



**Official Newsletter of the BG Micah Jenkins
SCV Camp 1569**

Volume XIII Number IV

April 2014



Honoring the Gray

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Micah Jenkins Camp Meeting Tuesday, April 8th 2014

**Regularly scheduled meeting will be at 7:00 PM at the
Mayflower Seafood Restaurant at 2124 Celanese Rd, Rock Hill, SC
Come early join the fellowship and eat.**

**Jack is from Kentucky and has a bachelor's degree in history.
This is his 11th year as an SCV member. He has served as Camp
Commander in Florida. His topic for the upcoming meeting is the
"Irish Units and the Charleston Irish".**



Jack O'Brien is the speaker at our next Camp meeting.

Commander's Comments

Micah Jenkins Camp

Our Camp has many programs that we support. They are all worthwhile and, frankly, we should do more. Most of these programs cost money.

Our largest fund raiser in recent years has been the onion sale which Jim Floyd has headed up with great effort and success. This one fund raiser provides enough money to fund every program we support.

As we all know, last year we had some difficulties with the onions. This was not devastating, but it was certainly a setback. Now it is time for us to renew our efforts and decide how we will proceed with our 2014 fund raiser.

Will we again sell onions or will we develop another program to match these funds? At our next meeting we will discuss this issue and I will ask each of you for ideas on how we shall proceed.

Hello All,

I am contacting you to see if you will be able to assist the SC Division CofC with their Convention.

I have attached a Convention Call for your information.

On Friday night we will be honoring Billy Gallien for his work this past year as President of the Division. He has done a tremendous job! The evening will be held at my home. I hope to have this evening look as if it were happening in 1860. I would like SCV, UDC and CofC to attend in uniform or period dress. I am looking to find music from the era. If you know of someone, please let me know. I would also like to have a Color Guard, as we will be doing a Flag Retirement Ceremony. We will have lots of pick up food. All are invited. I would like to have a gun salute and possibly the cannon and maybe some drilling. Can y'all make that happen?

On Saturday, we will also need a Color Guard.

Please let me know what you can do to support the Children of the Confederacy.

Thanks,
Judy McCardle
803/493-6530



Prayer Closet

- Please pray for the unspoken families that are having health and financial problems.
- Please pray, as well, for those unemployed and continually looking for employment.
- Please continue to keep Brad Blackmon's wife, Deborah to your prayer list.
- Please continue to keep Dan Sipe on your prayer list. Dan was able to be at November's meeting, but is still having back problems.
- Please continue to keep Ray Baker on your prayer list. Ray is doing much better, but still needs your prayers.
- Please keep Howard Noe to your list. He also has been having some medical issues.
- Please continue to pray for the SCV, national, division and brigade.
- Please continue to pray for our President & government leaders. Continue to pray for our country. We are in very troubling times.
- Pray for our service men and women and for their families.

Camp Chaplain,
Mike Short

From the Chaplain

Please send your Prayer Requests to our Camp Chaplain, Mike Short. Mike can be contacted by phone (803-547-5446) or by email (cmshort@comporium.net).

Visit the Micah Jenkins Camp website at:
<http://bgmicahjenkins.org/>

Time Line April 1864

Apr 3rd & 4th - Battle of Elkin's Ferry, Arkansas

Apr 4th - Major General Philip Sheridan moves from command of an infantry division in the Army of the Cumberland to command cavalry in the Army of the Potomac.

Apr 7th - James Longstreet is recalled to Virginia.

Apr 8th & 9th - At the battle of Sabine Crossroads (Battle of Mansfield), Confederate General Richard Taylor defeats General Nathaniel Banks, halting his advance to Shreveport, Louisiana.

Apr 8th - By a vote of 38 to 6, the U. S. Senate approves the 13th Amendment and sends it to the states for ratification.

Apr 9th & 10th - At the battle of Prairie D'ane, moving south through Arkansas, General Frederick Steele engages Confederate forces before being driven back to Little Rock, Arkansas

Apr 9th - At the battle of Pleasant Hill, retreating from the loss at Sabine Crossroads, Nathaniel Banks is slammed by Richard Taylor early in the afternoon. In spite of initial Confederate success, Banks managed to organize a counterattack that turned the tide in favor of the Yankees.

