



# TRAVELLER

Award Winning Publication of the General Robert E. Lee  
Camp, #1640

Sons of Confederate Veterans, Germantown, TN  
Duty, Honor, Integrity, Chivalry  
DEO VINDICE!

**November, 2015**



## CAMP MEETING November 9, 2015

**Speakers: Dr. Bradford Waters**

**Topic: The CSS Shenandoah**

**7:00 p.m. at the at the Germantown Regional  
History and Genealogy Center**

**Don't miss our next meeting!**

**NOVEMBER 19, 1863 - THE GETTYSBURG  
ADDRESS: A DAY WHICH SHALL FOREVER  
LIVE IN INFAMY**



The Gettysburg National Cemetery was dedicated by President Abraham Lincoln a brief four months after the Battle. Lincoln's speech lasted two minutes, and what came to be known as the "Gettysburg Address" read as follows:

"Four score and seven years ago, our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation: conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

Now we are engaged in a great civil war. . .testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and

so dedicated. . . can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war.

We have come to dedicate a portion of that field as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

But, in a larger sense, we cannot dedicate. . .we cannot consecrate. . . we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember, what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced.

It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us. . .that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion. . . that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain. . . that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom. . . and that government of the people. . .by the people. . .for the people. . . shall not perish from the earth. "

Since Mr. Lincoln worded everything very carefully in order to make his actions seem legal (and few of them were), let's break this speech that everyone thinks is so great down point by point. Any other President would have been impeached for trying to do what Lincoln did, but his Congress and Court turned a blind eye to it. Now his actions have set precedents for a long list of Presidential actions to steal or limit Constitutional freedoms and future Congresses and Supreme Court judges to chip away at the Bill of Rights and trample the Constitution to the point that we in America have no idea what freedom is any more. Yes, he was a master politician, rivaled only by our current President in long term damage that he did to our country.

In the first paragraph: "Four scores and seven years ago" is a reference to the Declaration of Independence. Here he honors it as a great beginning put forth by our forefathers, most of which involved in the writing of that document were SOUTHERNERS. So we in the South knew some things about what Independence should be. The Southern States, while they didn't feel it was necessary because by the constitution they were each independent and sovereign states, each wrote and submitted to the United States Government a similar document to declare their own independence from the Central Government of the United States, which Lincoln would not accept. So he glorifies secession from England but rejects anybody who would dare secede from him.

In the second paragraph, "Now we are engaged in a great civil war..." no, Mr. Lincoln, we were not. A civil war, by definition, is a war between citizens of the same state or country contending for control of the same government. The South had no designs on Washington whatsoever and only wished to be left alone. What we were engaged in was an illegal, undeclared war against former states that had formed a new de facto nation, therefore a separate government or nation that constitutionally required a declaration of war by Congress that was never issued. In fact, the term "civil war" was used specifically to confirm all that the North ever claimed, to make the South guilty of treason, and is in fact completely untrue to the facts in the case. The term "civil war," while incorrect as even a simple definition of the struggle, also does a gross injustice to the South by downgrading her struggle for a national existence into a partisan conflict. So no, that's another lie that is permanently enshrined in the Lincoln Memorial, which should in total be dumped in the Potomac.

In the third paragraph, "those who here gave their lives that that nation might live." Yes, absolutely. It is certainly appropriate to honor the war dead, except I'm pretty sure he didn't intend to include the Confederates who gave their lives for the same reason. Horace Greeley of the New York Tribune correctly summed this up when he wrote, "We must ever resist the asserted right of any State to remain in the Union and nullify or defy the laws thereof; to withdraw from the Union is another matter. And when a section of our Union resolves to go out, we shall resist any coercive acts to keep it in. We hope never to live in a Republic where one section is pinned to the other section by bayonets." Which is exactly what we ended up with.

And finally in the last paragraph, the biggest lie of the entire two minute speech: "that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom. . . and that government of the people. . . by the people. . . for the people. . . shall not perish from the earth. " I would argue that first of all, if you are not free to leave, you aren't free at all. But now, with Free Speech Zones, the new wave of Political Correctness, use of terms like "Inclusion" and "diversity" to exclude and shut down dissenting voices that we no longer know what freedom is, in fact live under a false shell of a democracy. As stated by H.L. Mencken, "The only thing wrong with Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address was that it was the South, not the North, that was fighting for a government of the people, by the people and for the people." Well, it wasn't the only thing, as noted above but it was the key element. And Lincoln paved the way for all of it.

