



# TRAVELLER



The official publication of the General Robert E. Lee Camp #1640

Sons of Confederate Veterans, Germantown, Tennessee

*Duty, Honor, Integrity, Chivalry*

*Deo Vindici*

**June, 2013**

## CAMP MEETING

**June 10, 2013**

**Speaker: Mr. John Greene**

**Topic: "A short program on a past President of the United States, Mr. A. Lincoln"**

Also,

**Lt Commander Mark Buchanan will present "The Charge"**

**A presentation on what the Confederacy meant and what we need to do preserve the heritage and memory of the Confederate Soldier.**

**7:00 p.m. at the Germantown Regional History and Genealogy Center  
Don't miss our next camp meeting.**

## Notes from the Field

Submitted by Lt. Commander Mark Buchanan



**Typescript of a portion of a letter from Samuel V. Fulkerson to his sister-in-law.**

1862 June 14 37<sup>th</sup> Virginia Infantry

Discussion of Stonewall Jackson.

I wrote Kate a few days ago giving her an account of our late troubles and victories on the 8th and 9th instants. We are now five or six miles from the

battlefields. After the rout of Shields' column on the 9th General Fremont became alarmed and retreated down the valley, and the last I heard of him he was at New Market. Jackson could have put him to total rout on the 9th if he had not been attending to Shields. This is the second day we have been at this place, but I think it is more than probable that we will be on the march again tomorrow. We thinking that two days of quiet at one place is a wonderful resting spell.

Our general will certainly not give us much time while there is an enemy to meet. He is a singular man and has some most striking military traits of character and some that are not so good. A more fearless man never lived and he is remarkable for his industry and energy. He is strictly temperate in his habits and sleeps very little. Often while near the enemy, and while every body except the guards are asleep, he is on his horse and gone, nobody knows where. I often fear that he will be killed or taken. Our men curse him for the hard marching he makes them do, but still the privates of the whole army have the most unbounded confidence in him. They say he can take them into harder places and get them out better than any other living man and that he cannot be caught asleep or taken when awake.

But they came very near getting him on the 8th. If it had not been for the promptness and boldness of my regiment the whole army would have been in a bad fix. He is an ardent Christian. On the 8th when he ordered me to charge through the bridge and take the enemy's guns at the other end, he turned his horse around, raised both hands, closed his eyes and prayed till the guns were taken and the enemy put to flight. All this has at least a good moral influence over the men."

Shortly thereafter Gen. Jackson wrote:

Mr. F.M. Fulkerson (*father, italics mine*)

Sir

In reply to your letter of the 7th ult. permit me to say that Col. S.V. Fulkerson was an officer of distinguished

worth. I deeply felt his death. He rendered valuable service to his country, and had he lived, would probably have been recommended by me before this time for a brigadier generalcy. So far as my knowledge extends, he enjoyed the confidence of his regiment and all who knew him.

I am Sir your obdt. servt  
T.J. Jackson

(Sam V. Fulkerson was a member of the Virginia Military Institute Board of Visitors from 1852-1854 and from 1857-1858. During the war, he served as Colonel of the 37th Virginia Infantry Regiment. Samuel was killed in the Battle of Gaines's Mill on June 27, 1862)

## Gaines' Mill

Hanover County, Virginia, June 27, 1862

Though his men had held their ground against repeated Confederate assaults, the sudden display of Southern aggressiveness at the Battle of Beaver Dam Creek shook Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan's confidence in his plan to capture Richmond. The June 26 battle and the belief that Stonewall Jackson's troops were still lurking somewhere off to his right and rear convinced McClellan that his lengthy supply train with its heavy siege guns were vulnerable to attack. In the pre-dawn hours of June 27, 1862 the commander of the Army of the Potomac issued a flurry of orders to his subordinates to move or abandon their supply trains and make a beeline for the James River where they would be protected by artillery fire from naval gun boats. Though he would never admit it, McClellan was retreating; the campaign to take Richmond was over.