Apr 9th - Ulysses S. Grant issues campaign orders. He tells George Meade, "Wherever Lee goes, you will go there." Similar orders are issued to Sherman.

Apr 10th - Nathaniel Banks and Frederick Steele begin to withdraw to Grand Ecore and Little Rock respectively. Kirby Smith arrives to take command of the Confederate forces, ordering Richard Taylor to withdraw to Mansfield, effectively ending the Red River Campaign.

Apr 12th - At the battle of Fort Pillow, casualties were high and only sixty-two of the colored troops survived the fight. Many accused the Confederates of perpetrating a massacre of the black troops, and that controversy continues today.

Apr 17th - Ulysses S. Grant ends prisoner exchanges with the South. He felt the practice was "...prolonging the conflict".

Apr 17th - Bread riot in Savannah, Georgia

Apr 18th - At the battle of Poison Spring, Arkansas. Sterling Price and John Marmaduke raid federal supply wagons heading for Grand Ecore to relieve Nathaniel Banks failed expedition. After heavy fighting the federals were forced to withdraw.

Apr 18th - General P. G. T. Beauregard is ordered to take command of the Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia.

Apr 20th - The War Department announces a reduction in the amount of rations received by Confederate prisoners in response to reports of mistreatment of Union prisoners.

Apr 20th - General P. G. T. Beauregard is relieved of command of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida so he can assume command of the Richmond defenses.

Apr 20th - Culminating a three-day attack that included the appearance of the new Confederate ironclad ram Albemarle, General R. F. Hoke captures Plymouth, North Carolina and a large amount of badly needed supplies. Federal losses totaled 2800 men.

Apr 21st - General Nathaniel Banks withdraws from Grand Ecore to Alexandria, Louisiana

Apr 22nd - The motto "In God We Trust" approved for US coinage (Coinage Act of 1864)

Apr 23rd - At the battle of Monet's Ferry (Battle of Cane River Crossing), Nathaniel Banks retreating federal column is harassed by Confederates

Apr 24th - At the battle of Marks' Mill, Confederates attack federals retreating to Little Rock, Arkansas

Apr 26th - Admiral David Porter's fleet is badly damaged in engagements with on-shore Confederates. The fleet had become trapped by low water following Porter's rescue of Nathaniel Banks at the end of the Red River Campaign.

Apr 27th - Northern armies break winter camp in preparation for the Spring campaigns.

Apr 30th - Battle of Jenkin's Ferry, Arkansas

Apr 30th - Jefferson Davis's son Joe dies following a fall from the Confederate White House

Famous Quotes

Grant's Overland Campaign (May 4th - June 24th 1864)

U.S. Grant's 1864 Overland Campaign was an attempt to reach Richmond by land. After a long series of engagements the city held out and the Siege of Petersburg began.

"We can lose five men to their one and win." Lt. General Ulysses S. Grant (Commanding General of the Union Army)



Men Who Saved the Union

Grant's Overland Campaign (May 4th -June 24th 1864)

The last full year of campaigning begins with Federal forces east and west making a unified effort to wear down the South's will to continue fighting. Lincoln promoted Ulysses S. Grant to the rank of lieutenant general and placed him in command of all Union armies. U.S. Grant's 1864 Overland Campaign had two goals: bleed Lee's army and force him back to Richmond. He accomplished both. After a long series of engagements the city held out and the Siege of Petersburg begins.

No Truer Words Ever Spoken by a yankee General!!!

Brigadier http://3.bp.blogspot.com/—TFUT2b1e8g/T5xos6t4OuI/AAAAAAAAABgQ/M5zjhLkE0vw/s1600/1830_n.jpg

General Abram S. Piatt who knew Lincoln personally wrote in his book "Men Who Saved the Union" in 1887:

"The true story of the late war has not yet been told. It probably never will be told. It is not flattering to our people; unpalatable truths seldom find their way into history.

How rebels fought the world will never know; for two years they kept an army in the field that girt their borders with a fire that shriveled our forces as they marched in, like tissue paper in a flame. Southern people were animated by a feeling that the word fanaticism feebly expresses. (Love of liberty expresses it.)

For two years this feeling held those rebels to a conflict in which they were invincible. The North poured out its noble soldiery by the thousands and they fought well, but their broken columns and thinned lines drifted back upon our capitol, with nothing but shameful disasters to tell of the dead, the dying the lost colors and the captured artillery.