There will be Remembrance Days, and hourly commentary of Lincoln's greatness on all the 24-hour news channels, but to wrap up, here's a quote from writer Lewis Goldberg who accurately summed up the whole thing: "Lincoln's war implied, and the Gettysburg Address set to words, a firm message to the States of the Union - 'I love you all, and if you leave me, I'll hunt you down and kill you.' The Address was not the sagely comments of a wise statesman, rather the vain, obsessive rantings of a power-hungry demon engaging in a blood-thirsty mission of self-aggrandizement, no matter the volume of corpses required to attain it."

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## Mounds Bayou, Mississippi

By Carol Glayre



Has anyone heard of Davis Island, or Mounds Bayou, Mississippi? Milliken's Bend?

I first heard of Mound Bayou, MS in 1966. At the time, I was a terminal agent for a mobile home transport company. I received an order to ship 16 units in a certain number order to arrive at a precise time. In questioning this, I was told that it was to

become a mobile hospital. Duke University was going to study the occupants of this town. He said the land had been willed by a plantation to his slaves. And because he was afraid they would be swindled out of it, he stated they could never sell, but pass it down. Because of this and the resulting in-breeding, it had the highest rate of inherited diseases in the nation. I learned later in researching that this was not entirely accurate.

Mounds Bayou is located on land that once belonged to Joseph Emory Davis and his brother Jefferson Fini Davis. It was a peninsular along the Mississippi River and until a canal cut across it, for flood control, later caused the river to divert its channel and made the land area an island, it was called Davis Bend. It is now referred to as Davis Island.

Joseph was older than Jefferson by about 24 years, he being the oldest, and Jefferson, the youngest of 10 children of Samuel Emory Davis and Jane Cook. A. Samuel Davis, a Revolutionary War Patriot, migrated to Louisiana in 1810 and built a plantation near Woodville, MS, which he named Rosemount.

Samuel Davis died on a trip to Hurricane Plantation, on Davis Bend, the home of Joseph Emory Davis in 1824. Jefferson was 14 at the time and Joseph was 24 years his senior. Joseph, being the oldest of the children and Jefferson being the youngest, he became his father figure and Mentor.

While serving in the Northwest, Jefferson fell in love with the daughter of his commanding officer, Colonel Zachary Taylor, Sarah Scott Taylor. Because the Colonel knew the rigors of a military life on a woman, he objected to their marriage. In order for Jefferson to marry Sarah, Jefferson resigned from the military service to pursue a life as a civilian.

The Taylors relented and they were married at Louisville, KY on June 17, 1835. The marriage was short lived. Three months later on September 15, 1835, Sarah died of Malaria. Jefferson was devastated and went into seclusion until 1845.

It is said that Joseph “brokered” the marriage between his brother and Varina Howell. Like his first marriage, her family was against the union. Varina was 19 and Jefferson was 47, only 3 years older than her mother. But on February 26, 1845, they were married at Natchez, MS.

Joseph Emory Davis was a very successful plantation owner. At the time his holdings were numerous. He

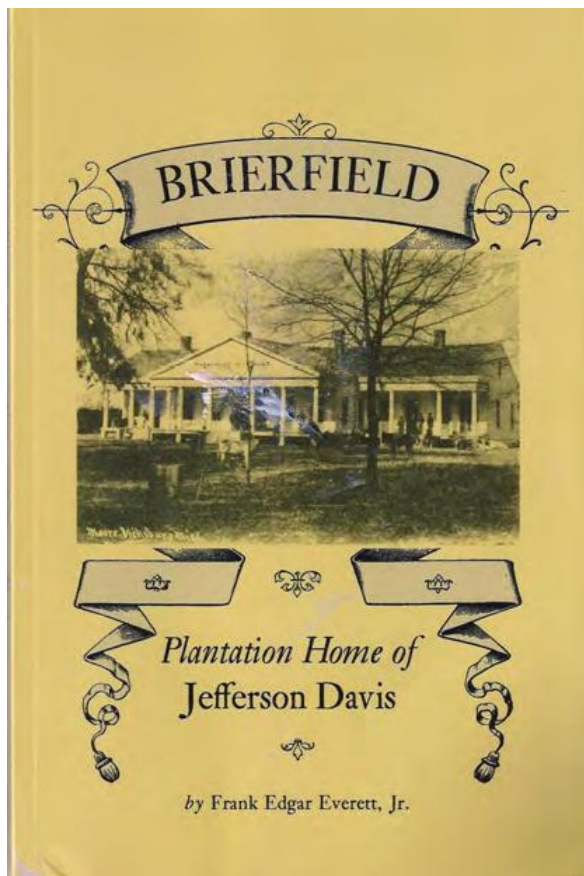
divided from his plantation, *Hurricane*, which embodied 6900 acres, parcel consisting of 2320 acres. This was to be Jefferson’s Plantation home. He also was provided the funds for purchase of numerous slaves necessary to operate a plantation of more than 2000 acres.

