass, and the Mississippi, in her cabin Watson Smith commanding the expedition, ill for days and now like to die. His second took command and the third day's struggle began. But the Chillicothe again was roughly handled, and certain of the tinclads were in trouble. A ram, too, had lost her smokestack and carried a ragged hole just above her water line. And the infantry could not land, — gave up the attempt. All day the boats on the Tallahatchie and the courtesy fort crouched on her eastern bank roared and tugged. " Yaaiah ! Yaaaih ! Yaaiahh !" rose the grey shouting through the rolling smoke. Loring, slightly wounded, came out of a crazy tent at the back of the enclosure, crossed the encumbered space, and mounted again the cotton bales. The men cheered him loud and long. "Old Blizzard! Old Blizzard! Yes, sir! Yes, sir! We're going to give them snow, rain, hail, and sleet!"

The day weltered by, the rays of the sunset struck through powder-stained air. Then came silence, and a thinning of smoke, and at last the stars. On the DeKalb was held a council of war. The Chillicothe badly hurt, the commander of the expedition ill, sent back upon the Rattler, Quinby's men not yet up, Ross's quite unable to land, sickness, tedium, dissatisfaction, Heaven knew what going on in the Mississippi while they had been lost for endless weeks in a no-thoroughfare of half earth, half water, overhung by miasmas! The boats alone could not reduce this fort, and infantry that could not land was no better than infantry in the moon! Go back without anything gained ? Well, the knowledge was gained that Vicksburg could n't be taken this way — and the guns had probably blown out of existence some scores of rebels!

Continued in the June Issue