Grant's road from the Rapidan to Richmond was marked by a highway of human bones. The Northern army had more killed than the Confederate Generals had in command. The men of the South, half starved, unsheltered, in rags, shoeless yet Grant's marches from the Rapidan to Richmond left dead behind him more men than the Confederates had in the Field."

Source: Union General Abram S. Piatt "Men Who Saved the Union"





**SC Division Children of the Confederacy
Annual Convention
May 16-17, 2014
York County, SC
“From Our Past, Comes Our Future”**

The Annual Division Convention will be held May 16-17, 2014, hosted by the Iredell Jones Chapter #85. Overnight accommodations will be at the Comfort Inn, 3041 Lancaster Hwy I-77 Ex. 65, Richburg, SC. Reservations must be made directly with the hotel by phone at: (803) 789-7100 by Monday **April 13, 2014**. Mention that you are reserving a room currently reserved under the name “McCardle.” As of April 15, 2014, rooms that have not been reserved by those attending our Convention, will be returned to the hotel. On this particular weekend, Rock Hill is hosting a large sporting event. The hotel wishes to be able to provide rooms for this event if we are not going to be using them. The standard king and double queen bed rooms will be \$89.00 each.

Condensed Agenda

**Friday, May 16 - Comfort Inn, Richburg, SC
3:00 Hotel Check-In**

The President’s Reception will immediately follow the Executive Board Meeting. Both will be held at 471 Lakeside Drive, Rock Hill, SC 29730.
Please arrive on time to complete our business quickly.

6:00 Board Meeting
7:00 President’s Reception
Flag Retirement Ceremony

Saturday, May 17 - McCelvey Center, York, SC

8:30 Registration
9:30 Processional
Business Meeting
Reports & Awards
12:00 Old Fashioned Southern Dinner
Special Entertainment
1:30 Memorial Service - Rose Hill Cemetery, York, SC
Installation of Officers
Adjournment

Please contact Judy McCardle at
mdm1@comporium.net or 803/493-6530 for
directions and further information.

Railroads of the Confederacy

The WBTS is the first war in which railroads were a major factor. The 1850s had seen enormous growth in the railroad industry so that by 1861, 22,000 miles of track had been laid in the Northern states and 9,500 miles in the South. The great rail centers in the South were Chattanooga, Atlanta, and most important, Richmond. Very little track had yet been laid west of the Mississippi.

Wars have always been fought to control supply centers and road junctions, but the Confederate government was slow to recognize the importance of the railroads in the conflict. By September 1863, the Southern railroads were in bad shape. They had begun to deteriorate very soon after the outset of the war, when many of the railroad employees headed north to join the Union war efforts. Few of the 100 railroads that existed in the South prior to 1861 were more than 100 miles in length. The South had always been less enthusiastic about the railroad industry than the North; its citizens preferred an agrarian living and left the mechanical jobs to men from the Northern states. The railroads existed, they believed, solely to get cotton to the ports.

There was fierce competition between railroad owners who did not want their equipment to ever fall into the hands of their rivals. The lines of competing railroads rarely met, even if they ran through the same town. The railroads also lacked a standard gauge, so that trains of different companies ran on tracks anywhere from four feet to six feet wide. Anything that needed to be transferred from one railroad to another had to be hauled across town and loaded onto new freight cars. Maintaining the trains and rail lines became a major problem as well. Most of the Confederate government’s manufacturing efforts concentrated on supplying equipment and ammunition for the military. The railroads were owned by civilians and the Confederate government opposed taking over civilian industries.

The railroads therefore began to run into difficulties very quickly. They did not have the parts to replace worn out equipment. The Southern railroads, before the war, had imported iron from England. Once the war began, the Union blockade of the Atlantic and Gulf ports was very effective in shutting off that supply. Locomotives and tracks began to wear out. By 1863 a quarter of the South’s loco-

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Railroads of the Confederacy (cont)

tives needed repairs and the speed of train travel in the South had dropped to only 10 miles an hour (from 25 miles an hour in 1861).