Because the land was located on the Mississippi River, the area was covered with thick vegetation. Upon his arrival by boat the landing was a ways from the high land. He and his bride had to tromp through large briars for some distance. Sarah named their holdings Brierfield and the name stuck. The adjoining plantations were located in a bend of the river 20 miles below Vicksburg. In 1845, Varina Howell Davis erected a large frame house on the property. It became the family

home. Although they lived and raised their family there, Joseph, an attorney, never did give Jefferson a title or acknowledge the gift publicly. So, legally both the land and the servants belonged to Joseph. Ironically, neither of the two chief players of the war were slave owners in 1861.

The house was, a one story wooden structure, consisting of 2280 square feet. It had a large porch leading to a central hall with identical rooms and layout on each side. This was originally to be the home of both Jefferson’s family and his widowed sister. However, over the combined objections of both women, it became the Davis home.

Brierfield was a working plantation, besides the main house, there were 3 large cisterns to store rainwater, 20 slave cabins, a cottage and multiple storage and work sheds.



With the land and slaves, it became very profitable and provided a comfortable living. Although he left for long periods of time he considered this his primary residence and returned to it when he resigned from the Senate. But, he was not able to stay very long. While working in the rose garden of Brierfield, he received the news that he was to go to Montgomery to accept the appointment as President of the Confederate States of America.

During his many absences, his brother Joseph managed both plantations. Joseph ran his plantation in a most unusual manner for the time. He did not allow his people to be slaves, but servants. He provided a school, hospital and dental care for them. They were allowed to earn money by crafts or whatever they could and keep it. They had a court of their own people and metered out their own sentences. He did not allow anyone to be whipped.

The field hands had better working conditions, comfortable housing, were adequately housed and clothed and had better health and dental care than that known of poor whites.

He encouraged his "servants" to become literate and one in particular, Benjamin Thornton, was quick to achieve a high level of education. He had access to the Davis Library and all periodicals that came to the plantation. Joseph allowed Benjamin to set up a mercantile on the plantation and keep the profits. He was able to buy his wife, Mary Montgomery from slavery, and also became very profitable. Benjamin along with the others was able to travel away from the plantation. They had so much freedom that Joseph neighbors referred to his slaves as "Joe Davis's freedmen". Benjamin frequently traveled to New Orleans to purchase merchandise for his store and also supplies for the plantations. He managed the cotton trans-actions for both *Hurricane* and *Brierfield*.

During the war, the plantations were looted by both Union and Southern armies and many of the possessions destroyed. Although they burned *Hurricane* to the ground, giving the inhabitants only 30 minutes to evacuate the only surviving building was the detached library. For some reason, *Brierfield* was spared. Could it be that it was occupied by Yankee troops? Can't you see some Northern private going back North bragging that he had slept in Jefferson Davis's bedroom. Although it may have only been on the floor.

Grant used Davis Bend to set up a utopian experiment for slave refugees. It was dubbed "General Grant's Negro Paradise." It was soon

separated into land parcels of from 5 to 100 acres. With the end of the war, their great experiment ended.

After the war, Joe Davis and other Davis Bend planters were pardoned (except Jefferson who was imprisoned for 2 years) and all the lands restored to them.

In answering a query, after the war, as to whom Brierfield belonged, he stated "The title is in me". Although he never gave a deed to family, when presenting land, there is some speculation as to whether he did this to protect Brierfield from confiscation.

Joseph, now elderly and insolvent, leased the land to Benjamin and his son, Isaiah Montgomery. Then in an unprecedented turn of events sold it to his former slaves for \$300,000 with very liberal terms. This made them the largest cotton producers in the region and one of the first black millionaires in the country.

