



**Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Cheatham Camp # 72**



# THE CHEATHAM NEWS

<http://tennessee-scv.org/camp72>

## JULY 2016

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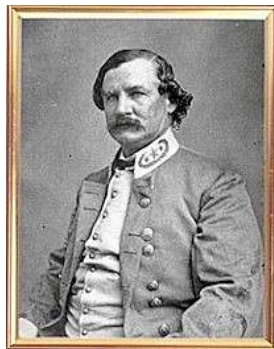
**July 13-15, 2016** - SCV National Reunion. Dallas, TX. Search for "National Reunion" on SCV HQ site for details.

**July 26, 2016** - Monthly member meeting. Oak restaurant. Manchester, TN. 6:00 P.M. dinner, 7:00 P.M. meeting and program. The speaker will be Randy Bishop from Middleton, TN, accomplished author of Civil War books. He will discuss Civil War generals and devotionals.

### Dates to Remember:

- July 11, 1861 - Battle of Rich Mountain.
- July 21, 1861 - Battle of 1st Manassas.
- May 22 - 7/9/63 - Siege of Port Hudson.
- July 7/19 - 9/7/63 - 2nd Battle of Charleston Harbor.
- July 9, 1864 - Monocacy.
- July 7/27, 1864 - Kernstown II.

Please e-mail your suggestions for this newsletter to [jayschroeder@msn.com](mailto:jayschroeder@msn.com)  
Be sure to visit our website at [tennessee-scv.org/camp72/](http://tennessee-scv.org/camp72/).



Benjamin F. Cheatham  
Major General, CSA

Born Oct. 20, 1820

Died Sept. 4, 1886

### Commander's Comments...

Compatriots:

As I see it, my first priorities are to improve the quality of our newsletter and flesh out our stable of committee chairmen. We all need to be thinking of how we can best contribute to improving our camp. Each of us has a skill set, a collection of attributes gained over the years, that can be applied to our camp's needs. In the next few months I will be seeking out individual members to take on those tasks which are not presently being accomplished in a timely and excellent manner. If you are willing to help, speak up. By the same token, if you presently are assigned a duty that you wish to shed, speak up.

I want a happy and productive camp. We have a lot of members that are underemployed. Let's shuffle the deck and get the right people in the right jobs. Talk to me!

Jay

**Be sure to attend  
the July Camp 72  
meeting at 6:00  
P.M. on July 26th at  
the Oak.**



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## MISCELLANEOUS

### FROM THE ADJUTANT

by  
Mike Anderson

Soon you will be receiving your dues statements in the mail, if you have not already. I urge you to act immediately when you receive your statement. Write out your check and mail it to me along with the return portion of the statement. DO NOT mail to the TN Division or to HQ. They will only send it back to me. If you do not write checks, cash is OK, but please include the return statement.

Recently, I received a very long email from HQ instructing me how to renew members. The process is quite cumbersome, as your dues actually go to 3 different places (National, Division and Camp). You can make the Adjutant's tasks so much easier if you will act the day you receive your statement. Delay will only jeopardize your continuous receipt of *The Confederate Veteran*, possibly incur reinstatement fees, etc. And don't forget that you can deduct \$5 from your dues statement amount if you get the Camp newsletter via email.

Thanks for your help and prompt response. Feel free to give me a call if you have any questions.

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### CIVIL WAR ODDITIES

by  
Jay Schroeder

The records of the Civil War show no officially commissioned

chaplains of the Jewish faith in the Confederate army. However, many Southern Jewish soldiers filled in as volunteer rabbis in the field.

\*\*\*\*\*

"Go to hell, you damned sons of bitches!" Those were the words that echoed from the lips of a Confederate chaplain.

In the heat of battle, emotions so often take control of reason that even a parson can forget his divine vows. Such was the situation Parson Brady of the 13th Arkansas found himself in. During a battle he forgot his role as chaplain and chased Yankee soldiers from the field. When the toll was taken, it was found that he had shot two Yankees and in hand-to-hand combat had slashed the throat of a third.

\*\*\*\*\*

General Grant's qualities as a "fighting general" were first brought to the attention of the nation and President Lincoln by his successful campaigns against Fort Henry and Fort Donelson on the Cumberland River in 1862.

His terms of "unconditional surrender" at Fort Donelson became so popular in the Northern press that people associated them with the first two initials of his name. He became known as "Unconditional Surrender" Grant.

General Floyd was in command of the Confederate forces at Fort Donelson and did not wish to be captured by Grant. Floyd turned his command over to General Pillow,

who refused it. The surrender of Fort Donelson was carried out by General Simon Bolivar Buckner while Generals Floyd and Pillow made their escape to Confederate lines. General Buckner was the father of Lt. Gen. Buckner of World War II fame.

After Grant's victory a newspaper reporter described him as smoking a cigar, even though he had always been a pipe smoker. The general was presented with so many cigars that he gave up his pipe and became a devoted cigar smoker. He died of cancer of the throat in 1885.

\*\*\*\*\*

Colonel Patton, a daring young Confederate who commanded a Virginia brigade, was killed in action during the Battle of Winchester in 1864.

His grandson won fame in WW II as the controversial commander of the United States Third Army, General George S. Patton, Jr.

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As soon as General Joseph Hooker took command of the Army of the Potomac in January 1863, a more relaxed attitude toward sexual activities existed among the troops under his command.