To his most trusted subordinate, Fifth Corps commander Fitz-John Porter, McClellan assigned the task of holding the Federal line north of the Chickahominy River. Dawn broke over Porter's men as they abandoned their position along Beaver Dam Creek and withdrew to a new line behind marshy creek called Boatswain's Swamp. Here the Fifth Corps infantrymen were arrayed in an arc roughly one and three-quarters of a mile long while Yankee artillery stood guard over the bridges across the Chickahominy. Though slightly weaker than the position on the 26th, the Boatswain's Swamp was still a rather formidable obstacle, and the largely open farmland of the Watt, Adams, and McGehee families provided excellent fields of fire. With his troops aligned for battle, Porter was determined to withstand whatever the Rebels threw at him, "even to my destruction."

Gen. Robert E. Lee was determined to take advantage of the opportunity in front of him. His first offensive stroke

as commander of the Army of Northern Virginia had prompted his opponent to surrender the initiative. Now Porter's entire corps was isolated north of the Chickahominy and Lee intended to destroy it. The Virginian sent word to Stonewall Jackson to link up with the main force before advancing on the Chickahominy.

A series of disjointed assaults by the divisions of A. P. Hill and D. H. Hill demonstrated the strength of the Federal position and yielded some of the highest casualties the war had yet seen. Additional troops under Richard S. Ewell and James Longstreet also pitched into the fray, but were unable to breach the Yankee line. Meanwhile, Porter's men held firm but were badly in need of reinforcement. Unfortunately, troops from the Sixth Corps had destroyed the nearest bridge over the Chickahominy, thus preventing the reinforcements from arriving in a timely fashion. When elements of the Sixth and Second corps finally arrived, it was too little too late. By then Jackson's men had arrived on the field and lent their weight to a twilight assault that ultimately overran the Union line.

Only darkness prevented a total catastrophe. Under the cover of night, Porter's men limped across the Chickahominy and set fire to the bridges behind them. The third of the Seven Days had ended in a resounding Confederate victory.



### SCV LIFE MEMBERS ROSTER

T. Tarry Beasley II	T. Tarry Beasley III
Winston Blackley	Eugene Callaway
John Cole	W. Kent Daniel Jr.
James Anthony Davis	Hubert Dellinger Jr., MD
H. Clark Doan	Eugene Forrester
Robert Freeman	Donald Harrison
Frederick Harrison	Frank Holeman
M. Gary Hood	William P Hunter, Jr.
Bobby Lessel	Jerry C. Lunsford
Frank M. McCroskey	Steve McIntyre
Arthur Oliver	Charles Wendell Park
Steve Reason	Bill Simmons
Larry J. Spiller, Jr.	Larry J. Spiller, Sr.
Osborn Turner, IV	Charles L Vernon
William C. Wilson	

*41 % of active member*

# Confederate Silver Dollar

*Coin in plastic sleeve \$65.00 ea.  
Coin encased in plastic \$75.00 ea.  
Add \$20.00 for shipping & handling*

*\*Price subject to change with market fluctuation.  
Call for live quotes*



*The coin itself is one troy ounce of .999 fine silver. It was minted in Washington State by the Northwest Territorial Mint (NWTM).*

*One side of the coin features the Great Seal of the Confederacy, showing Colonial George Washington astride his horse. The other side of the coin was designed in 2002. The scripture "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord" is from Psalm 33:12 and celebrates the strong Christian faith and tradition of the old South. The centerpiece is an eagle from a U.S. 1830s silver half-dollar, a coin in circulation during the war. The Breastplate or shield has the "Stars and Bars" of the battle flag with CSA (Confederate States of America) above.*

*Much history rests in this coin. It can be kept as a treasured keepsake or given as a gift.*

## **YOURS FREE**

*With a new member  
brought in by yourself*

*Lee Camp Members Only*

*See Camp Commander  
for more information  
Tarry Beasley*

Visit our website @ [www.atlanticbullionandcoin.com](http://www.atlanticbullionandcoin.com)

## Commander's Corner

Gentlemen,

MAY'S CAMP MEETING was good with a presentation by Fred Lincoln from the Forrest Camp on General Hardee. An update as to the continuing City of Memphis against the Parks and Citizens was given by our Lt Commander Mark Buchanan. He promised more to come... and it did in the form of a law suit filed by the Citizens to Save Our Parks on May 29<sup>th</sup> so I am sure Mark will have more to relay to us at our meeting this month. There were 38 at the meeting and the room is getting full! GREAT! You need to be there.