The Montgomery's enjoyed the luxuries of large plantation owners until 1881. It was a hard time for all Southern planters and the economics of the times over-took them. In 1881, they were bankrupt and could not keep up the payments on the land and it reverted back to the Davis Family. Both Ben and Mary died in 1877 and are buried in the Davis Cemetery located on *Hurricane* plantation land in Warren County, MS.

In 1887, Isaiah and his cousin, Benjamin Green, founded the town of Mounds Bayou. It became a refuge for blacks in a hostile world. Reflecting the self-segregating attitude of blacks during the Jim Crow period, Isaiah liked to boast that "Not a single white resided in or owned property in the Mounds Bayou's limits."

So what Joseph Davis envisioned years earlier that his "servants" could be self-sustaining and self-governing had come to be, although in a slightly different way. He allowed his people to be thinking, self-reliant, and industrious and believed that education was important to all.

So much is known about Jefferson Davis's residence at Beauvoir after the war and so little about Brierfield, that most think it was his forever home.

The house remained intact until 1931 when it burned to the ground. The property is now a private hunting preserve. Another holy shrine of the Confederacy to be misused.

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## **THIS MONTH IN CONFEDERATE HISTORY**



November 3, 1816 – Gen. Jubal Early born  
November 6, 1861 – Jefferson Davis re-elected President of the CSA  
November 7, 1861 – Capture of Port Royal, VA  
November 8, 1861 – “The Trent Affair” (capture of CSA

diplomats)

November 9, 1825 – Gen. A.P. Hill born

November 23-25, 1863 – Battle of Chattanooga

November 28, 1861 – Missouri formally admitted to Confederacy

November 29, 1864 – Battle of Spring Hill

November 30, 1864 – Battle of Franklin

### **A NOTE FROM YOUR BRIGADE COMMANDER**

Mark Buchanan

Headquarters Army of the Mississippi

Corinth, Miss., April 3, 1862

Soldiers of the Army of the Mississippi:

I have put you in motion to offer battle to the invaders of your country. With the resolution and disciplined valor becoming men fighting, as you are, for all worth living or dying for, you can but march to a decisive victory over Agrarian mercenaries, sent to subjugate and despoil you of your liberties, property and honor. Remember the precious stake involved. Remember the dependence of your mothers, your wives, your sisters and your children on the result. Remember the fair, broad, abounding land, the happy homes, and ties that will be desolated by your defeat. The eyes and hopes of 8,000,000 people rest upon you. You are expected to show yourselves worthy of your valor and lineage; worthy of women of the south, whose noble devotion to this war has never been exceeded in any time. With such incentives to brave deeds and with the trust that God is with us, your generals will lead you confidently to the combat, assured of success.

A.S. Johnston,  
General Commanding.



Thus with this letter to his men, General Johnston went into the Battle of Pittsburg Landing. Johnston was greatly revered by many. However, the Fall of Forts Donelson, Henry, the loss of Kentucky, Columbus, Island 10, and Nashville, had sorely tested the nation’s confidence in him. President Davis, a personal friend of Johnston from Transylvania College in Kentucky was forced to defend him in Richmond. In his letters to Davis he was apologetic, yet confident that all could be righted if he were able to concentrate his forces and strike before the Union army could consolidate. Thus with this message to the men of the Army of the Mississippi, he hoped to kindle every spark of patriotism, hope, and confidence. He was successful. In spite of weather, poor logistics and maps, green troops and commanders, the Army of Tennessee were masters of the field of battle as long as he led them. With a tin cup as his only spoil of war he drove the invader to the brink of the Tennessee River. We don’t know how things would have turned out had he lived. But knowing that he gave his all for his country should inspire us all to do all we can to preserve the memory of the Confederate Soldier.

Ask yourself, have you done ALL you can? Have you written just one e-mail? One letter? Have you called your legislator? Have you attended meetings or gone to historical events? Have you mentioned what has been happening to your monuments to your friends, coworkers and family? Have you thought about attending the Confederate Memorial services at Elmwood and Mount Pleasant? Over 5,000 dedicated compatriots once attended these events! Now there are fewer than 30. If WE don’t support these events and those people making the effort to defend our heritage; the legislators, the media, and the public will see this. They will know who cares and who doesn’t. Our enemies are in the news daily, attacking us and crowing about their victories. We need to stand and be counted. I urge you to go back to the letter Johnston wrote to his men at the beginning of this message. Read what he had to say. We are again in the heat of battle.

