



**Official Newsletter of the BG Micah Jenkins
SCV Camp 1569
Volume XI Number XII December 2012**



Honoring the Gray

Camp Officers

Commander
Brad Blackmon
803-322-4674

1st Lt. Commander
Bucky Sutton
803-328-8732

2nd Lt. Commander
Jerry Brown
803-371-6237

Camp Adjutant
Chris Sims
803-981-7560

Chaplain
Larry Gregory
803-324-7438

Color Sergeant/
Quartermaster
Jack Morton
803-789-3457

Camp Historian
Jim Floyd
803-324-3532

Webmaster
Chris Brown
704-340-1944

Graves Registration
Ray Baker
803-329-2257

Honoring the Gray
Editor
Jerry Brown
803-371-6237

Communications
Jerry Brown
803-371-6237
scvcamp1569@yahoo.com
or
jenkinsscvc@yahoo.com

Commander's Comments

Lowry's Old Fashioned Christmas Parade

Once again the B.G. Micah Jenkins Camp will be participating in the Christmas Parade in Lowry South Carolina. This event has turned into a tradition for our camp as we have had a decorated float in the celebration for over a decade.

This year the parade will be on December 15th starting a 1:00 PM. Barney Lundy has been gracious enough to provide his tractor & trailer for the event again this year. Jim Floyd has also purchased two new banners for the Micah Jenkins Camp to replace our aging banner. We will still need camp members and their families to bring decorations to spruce up the trailer. Now would be a good time to visit your local dollar store and stock up on garland and ribbon. Camp members will be asked to get there a few hours early so we can put the final touches on our float.

Also Halloween candy is now half price. Please remember to bring a couple of bags of candy to the event. This has become a tradition over the years for the camp to hand out candy to the crowd. Last year the camp gave out more than 70 pounds of candy to both the young and old at heart.

MERRY CHRISTMAS & A HAPPY NEW YEAR.....

*Your Humble & Obedient Servant,
Brad Blackmon, Commander*

<http://bgmicahjenkins.org/>

If you haven't checked out the Micah Jenkins Camp web site recently, now is a good time.

The Camp history section has now been updated. If you wish to have your personal information updated, please send to Jerry Brown at jenkinsscvc@yahoo.com. Typical information is: name, address, phone #'s, email address, Camp offices held, awards and ancestor information.

The information in this section is voluntary and password protected.

Camp Meeting

Tuesday, December 11th 2012

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.

**Michael Scoggins will be our special guest speaker for December.
His topic will be "Christmas During the War".**

1st Lt Commander's Comments

Christmas During the War

Michael Scoggins will be our speaker during December and tell about celebrating Christmas during the War. So I thought I would cover some of the things he might miss.

During the Civil War in 1881 while Christmas was celebrated it actually was not an official holiday until after the war in 1870 when President Ulysses S. Grant declared it an official holiday. He hoped the holiday would help to unite the North and the South.

In 1862, Confederate General John Hunt Morgan engaged in the famous Christmas Raid in Kentucky. On that day General Morgan's men destroyed all they could of the improvements of the Louisville/Nashville railroads. This included 35 miles of track on the Bacon Creek to Lebanon Railroad.

Although there was a war going many Christmas traditions began in the 19th century, one of which was Santa Claus. Thomas Nast, cartoon artist, is credited with the first images of Santa Claus taken from his native German portrait of St. Nicholas.

For the children in the South things were a bit more difficult unlike the North. Sometimes parents were not sure if they might have some Christmas treats for their children. Children began to tell stories in the South that Santa Claus had to make it though the Union blockade to bring treats to their stockings. One child, Sallie Brock Putnams, plotted a course for Santa to use to avoid the union blockade.

Ella Gertrude Clanton Thomas of Augusta, Ga., gave a child, Mary Bell, a party in lieu of the Santa Claus presents. Mary Bell was told that Santa Claus has not been able to run the blockade and has gone to war - yet when she went upstairs she found Mary Bell had hung her socks and stockings in case Santa Claus did come.