GERMANTOWN TOUR 2013 has been accomplished. There were over 100 participants who assisted in the production of the event. In over 40 years of doing shows, events, balls and reenactments I have never heard of or had the unsolicited comments and praise that the Tour created. Even today two weeks after the event I received an email thanking us for putting the event on and asking about next year. I am proud of each and every one of you and the many, many volunteers we had from all over who helped carry the day for us. Our little camp of 80 could not have possibly done it by ourselves. We had help from all the SCV camps, Forrest, Chalmers, Wig Fall Grays and several other SCV members, the Germantown Garden Club, the GPAC guild, the City of Germantown and friends and literally neighbors of ours and other participants of the Tour. It is a shame that some of you missed the opportunity to help or to even attend the event, but none the less it was fantastic. We had individuals as they came back to the Pickering Center after the Tour track many of us down to thank us for doing it and explain how much they enjoyed it commenting on all of the Tour stops in very positive and glowing terms. I am really proud of your work men. Thanks to each of you who assisted and especially Mike Daugherty, Clark Doan, Don Harrison, Jack and Betty Werne, Mark Buchanan, Sid Witherington and Bankhead's Battery along with the 51st Regimental String Band, and the Infantry.

The Captains of each stop are having an After Action Meeting and will report to you their conclusions and share with you some of the information from each of their stops later. (See Attached photos)

CANNON CARRIAGES have been procured from Shiloh National Military Park for our long fought for Project to replace the mock "cannons" in Fort Germantown. The carriages are to be picked up on June 13th at Shiloh and taken to the Southern Painting Co.

(who else but Southern) for cleaning patching and painting as needed to restore them for another 100 years of service. We will need to raise some bucks for this as the painting and repair is anticipated to run \$1,500.00. Later we will also need to solicit and raise about \$16,000 for the cannon barrels to place on the carriages. During the Tour the current President of the home owners association around Fort Germantown introduced himself to me and was ecstatic about the tour and this project to place "real" cannons in the park on correct carriages and is offering to help raise the funds necessary to do so. We also have a written signed, notarized and recorded in the Register's office of Shelby County an agreement that this camp owns the carriages and can take possession of them if they are not displayed correctly etc.

VISITORS are always welcome to our meeting but they do not know we are meeting, who we are or what we do. The only way they can determine that information is if YOU invite them to our meetings. Please do so. A high percentage of those that visit one or more times join us as members. Make a friendly gesture to your friends and ask them to our next meeting.

NEXT MEETING Monday June the 10th at 7:00 p.m.  
The Ten Gen Library 7779 Poplar Pike

Tarry Beasley, Commander  
American by Birth  
Southern and Saved by the Grace of God

### *Photographs from the 2013 Germantown Historic Tour*



**RE Lee Camp Commander Tarry Beasley** assists **Germantown Mayor Sharon Goldsworthy** in cutting the ribbon to signal the beginning of the inaugural **Germantown Historic Tour**.



**Top Left: Germantown Historic Tour** hosts and hostesses (from left to right) **Fred and Paula Lincoln** with **Betty and Jack Werne**.



**Bottom Left: 52<sup>nd</sup> Regimental String Band** musicians (from left to right) **Dave Eason** and **Lee Millar** provide authentic period tunes as **Fred Lincoln** lends an ear.

**Above: Commander Beasley** does his part to restore friendly relations between North and South – in gracious forbearance from the use of actual shot and shell the Commander chooses merely to photo bomb Yankee **General Ulysses S Grant**.

**Traveller** is the monthly newsletter of:

The General Robert E. Lee Camp #1640  
Sons of Confederate Veterans  
and  
The Mary Custis Lee Chapter,  
Order of the Confederate Rose  
P.O. Box 171251  
Memphis, Tennessee 38187

Steve M. McIntyre, Editor



**Next Camp Meeting \*\* June 10, 2013**  
**Germantown Regional History and Genealogy Center, 7779 Old Poplar Pike, Germantown, TN**