We are again asked to defend what we hold dear. Those boys on that cold morning in April so long ago did not shy away from their duty, neither shall we!

Deo Vindice!

Mark Buchanan  
Memphis Brigade Commander, TN Div, Army of Tennessee, SCV

## DID YOU KNOW?

Beecher Smith

### **CONFEDERATE GEN. EARL VAN DORN: THE GOOD, THE BAD & THE UGLY**



In studying the life of Earl Van Dorn (September 17, 1820 - May 7, 1863), one must conclude that he was nothing if not colorful.

Unfortunately, like so many other great men, he was deeply flawed. Today we might say that if we could buy him for what he was worth, then sell him for what he thought he was

worth, all our financial problems would be over for the rest of our lives.

Earl Van Dorn was born near Port Gibson, Mississippi, on September 17, 1820, to Sophia Donelson Caffery, a niece of Andrew Jackson, and Peter Aaron Van Dorn, a lawyer and judge. He married Caroline Godbold in December 1843. They had one son, Earl Jr., and one daughter, Olivia. Some believe that Van Dorn fathered other children through adulterous affairs prior to, and possibly during, the [Civil War](#). Graduating fifty-second of fifty-six cadets from West Point in 1842, Van Dorn was assigned to an infantry regiment at Fort Brown, Texas, prior to participating in the Mexican War. During the conflict, he was awarded a brevetted captaincy for actions at Cerro Gordo, Mexico, and the rank of major for his actions at Contreras and Churubusco, Mexico, in 1847.

After the war, Van Dorn's military experience centered on fighting [Native Americans](#). He participated in a campaign against the Seminole in Florida from 1849 to 1850. He was wounded four times in one action against the Comanche near Washita Village in 1858. By 1860, Van Dorn's actual rank finally matched his brevetted position during the Mexican War with an appointment to major. Thus, early in his career he showed both bravery and leadership ability.

When Mississippi seceded from the Union in early January 1861, Maj. Van Dorn resigned his commission. He was appointed brigadier general of Mississippi state troops. When Jefferson Davis

assumed the presidency of the Confederate States of America (CSA), Van Dorn was elevated to major general of Mississippi state troops prior to receiving appointment to the colonelcy of a regular CSA army cavalry regiment. Sent to Texas, he oversaw the surrender of Union property to the Confederacy. Promoted to brigadier general in June 1861, he commanded Forts Jackson and St. Philip near New Orleans, Louisiana, prior to his promotion to major general in September 1861. As a major general, he was relocated to Virginia, where he commanded the First Division of the Confederate Army of the Potomac prior to being given the command of the Military District of the Trans-Mississippi, Department No. 2, in January 1862.

The greatest military threat to the Confederates in the Trans-Mississippi was the potential loss of Missouri. The Federals were pushing the Confederates out of Missouri when Van Dorn took command. He quickly moved to northern Arkansas, establishing his headquarters in [Pocahontas \(Randolph County\)](#), hoping to counter this action. He planned to thrust into southeastern Missouri and even boldly confessed that he hoped to seize St. Louis. But his plan was derailed when Union general [Samuel Ryan Curtis](#) invaded northwestern Arkansas and established camps there. Rushing to northwestern Arkansas, Van Dorn personally took command of the Confederate forces and rapidly marched them toward Curtis's position on Little Sugar Creek. Recognizing the tactical advantage of Curtis's position, Van Dorn chose to avoid direct assault. Instead, he force-marched his exhausted men around the Federal right, dividing the force into two segments.

The forces were to merge and attack the Federal rear via Telegraph Road, but, poor [weather](#), fatigue, and road obstacles slowed Van Dorn and gave Curtis time to react by attacking the Confederates before they could consolidate their forces. Early in the engagement, Van Dorn's superior numbers stunted the Federal attack; however, the Federals took advantage of the confusion created by the capture and deaths of several key Confederate leaders, eventually slowing this advance. During the night of March 7, Curtis reorganized his fatigued army using the Telegraph Road as its rough center. Van Dorn lacked this luxury, as his force was scattered and many key leaders were dead or missing.

When Van Dorn opted not to attack the next morning, Union artillery pounded the Confederate positions in what became known as the Battle of Pea Ridge. A powerful assault by the Union infantry toward Elkhorn Tavern finally broke Confederate resistance.