The Christmas tree already a tradition would come into its own during the Civil War and gain fame. The Christmas tree would be decorated with hardtack (biscuits/crackers) and salt pork. The Christmas tree was the center of the home and often was small enough to stand on a table. Songs of the Civil War time were "Deck the Halls," "Oh Come All Ye Faithful," and "Hark the Herald Angels Sing."

*Bucky Sutton
1st Lt Commander*



Prayer Closet

- Please continue to pray for those effected by the economy. The "Fiscal Cliff" is rapidly approaching and the economy could get a lot worst.
- Please pray for our country. We are in troubling times.
- Please keep Vernon Terry on your prayer list.
- Please keep Brad Blackmon's wife, Deborah on your prayer list. She has been in the hospital.
- Please continue to keep Laddie's mother (Clara Parrish) on your prayer list.
- Please keep Ray Baker on your prayer list.
- Please add Mike Short to your list.
- Please continue to pray for our President & government leaders. The SCV, national, division and brigade.
- Pray for our service men and women and for their families.

*Camp Chaplain,
Larry Gregory*

From the Chaplain

Please send your Prayer Requests to our Camp Chaplain, Larry Gregory. Larry can be contacted by phone (803-324-7438) or by email (poppyg@comporium.net).

Honoring the Gray

Do you have an article you would like to see in the the newsletter?

If so, please send to Jerry Brown at jenkinsscvc@yahoo.com or call Jerry at 803-327-2834. Articles may be funny or serious as long as it reflects the ideals and purpose of the SCV. Please limit the size of articles for mailing purposes.

Time Line December 1862

Dec 1 - On the first day of the new Congress President Abraham Lincoln proposes 3 amendments to the U. S. Constitution. First, all slaves would be gradually emancipated until 1900. Second, slaves freed during the war would remain free. Third, the United States would pay for consensual colonization
Dec 7 - Battle of Fayetteville, Arkansas Confederate General Thomas C. Hindman attacks Francis “Frank” Herron advancing from Wilson’s Creek in an attempt to defeat him before joining James Blunt’s men.

Dec 10 - U. S. House passes a bill allowing the creation of the state of West Virginia

Dec 11 - One of the most controversial orders of the Civil War is issued by Ulysses S. Grant — Special Order 11, expelling Jews from his department. Federal forces occupy the city of Fredericksburg.

Dec 13 - At the Battle of Fredericksburg Confederate General T. R. R. Cobb dies during the battle. South Carolinian Maxcy Gregg is mortally wounded and dies two days later. General Ambrose Burnside and the Army of the Potomac is soundly beaten by Lee’s Army of North Virginia.

Dec 11-20 - Commonly known as the Goldsboro Expedition, the Union Army in North Carolina under John G. Foster pushes into the state in an attempt to sever railroad supply lines to Virginia.

Dec 18 - Forrest’s cavalry turns back a detachment of Union cavalry near Lexington.

Dec 20 - Confederate General Earl Van Dorn strikes a federal supply depot at Holly Springs, Mississippi capturing 1500 prisoners and destroying 1.5 million dollars of military supplies.

Dec 21 - John Hunt Morgan leads a raid against William S. Rosecrans’ supply lines in Kentucky. President Davis visits Vicksburg, Mississippi

Dec 23 - Jefferson Davis issues a general order proclaiming Benjamin Butler an “enemy of mankind” and authorizing his immediate execution if captured.

Dec 29 - The Battle of Chickasaw Bayou, also called Walnut Hills, fought December 26–29, 1862, was the opening engagement of the Vicksburg Campaign during the American Civil War. Confederate forces under Lt. Gen. John C. Pemberton repulsed an advance by Union Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman that intended to lead to the capture of Vicksburg, Mississippi. Brig. Gen. Stephen D. Lee commanded a provisional division with brigades commanded by Cols. William T. Withers and Allen Thomas; Lee was the primary commander of the Confederate defense in the Walnut Hills until the arrival of Maj. Gen. Carter L. Stevenson.