Fuel was a problem as well. Southern locomotives were fueled by wood—a great deal of it. As the Confederate government pulled skilled railroad employees out of their civilian jobs and into the military, the railroad companies became badly understaffed. Replenishing the woodyards at the depots soon became impossible. Train crews eventually took to stopping along their route to chop and load wood as it was needed.

Accidents also wrecked a lot of equipment. Because telegraph communication was sporadic at best, railroad crews were often unaware of broken rails and collapsed bridges. Cattle on the tracks caused accidents, sparks from the locomotives' woodfires burned cars, and boilers exploded.

Track, too, became a problem, and crossties, spikes, and track were taken from the less important railroad lines and used on the major lines. Crossties became rotten, and rails broke (the line from Nashville to Chattanooga had 1,200 broken rails in 1862). Union troops, as they moved South, sabotaged the rails by pulling them up, heating them until they could bend, and wrapping them around tree trunks to make what were called Sherman's Neckties. The Union army also burned bridges and destroyed tunnels and captured as much railroad equipment as they could—their greatest catch was in 1863 when General Joseph E. Johnston abandoned Jackson, Mississippi, leaving 90 locomotives and hundreds of railroad cars behind.



Richard Taylor (January 27, 1826 – April 12, 1879)

Richard Taylor was an American plantation owner, politician, military historian and Confederate general during the War. He was the son of Zachary Taylor, a general in the United States Army and later President of the United States, and his wife Margaret Mackall Smith Taylor.

Richard Taylor was born at the “Springfield” family plantation near Louisville, Kentucky. He had five older sisters. Much of his early life was spent on the frontier, as his father was a career military officer and commanded several forts. As a youth, Richard was sent to private schools in Kentucky and Massachusetts.

After starting college studies at Harvard College, he completed them at Yale, where he graduated in 1845. He was a member of Skull and Bones, a social club. He received no scholastic honors, but spent the majority of his time reading books on classical and military history. During the Mexican-American War, Taylor served as the military secretary to his father. Having to leave the war because of rheumatoid arthritis, Richard Taylor agreed to manage the family cotton plantation in Jefferson County, Mississippi.

On February 10, 1851, Richard Taylor married Louise Marie Myrthe Bringier, a native of Louisiana and daughter of a wealthy French Creole matriarch. Taylor and Marie had five children, two sons and three daughters. Their two sons died of scarlet fever during the War, for which both Taylors suffered deeply.

When the War erupted, Taylor was asked by Confederate General Bragg to assist him, as a civilian, at Pensacola, Florida. Bragg had known Taylor from before the war, and thought his knowledge of military history could help him to organize and train the Confederate forces. Taylor had been opposed to secession, but accepted the appointment. Confederate President Jefferson Davis would later comment that the soldiers being sent from Pensacola were some of the best trained soldiers in the Confederacy.

While serving there, Taylor was commissioned as a colonel of the 9th Louisiana Infantry, and served at the First Battle of Manassas. The members of the 9th Louisiana voted for Taylor because they thought that with Taylor's connections to President Davis, widower of his late sister Sarah, the unit would be sent out sooner and see battle more quickly.

On October 21, 1861, Taylor was promoted to brigadier general. He commanded a Louisiana brigade under Richard S. Ewell in the Shenandoah Valley campaign and during the Seven Days. When Taylor was promoted over three more senior regimental commanders, they complained of favoritism. Davis noted Taylor's leadership capabilities and promise, and said that he had been recommended by General Stonewall Jackson. During the Valley

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Richard Taylor (January 27, 1826 – April 12, 1879)

Campaign, Jackson used Taylor's brigade as an elite strike force that set a rapid marching pace and dealt swift flanking attacks. At the Battle of Front Royal on May 23, the First Battle of Winchester on May 25, and finally at the climactic Battle of Port Republic on June 9, Taylor led the 9th Infantry in timely assaults against strong enemy positions. Afterward, he traveled with the rest of Jackson's command to the Peninsula Campaign.

His brigade consisted of various Louisiana regiments, as well as Major Chatham Roberdeau Wheat's "Louisiana Tiger" battalion. The undisciplined lot was known for its hard fighting on the battlefield, but also for its hard living outside. Taylor instilled discipline into the Tigers and, although Major Wheat did not agree with his methods, Taylor won his respect.