Van Dorn now found his position untenable and personally led part of his force toward [Huntsville \(Madison County\)](#) while the remainder continued engaging the Union side. The Confederate defeat at the Battle of Pea Ridge granted Curtis the critical victory needed to prevent further serious threats to Missouri. In the aftermath, Union Gen. Curtis emerged a hero and Van Dorn was left to bear the stain of that loss.

It was one of the rare instances in which Rebel forces outnumbered Yankee troops and lost. While Van Dorn was a fine cavalry officer, strategy was not his forte, and he was proving incapable of handling high command. Nor could he accept responsibility for his failures. In his official report, Van Dorn excused his role in the defeat by claiming “a series of accidents entirely unforeseen and not under my control and a badly-disciplined army defeated my intentions.” Writing to Secretary of War Judah P. Benjamin, Van Dorn indulged in semantics: “I was not defeated, but only foiled in my intentions.”

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### **HERITAGE ATTACK OF THE MONTH**



Well, the hits just keep on coming. Being Confederates though, we are some tough son of a guns and we can take it and still fight back with the tenacity of a mother bear protecting her cub. I could report on the SPLC

railing against Southern Whites for the burning of seven black churches in the St. Louis area and threatening hate crimes charges to be brought against the perpetrator – but as it turned out, it was a young black man that did that. Or the City of Memphis continuing to rattle sabers in their own “lost cause”, which is a funny story that we’ll talk about at our meeting Monday. Things have been very quiet, strangely quiet in the story of the attempt to put an MLK monument at the top of Stone Mountain.

A newspaper writer in Jacksonville named Gerald Ensley wrote an article on the Battle Flag one day that was wrong in its entirety except for one statement that he demonstrated well: “Stupidity exists when facts and knowledge are readily available that would correct your willful ignorance of them and you purposely ignore that information.” And you know I

had to write him to point out his pot/kettle/black mentality and the erroneous information in his article and subsequently put that comment back on him. Surprisingly enough, I didn’t hear back, but I digress...the obvious winner this month is the ignorance and stupidity that has gone on in Oxford, MS over the past couple of weeks. Not much more to say about it but it is interesting to note that the young man who started that mess, one Alan Coon, who was the main rabble rouser heading this effort had an ancestor named Pvt. James Jasper Coon, of Co. B in the 7<sup>th</sup> MS. Cavalry, CSA. He is buried in Antoyac Cemetery in St. Augustin, TX. His unit, referred to as the “High Pressure Batallion”, served under Chalmers at Shiloh, and were in the first wave the morning of the first day. They also defended their country at Corinth, Stones River, Chatanooga, Atlanta, and more. James would be ashamed of Alan today, as Alan should be of himself.

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### **HERITAGE COUNTERATTACK OF THE MONTH**

It’s very encouraging to see the people standing up against these continual attacks on our heritage. All across the country, and in particular all across the South, people are standing up and saying “NO” to those who would dare to take our heritage and erase our history. Hundreds turned up at Stone Mountain last weekend to rally in support of the flag. In Danville, a judge ruled against the Current National flying over Sutherlin Mansion (the final White House of the Confederacy), and as soon as he did, the Virginia Flaggers raised a giant mega flag on a large hill along a Danville highway that towers above the trees. I’ve seen letters from many of you to members of the City Council, Tennessee Historic Commission, legislators, and others. At Southern Mississippi University, the President ordered the Mississippi flag removed, and a group of true Southern Miss patriots over the weekend raised it again. These patriots have my respect and my gratitude, although I suspect it isn’t over down there yet. My new favorite college team? Anybody who’s playing against Ole Miss.

Oh, and in true Confederate fashion, it appears that somewhere between 1500 to 2000 Virginia SCV License plate holders are refusing to surrender their plates or to remove them from their vehicles. A lawsuit challenging Gov. Terry McAuliffe’s edict that they be banned is also going into process, so things are about to heat up in Virginia! Here in Tennessee, the Tennessee Historic Commission elected not to remove either the Forrest Bust in

Nashville or the statue in Memphis, rather to hand those things to the State Legislature. They made some other good decisions as well. 1600 showed up for the dedication of the Mississippi monument at Shiloh, and many brought flags, flowers, and other items to honor the memory of the fallen Mississippians. The band would not play "Dixie", and they would not use a Confederate Honor Guard, nor would they allow a Confederate Cannon to fire a salute or even say the word "Confederate", but all 1600 broke out in the singing of "Dixie" when it was over.