Dec 30 - The U. S. S. Monitor founders in heavy seas off Cape Hatteras. 16 men die and the remaining are rescued by the Rhode Island, her escort. The boat is towed to port.

Dec 31 - At the Battle of Parker’s Cross Roads in western Tennessee Confederate General Nathan Bedford Forrest narrowly escapes capture during a raid. Despite the close call, the raid was instrumental in forcing Union General Ulysses S. Grant to abandon his first attempt to capture Vicksburg, Mississippi.

Dec 31 - Jan 2 - The Second Battle of Murfreesboro was fought Middle Tennessee, as the culmination of the Stones River Campaign in the Western Theater of the War. Of the major battles of the War, the battle had the highest percentage of casualties on both sides. Although the battle itself was inconclusive, the Union Army’s repulse of two Confederate attacks and the subsequent Confederate withdrawal were a much-needed boost to Union morale after the defeat at the Battle of Fredericksburg, and it dashed Confederate aspirations for control of Middle Tennessee.

Dec 31 Lincoln signs the act approving admission to the United States for West Virginia.



Santa Missed the South During the War

One hundred and 50 years ago the tragedy of the War Between the States cast its shadow over the celebration of the American Christmas. In places the spirit of Christmas burned low, and it needed a great effort to keep it burning at all. But it survived the war.

In the North, Christmas was little different from those of other, happier years. Some homes mourned their dead, and others longed for loved ones in the army, but there was plenty of food and toys and gifts.

But in the South the War was close, food and gifts were scarce. Often Santa did not appear in some Confederate homes and it took a special effort to explain this to the children. This poem is typical of that effort:

“I’m sorry to write,

“Our ports are blockaded, and Santa, tonight,

“Will hardly get down here; for if he should start,

“The Yankees would get him unless he was ‘smart,’

“They beat all the men in creation to run,

“And if they could get him they’d think it fine fun

“To put him in prison, and steal the nice toys

“He started to bring to our girls and boys.”

Southern celebrations from poor to only a little better. People learned to float tea on top of a cup of hot water, instead of steeping it, to make it go farther. Dried cubes of sweet potatoes, even acorns, were substitutes for coffee.

In a hospital at Lauderdale, Mississippi, on Christmas Day 1864, Mrs. Fannie Beers won the love of the war wounded when she prepared them a special meal: sweet potato pone.

That same Christmas on a plantation at Covington, Ga., with Sherman’s men marching near by, Mrs. Thomas Burge noted in her diary: “We are all sad, Christmas Eve, which has never been gaily celebrated here, which has witnessed the popping of firecrackers and the hanging up of stockings, is an occasion now of sadness and gloom.”

There was nothing, she wrote, for daughter Sarah’s stocking. On Christmas morning, the child jumped from her bed and ran to the stocking. “Find-

ing nothing,” wrote her mother, “she crept back to bed, pulled the cover over her face, and I soon heard her sobbing.”

In the Richmond home of Jefferson Davis, there was so little eggnog that it was sipped from wine glasses. Mrs. Davis’ presents included six valuable cakes of soap made from the grease of a boiled ham.

Up north, a cartoonist for Harpers Illustrated Weekly ... , Thomas Nast, was adding to America’s Christmas lore. In 1863, Nast drew a two page Christmas layout featuring a soldier’s Christmas homecoming. At one side was a drawing of Santa Claus filling stockings for two sleeping children. The drawing was the first to become the American conception of Santa. In the subsequent war years, he drew Santa again and again at Christmas.

Probably the most famous Christmas present of the war, and one which made Southern tempers boil, was presented in a brief message from Savannah, Ga., to President Lincoln on December 22, 1864:

“I beg to present you as a Christmas gift the city of Savannah, with one hundred and fifty heavy guns and plenty of ammunition, also about twenty five thousand bales of cotton.”

It was signed: W.T. Sherman, Major General.