When Taylor was promoted to the rank of major general on July 28, 1862, he was the youngest major general in the Confederacy. He was ordered to Opelousas, Louisiana, to conscript and enroll troops in the District of Western Louisiana, part of the Trans-Mississippi Department. After his service as a recruit officer, Taylor was given command of the tiny District of West Louisiana.

Attacks of rheumatoid arthritis had left him crippled for days at a time and unable to command in battle. For instance, during the Seven Days battles, Taylor was unable to leave his camp and command his brigade. He missed the Battle of Gaines Mill, and Col. Isaac Seymour, commanding the brigade in his absence, was killed in action.

Before Taylor returned to Louisiana, Federal forces in the area had raided throughout much of southern Louisiana. During the spring of 1862, Union forces came upon Taylor's plantation and plundered it.

Taylor found the district almost completely devoid of troops and supplies. However, he did the best with these limited resources by securing two capable subordinates, veteran infantry commander (Jean Jacques Alexandre) Alfred Mouton, and veteran cavalry commander Thomas Green. These two commanders would prove crucial to Taylor's upcoming campaigns in the state.

During 1863, Taylor directed an effective series of clashes with Union forces over control of lower Louisiana, most notably at Battle of Fort Bisland and the Battle of Irish Bend. These clashes were fought against Union Maj. Gen. Nathaniel P. Banks for control of the Bayou Teche region in southern Louisiana and his ultimate objective of Port Hudson. After Banks had successfully pushed Taylor's Army of Western Louisiana aside, he continued on his way to Port Hudson via Alexandria, Louisiana. After these battles, Taylor formulated a plan to recapture Bayou Teche, along with the city of New Orleans, Louisiana, and to halt the Siege of Port Hudson.

Taylor's plan was to move down the Bayou Teche, capturing the lightly defended outposts and supply depots, and then capturing New Orleans, which would cut off Nathaniel P. Banks's army from their supplies. From Alexandria, Louisiana, Taylor marched his army up to Richmond, Louisiana. There he was joined with Confederate Maj. Gen. John G. Walker's Texas Division, who called themselves "Walker's Greyhounds". Taylor ordered Walker's division to attack Federal troops at two locations on the Louisiana side of the Mississippi. The ensuing Battle of Milliken's Bend and Battle of Young's Point failed to accomplish the Confederate objectives. After initial success at Milliken's Bend, that engagement ended in failure after Federal gunboats began shelling the Confederate positions. Young's Point ended prematurely as well.

After the battles, Taylor marched his army, minus Walker's division, down to the Bayou Teche region. From there Taylor captured Brashear City (Morgan City, Louisiana), which yielded tremendous amounts of supplies, materiel, and new weapons for his army. He moved within the outskirts of New Orleans, which was being held by a few green recruits under Brig. Gen. William H. Emory. While Taylor was encamped on the outskirts and preparing for his attack against the city, he learned that Port Hudson had fallen. He withdrew his forces all the way up Bayou Teche to avoid the risk of being captured.

In 1864, Taylor defeated Union General Nathaniel P. Banks in the Red River Campaign with a smaller force, commanding the Confederate forces in the Battle of Mansfield and the Battle of Pleasant Hill. He pursued Banks back to the Mississippi River and, for his efforts, received the thanks of the Confederate Congress. On April 8, 1864, Taylor was promoted to lieutenant general, despite having asked to be relieved because of his distrust of his superior in the campaign, General Edmund Kirby Smith.

Taylor was given command of the Department of Alabama and Mississippi and commanded the defenses around the city of Mobile, Alabama. After John Bell Hood's disastrous campaign into Tennessee, Taylor was given command of the Army of Tennessee. He surrendered his department at Citronelle, Alabama, the last major Confederate force remaining east of the Mississippi, to Union General Edward Canby on May 8, 1865, and was paroled three days later.

After the war, Richard Taylor wrote his memoirs, *Destruction and Reconstruction*, which is one of the most credited reports of the War. The memoir was published a week prior to his death in New York City in April of 1879. He was active in Democratic Party politics, interceded on behalf of Jefferson Davis with President Andrew Johnson, and was a leading political opponent of Northern Reconstruction policies. He died in New York City and is buried in Metairie Cemetery, New Orleans.



BG Micah Jenkins Camp # 1569
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Richard Taylor (January 27, 1826 – April 12, 1879)