This is all a testament to people standing up with a loud voice and saying "NO" to tyranny, to political correctness, and to social engineering, and I'm proud of each of you who made a call, wrote a letter, sent an email or acted in any way to protect our heritage when it was threatened. It will be again, plan on that. The current set of assaults isn't over yet either, so be ready as we may need you to stand and fight again soon.

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### **BLUFF CITY GRAYS UPDATE**

The 154<sup>th</sup> Tennessee, Co. B linked up with our brothers of Company K out of Chicago in the town of Columbus, KY as we heard that Grant was coming downriver with a number of boats in an effort take one of our garrisons at Belmont, MO, directly across the river from our position. Upon arriving at the site, we found Bankhead's Battery along with several other guns already in place. They opened up and as we looked across the field, here came a thin line of blue belly Yankee skirmishers. We wanted to go get them right then but were held up as we were being joined by members of the 51<sup>st</sup> Tennessee, the 7<sup>th</sup> Arkansas and the mighty Cedar Bush Mess, making a very formidable line of attack. Moving out of the treeline in line of battle, we approached the Yankee Skirmishers and let loose a murderous volley. 2 lines on either side of us opened fire as well and then the cannon opened up again from behind. However, there was a large contingency of Union soldiers who had come up the river bank and taken position behind some works in front of us, and they opened up with a volley of their own that cut big chunks into our line. We attacked the works to throw them off, but they were in a difficult position for us to do that, and we took heavy casualties charging them. After 5 attempts at charging their works, we collected our wounded and fell back to safer ground.

The next morning came and orders were issued to prepare for attack. I thought we were all going to die today, as one would think the Yankees would have

entrenched and reinforced, but they apparently did not. Still a tough fight to get across the field and up that hill but the artillery was much more effective this day. Either that or there just weren't as many Yankees there as before. In any case, on our third charge we ended up taking the Yankee works and running those we didn't capture back into the river. Rumor has it that Grant himself sat up in his bed just as a cannonball flew through the wall and it right where his head had been about 10 seconds earlier. Too bad. At the end of the day, we held the field and the Yanks ran, so we'll call it a win regardless as to casualties. We'll be going into Winter Quarters now to heal our wounds, repair our weapons, and stock up on much needed supplies. Furloughs would be nice but are not likely. Probably back into the field in February.

God Bless the Confederacy!!

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### **HOW CAN YOU HELP?**

Funny you should ask! There are a number of departments within our Camp that could use some additional help. If you have a talent in the areas below, the appropriate Department head would love to hear from you.

Signal Corps (Communication) – Mike Daugherty (temporary). This includes Advertising/Marketing, Public Relations, Spokesman, Internal/External Communications, Newsletter, Digital Media, similar needs as may develop. I have some volunteers, I could use more.

Genealogy – Joe Burns. Please see Joe if you have an interest in this area. He will train you and give you access to the systems needed in order to confirm lineage of new members and track down other genealogy requests from Camp members and others.

Programs – Brad Waters. Help to develop a speaker bureau, plan special Camp events, schedule speakers. Set up Educational programs for Digital Media productions, school days, other programs as may be developed.

Membership – Mark Buchanan. Maintain roster accuracy, all aspects of new member processing, welcome packages, call committee, attendance, recruiting, coordinate with chaplain/adjutant regarding member adds/removals/family events.

Headstones/Markers – Ken Chrestman. Assist members with getting new headstones, Southern Cross, other markers. Cemetery cleanup and setup for memorials, other duties as may be needed.

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# GET A TAG ...



# ... SAVE A FLAG



18th Tennessee Infantry Regiment



14th Tennessee Infantry

The Tennessee Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans generously donates a portion of the tag sales to the Tennessee State Museum to be solely used for the museum's flag conservation program. If you do not have a SCV tag, you need to get one to help preserve your history.



This plate is available to any Tennessee resident who is registering a private passenger motor vehicle.

C  
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P

# CITIZENS TO SAVE OUR PARKS

*Dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of our historic parks.*

## Fight City Hall ?

## We ARE !!!

Help us to save our historic parks: Forrest Park, Confederate Park, and Jefferson Davis Park.