Christmas celebrations at the fighting fronts were meager. But in 1864, with Confederate hopes for victory all but gone, citizens of Virginia gave a portion of what little they had for a holiday meal for Gen. Robert E. Lee’s Army of Northern Virginia.

Hams, chickens, turkeys, ducks, geese, bacon and vegetables enough to feed 35,000 men were collected and prepared in the kitchens of Ballard House in Richmond. The food was placed in barrels and sent to the front.

A special barrel containing a dozen turkeys was sent to General Lee and his staff. The General looked at the birds, pointed at the largest and said:

“This, then, is my turkey? I don’t know, Gentlemen, what you are going to do with your turkeys, but I wish mine sent to the hospital at Petersburg.”

As he turned away, members of his staff placed all the turkeys back in the barrel.

Flags of the Confederate States of America State of South Carolina - Brad Blackmon

The Flag of the State of South Carolina, dates back to 1765 when opponents of the Stamp Act marched in protest behind a blue flag bearing three white crescents. In 1775 Colonel William Moultrie was asked by the Revolutionary Council of Safety to design a flag for the South Carolina troops to use during the American Revolutionary War. Moultrie's design had the blue of the militia's uniforms and the crescent from the emblem on their caps.



Fort Moultrie Flag

After considering many designs for the Republic of South Carolina flag, it was decided that the existing State flag with the crescent and blue background could be modified for a National flag.



South Carolina Flag

On January 26, 1861, the South Carolina General Assembly adopted a new flag by adding a golden palmetto tree encircled with a white background.



South Carolina "2-day flag"

However, this flag has become known as the "2-day flag" because the golden palmetto tree was changed on January 28, 1861 to a simple white palmetto tree on the blue background. The palmetto tree was added to honor Moultrie's heroic defense of Sullivan's Island against the attack of the British fleet on June 28, 1776. The palmetto tree represents the palmetto logs used to construct the fort. These logs are soft, so the cannonballs that the British fleet fired on the fort did not shatter them.

This concludes the articles on the Flags of the Confederate States of America. The sources used were from the following websites:

- 1) **Museum of the Confederacy** (http://www.moc.org/site/PageServer?pagename=md_flag_main)
- 2) **Confederate Battle Flag History** (<http://www.crwflags.com/fotw/flags/us-csah.html>)
- 3) **John K. McNeill SCV Camp #674** (<http://www.scv674.org/csafllags.htm>)
- 4) **Texas Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans** (<http://www.texas-scv.org/confedFlags.php>)
- 5) **Flags of the Confederacy** (<http://www.confederate-flags.org/index.html>)



A picture of a flag I took while at the 150th Anniversary of the bombing of Fort Sumter. This very special flag is near and dear to my heart, especially since I was on the flag detail assigned to raise the Stars and Bars - 2nd Lt Commander, Jerry Brown

Thomas Carmichael Hindman, Jr. (January 28, 1828 – September 27, 1868)

Shortly after he was born in Knoxville, Tennessee, Hindman moved with his family to Jacksonville, Alabama and later Ripley, Mississippi. After receiving his primary education in Ripley, he attended the Lawrenceville Classical Institute. Afterwards, he raised a company in Tippah County for the 2nd Mississippi regiment in the Mexican-American War. Hindman served during the war as a lieutenant and later as a captain of his company. After the war, he returned to Ripley. He studied law, and was admitted to the state bar in 1851. He then started a law practice in Ripley, before moving it to Helena two years later.

Hindman was eager to have the chance of serving his country in war. He enlisted as a Second Lieutenant in company E of the Second Mississippi Infantry. Hindman spent the winter training for battle in Camp McClung. Many soldiers were unprepared for the cold temperatures in January 1847 and, as a result, many died of influenza, pneumonia and “the cold plague.” The Second Mississippi Infantry headed off towards the Mexico border in February and reached the mouth of the Rio Grande on February 24, 1847, just a day after the Battle of Buena Vista. They continued marching, and the number of dead soldiers escalated. By June 1847, 167 men had died, 134 had been discharged and 38 had deserted. The infantry later moved to Buena Vista, seven miles south of Saltillo, Coahuila, for guard duty. Hindman rose to the rank of lieutenant and Post Adjutant by the end of the war in 1848, but did not see any major action during the remainder of his time with the infantry.