Camp followers and prostitutes engaged in their trade with utter abandon and without fear of military restrictions. The slang expression "hooker" came from the general's name.

Source: Levitt, Stan, *The Crackerbarrel Papers*, pp. 69, 70, 72, 73.



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## ARTICLE

### **BUSHROD RUST JOHNSON**

(was he snake bit?)

by

Brent Lokey

Bushrod Johnson was born in the northeastern part of Ohio to a Quaker family. As you are aware, Quakers were pacifists and some were even Abolitionists. His family objected to him leaving for military service. He was in the West Point class of 1840 with William Sherman and George Thomas.

After being commissioned, He served seven years in the Regular Army, fighting in the Seminole War in Florida and then garrison duty at Jefferson Barracks near St. Louis. When the Mexican War broke out, he fought well in the invasion.

After the capture of Vera Cruz, the junior officers stayed behind to oversee the supplies that were stacking up there. The supplies were so abundant that they started showing up on the "black market". Men were making large amounts of money by stealing or buying from other "black marketers." Johnson was an honest man, but it rankled him to see this thievery going on.

The Quartermaster General was located in New Orleans and apparently was getting a piece of the action. But what really got Johnson riled up was the fact that they gave him title of "acting" commissary officer. This cost him \$10 per month in pay. He sent a letter to the Quartermaster General outlining a plot to

overcharge on body soap and split the difference.

The Quartermaster forwarded the letter to the President, who called Johnson to Washington where he gave Johnson an opportunity to resign. Out of the Army after seven years, he had a chance to teach at Western Military Institution.

After six years, the War Between the States began. All of his students left for the Confederacy and Johnson went with them. He was on the committee that chose the site of Fort Donelson which proved to be a bad selection. Johnson took the blame. His next action was defending Fort Donelson twenty miles away.

Confederate defenses were tepid at best and Grant took the fort and thousands of prisoners. Forrest ignored the surrender and rode out with troops. Bushrod Johnson put on a civilian overcoat and walked to Nashville with the stragglers.

Johnson was given a brigade at Shiloh which included the 17th, 23rd, and 41st. Most of these men came from the Middle Tennessee area. His unit fought well but Johnson suffered a concussion from a shell. He recovered in time to catch up with Bragg, who was invading Kentucky. After Perryville and Stones River, he retreated

toward Chattanooga with Bragg. He was made a Lt. general and assigned to Longstreet's Wing. The highlight of his career was breaking through the Union line at the Brotherton Farm.

Gen Thomas' stand at Snodgrass Hill allowed the Union Army to escape to Chattanooga. After the battle, the troops on loan from the Army of Northern Virginia boarded a train headed for Knoxville. At the last minute, Johnson was exchanged for Cleburne. This trade saved Johnson from the Battle of Franklin. His action at Chickamauga earned him a promotion to major general. However, his career began to slip after that and every mistake he made was in view of Gen. Lee. Johnson's division was shattered at Sailor's Creek to the dismay of Gen Lee. who was so mad that he stopped the fighting to discharge Johnson, George Pickett, and Richard Anderson (died April 8th, 1865). Johnson made his way home to Ohio, but as you would expect, he received a cool reception.

Johnson took his savings and bought a farm in Southwest Illinois. In 1975, the SCV moved his body to Old Nashville Cemetery to be buried next to his wife. His career was probably the most unorthodox of the War.



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## A LOOK AHEAD

DATE	TIME	EVENT
23 AUG 16	6:00 P.M.	Dinner and meeting at Oak Restaurant, Manchester. Dinner at 6:00 P.M., business meeting and program at 7:00 P.M. The August program is not yet finalized.
27 SEP 16	6:00 P.M.	Dinner and meeting at Oak Restaurant, Manchester. Dinner at 6:00 P.M., business meeting and program at 7:00 P.M. The September program is not yet finalized.
25 OCT 16	6:00 P.M.	Dinner and meeting at Oak Restaurant, Manchester. Dinner at 6:00 P.M., business meeting and program at 7:00 P.M. The October program is not yet finalized.

### Starnes Brigade SCV Camp meeting dates & places

- #72 – Cheatham Camp 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday at Oak Restaurant, Manchester at 7:00 p.m. (6:00 p.m. dinner).
- #152 – John Massey Camp 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday at Fayetteville Municipal Auditorium at 7:00 p.m.
- #155 – J.B. Cowan 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at the Gondola Restaurant, Hwy. 55, Tullahoma at 7:00 p.m.
- #297 – Marshall Rangers 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday at the Marshall County Museum in Lewisburg at 2:00 p.m.
- #386 – Cumberland Mountain Rifles 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday, Old County Building in Tracy City at 6:30 p.m.
- #1411 – A.P. Stewart 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday, Western Sirloin in Decherd at 6:00 p.m.
- #1615 – McMinnville 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday, Magness Memorial Library at 7:00 p.m.
- #2094 – Capt Abner S. Boone 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Old House Hqtrs Hwy 231 N. Fayetteville in Belleville at 1:00 p.m.

When you can, please visit your brothers' camp meetings. They will be glad to see you.

NOTE: Members should be thinking about buying an SCV license tag. It looks sharp and it benefits the SCV. Many thousands of dollars have flowed into the SCV treasury over the years from this win-win program. Ask our adjutant how to secure a tag.