I wish to join CTSOP. Please sign me up as a member. No membership fee.

name: \_\_\_\_\_

address: \_\_\_\_\_

city: \_\_\_\_\_ State: TN Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

email: \_\_\_\_\_

signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Citizens to Save Our Parks

[www.citizenstosaveourparks.org](http://www.citizenstosaveourparks.org)

PO Box 241875

Memphis, TN 38124

## COMMANDER'S CORNER

Gentlemen –

It's been a really crazy year and getting crazier. The best is yet to come, so take heart in that. In the face of incredible adversity toward all things Confederate, it's really been a very good year for the Lee Camp, and we have a lot to be thankful for. Our list of accomplishments is long and distinguished and a hearty thank you and congratulations goes out to each of you.

With that in mind, the Memphis Brigade is having a food drive. This will start at our meeting on Monday and go through I don't know when. Mark Buchanan will provide more detail on that, but everybody PLEASE bring something canned, dry or otherwise non-perishable to our next meeting to get us started.

For those who weren't there at last month's meeting, we nominated the same set of officers in place now to serve for another term of two years. After each accepted their nomination, a motion was made from the floor to accept the nomination by acclamation which was approved by the membership unanimously so I'm sorry to report that you are stuck with us for another year. All jokes aside, I am proud to serve another term as Commander, and I know that Brad, Mark, and Arthur are proud to serve in their positions as well. My hat is off to these gentlemen, I could not do it without each of them and honestly without each one of you. I appreciate your kind words and show of support, it means everything to me and I will do my best to show myself worthy of it in the coming two years.

Our Christmas Party is coming in December, location is TBD but we should have that nailed down soon. Unless we decide to move it to a weekend, the date will be December 14, so mark that on your calendars now, and it will be potluck side items and desserts as always. I'm looking forward to seeing you all there.

There is always plenty to do, and I will send out to each of you by email at a later time the list of Officers and appointed positions (there are more than I listed earlier) who will all need your help in order to accomplish the work that is to be done. As Gen. Lee said, our work will require all our energy and every man at his post. Let us know where you think you can help – we are looking for the future leadership of this Camp, the Tennessee Division, and the SCV as a whole. The “recent unpleasantness” is still on, there is much to be done, and we must be ever vigilant but take heart - good news is coming soon!

God Bless the South!  
Mike Daugherty, Commander  
Deo Vindice!!!



<http://www.tennessee-scv.org/camp1640/>

Or visit our Facebook pages at:

<http://www.facebook.com/RELeeCamp1640>

<https://www.facebook.com/BluffCityGraysMemphis>

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/SCV-Memphis-Brigade-Color-Guard/268457703293353>

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## LICENSE PLATE REVENUE

Gentlemen of the Tennessee Division,

Today I received the latest quarterly report, from the State of Tennessee, on the Sons of Confederate Veterans License Plate Program.

Keep in mind, the totals for the second quarter were up 40% over the same quarter of 2014.

The Tennessee Division will receive next week, a deposit in the amount of \$21,040.14, for the third quarter. This represents 1347 plates, and is a 205% increase, over the third quarter of last year. This is the second largest check we have ever received.

The Tennessee State Museum will receive, from the Tennessee Division, a check for 20%, or \$4208.03.

These extra funds are a result of the tremendous support of Confederate History across our state, and across the South.

Please keep renewing and buying these vehicle tags. And, keep asking your friends to buy, as well.

Martin Frost  
Division Adjutant

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### 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	Larry J. Spiller, Jr.
Larry J. Spiller, Sr.	Osborn Turner, IV
Charles L Vernon	William C. Wilson

COLLECTOR'S

# FORREST

## COMMEMORATIVE COIN

Solid bronze

**\$ 10 each — All proceeds go to  
Parks Defense Fund**

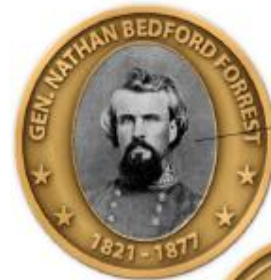
Contact: Harry Adams, Forrest Camp 215

[harryadamscsa@gmail.com](mailto:harryadamscsa@gmail.com)

\$10 each, plus \$1 each for shipping. Send your check to

Save the Parks

PO Box 241875, Memphis, TN 38124



**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 \*\* November 9, 2015**

**Germantown Regional History and Genealogy Center, 7779 Old Poplar Pike, Germantown, TN**