After returning to Ripley, Hindman continued his law studies under Orlando Davis. He joined the Ripley chapter of the Sons of Temperance and served as the recording secretary of the local branch. In 1853, he successfully campaigned for a seat to represent Tippah County in the Mississippi legislature. Hindman’s Mississippi lawmaking career ended when the legislature adjourned in March 1854.

Hindman left Mississippi politics when he moved to Helena, Arkansas on March 18, 1854. He threw himself into the political and social scenes in his new home state. In June 1854, he formed a law partnership with John Palmer, a young Kentucky native who was known as a “distinguished member” of the Helena bar. During this time, Hindman became close friends with Patrick Cleburne. The two men also formed a business partnership with William Weatherly to buy a newspaper, the Democratic Star, in December 1855.

Cleburne and Hindman were both wounded by gunshots during a street fight in Helena with Know-Nothing members. After the men recovered, they

appeared before a grand jury to respond to any charges brought against them. They were exonerated and, afterwards, went to Hindman’s parents’ house in Mississippi.

In 1856, Hindman ran for the Congressional seat in his First District, but was defeated by the incumbent, Alfred B. Greenwood, at the Democratic state convention. His gracious withdrawal at the convention to avoid Democratic infighting earned him more notice from the party hierarchy. During this time, Hindman met and courted Mary “Mollie” Watkins Biscoe. Despite her parents’ reluctance, the two were married on November 11, 1856, with Patrick Cleburne serving as best man.

As the War approached, Hindman was an ardent voice for secession and was essentially Arkansas’s most prominent Fire-Eater. When Arkansas voted 65-5 to secede from the Union in May 1861, Hindman was present in the gallery of the convention. With war approaching, Hindman resigned from Congress and recruited a regiment at Helena, which was mustered into Confederate service. He requested the state government for muskets, clothing and ten days of rations so that his men could “fight for our country.”

By June 1, 1861, Hindman had raised ten companies which would eventually become known as the 2nd Arkansas Infantry, with six companies stationed at Helena and four at Pine Bluff. He lost five companies who refused to leave the state to fight. Afterwards, Hindman followed orders to report to Richmond, Virginia. He began the long journey with his regiment in June. By September 1861, Hindman was promoted to the rank of brigadier general. He and his regiment were soon active participants in the disastrous Kentucky Campaign, followed soon thereafter by fierce fighting at the Battle of Shiloh in April 1862, where he was slightly wounded.

After his recovery, Hindman was promoted to the rank of Major General and was appointed commander of the Trans-Mississippi Department to prevent an invasion by the Union troops led by Samuel Curtis. Events in Arkansas had taken a terrible turn for the worse. Most units had been stripped from the state for service east of the Mississippi River. When Hindman arrived in Little Rock, Arkansas, he found that his command was “bare of soldiers, penniless, defenseless, and dreadfully exposed” to the Federal Army that was approaching dangerously from the northwest.

Hindman set to work and issued a series of harsh military edicts, instituting conscription,

continued on next page

Thomas Carmichael Hindman, Jr. (continued)

authorizing guerrilla warfare and requisitioning supplies for the defense of the State. Hindman also commenced a campaign of misinformation designed to mislead Federal authorities about the strength of the state's defenses. He also diverted Texas troops bound for Virginia for use in the defense of Arkansas. This series of events, combined with harassing tactics, confused the Federal authorities, causing them to fear that they did not have an adequate supply line to conquer the state and soon diverted from a course towards the capital and instead moved to Helena to reestablish a solid supply line.

Hindman's edicts, however, raised the ire of the local citizenry and they, and Hindman's political enemies, demanded that the Confederate leaders in Richmond replace him. By August 1862, the authorities in Richmond decided to replace him with the well-meaning but incompetent Theophilus H. Holmes. Hindman convinced Holmes to give him a field command in northern Arkansas and he proceeded with a plan to drive out the invader. Hindman aggressively moved into northwest Arkansas and managed to intercept the Federal army while it was divided into two parts. At this moment, however, Hindman's normally aggressive style gave way to uncharacteristic doubt. Rather than attack the divided pieces of the Federal army, Hindman entrenched himself at Prairie Grove, Arkansas, allowing the Federal forces to recombine and assault him.

Hindman's position was well selected, but the better equipped and supplied Federal forces wore down the Confederate forces and Hindman was forced to withdraw back towards Little Rock, having missed his chance to destroy the Federal army. After the stalemate at Prairie Grove, Hindman was transferred back across the river and participated in the Battle of Chickamauga alongside his friend Pat Cleburne. After being wounded in the neck at Chickamauga, Hindman and his legion continued to fight along with the Army of Tennessee against Sherman in the Atlanta Campaign.

On July 4, 1864, at Kennesaw Mountain he was struck in the eye by a tree limb and fell off his horse. Hindman suffered severe injuries that left him unfit for service on the battlefield. He went to Atlanta and later Macon, Georgia to recuperate from his injuries. Afterwards, Hindman hoped that he would be able to fight after a full recovery. He applied for a transfer to the Trans-Mississippi Department. His request was denied by the Confederate War Department, but Jefferson Davis offered Hindman a leave of absence until he had fully recovered from his "physical disability". After his leave of absence was approved in August, Hindman set out for Texas. During their journey, Hindman's second daughter, Sallie, died of

an illness near Meridian, Mississippi. Hindman arrived in San Antonio and settled there with his family for the time being. He was honored by military officials and local residents on January 26, 1865.

By May 1865, Confederate generals in New Orleans signed a document with Union generals detailing the Confederate terms of surrender. Hindman refused to surrender and, along with many other ex-Confederates, he crossed the Rio Grande into Mexico and sought asylum. Hindman joined Confederate refugees in the Mexican town of Carolota, where he engaged in coffee planting and attempted to practice law.

By April 1867, he was confident enough in the situation at home to return to Arkansas and apply to President Andrew Johnson for a pardon. Hindman's application was one of the few denied. Nonetheless, he attempted to return to his former life. Politics still called to him and he came out against the Reconstruction Constitution, which put him in direct conflict with reconstruction authorities. These authorities revived a treason indictment against him and had him arrested. This did not stop Hindman, who went on the political circuit and had some success building an unlikely coalition of newly freed slaves and Democrats.

At around 9:30 on the night of September 27, 1868, Hindman was assassinated by one or more unknown assailants who fired through his parlor window while he was reading his newspaper with his children. The musket shots hit Hindman in the jaw, throat and hands, and he died eight hours later due to significant blood loss, ending the life of Arkansas' highest ranking Confederate military officer.

Before his death, Hindman gave a farewell speech to his neighbors and political supporters, from the porch of his house. With "perfect composure", Hindman told listeners to "unite their courage and determination to bring peace to the people". Hindman hinted at the recent political debate with Powell Clayton as a possible motivation for the shooting and said, "I do not know who killed me; but I can say, whoever it was, I forgive him." He asked James H. O'Connor to "take care of my family and be a protector to my wife and dear little ones." After O'Connor accepted, Hindman stated, "I forgive everybody, and hope they will forgive me." Afterwards, he was too weak to continue speaking, and he sat down on a lounge. He remained there until he died early next morning.

Hindman was buried at Evergreen Cemetery (later named Maple Hill Cemetery) in Helena, near the grave of his friend Patrick Cleburne.



BG Micah Jenkins Camp # 1569
4240 Mt Gallant Road
Rock Hill, South Carolina 29732



Thomas Carmichael Hindman, Jr. (January 28, 1828 – September 27, 1868)