

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

**Volume X Number II**

**February 2011**



## *Honoring the Gray*

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### Commander's Comments

At this time I hope that you and your family are doing well. Please take time to remember those camp members on our prayer list. Feel free to contact me either by phone or by email if the need arises. The executive council met in January to discuss the events for the upcoming year. Currently there are three projects that I am looking to expand over the next few months.

First off, after some discussion the executive council has decided to purchase four medal/certificate of the H.L. Hunley award from the S.C. Division to be presented to the Junior R.O.T.C programs in the York County School System. The cost for each medal & certificate is \$30.00 each.

Secondly, I would like to start a chapter of the Order of Confederate Rose for our camp. The OCR is a ladies auxiliary of local area camps and assists the Sons of Confederate Veterans with their historical, educational, benevolent and social functions. Special emphasis is placed on the preservation of Confederate history. This is a way for the wives of camp members to get involved in the activities of the camp. To form a local Chapter in SC, you must have 7 members, and the sponsorship of an SCV Camp in the South Carolina Division.

Third, we are moving forward on our cemetery project for this year. I have asked Laddie Parrish & Ray Baker to scope out the work that will need to be done at either the Roberts Cemetery or the Crawford Cemetery in Rock Hill. We will probably be looking at a scheduled workday during the month of March.

In closing, I am excited about the prospects of the camp for 2011. I am also looking forward to serving the camp during the Sesquicentennial. This year also marks the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the camp's charter and your camp officers are working hard in preparing for this event later in the year.

### **Camp Meeting**

**Tuesday, February 8<sup>th</sup> 2011**

Regularly scheduled meeting at the Mayflower Seafood Restaurant @ 7:00 PM.

Come early join the fellowship and eat.

The February meeting speaker is Jack Marlar, SCV Field Representative.

The topic of his presentation is "The Character of Lee & Jackson".

Jack Marlar has made several visits to the Micah Jenkins Camp and has always been a spark of enthusiasm in support of our camp and to the Sons of Confederate Veterans. He is quite knowledgeable about SCV and his visit will not only enlighten us about Generals Lee and Jackson, but it will also give us an opportunity to talk about our heritage and the future of SCV.

## My South

by Robert St. John

Executive chef and owner of the Purple Parrot Cafe,  
Crescent City Grill and Mahogany Bar of Hattiesburg, Mississippi

Thirty years ago I visited my first cousin in Virginia. While hanging out with his friend, the discussion turned to popular movies of the day. When I offered my two-cents on the authenticity and social relevance of the movie Billy Jack, one of the boys asked, in all seriousness; "Do you guys have movie theaters down there?"

To which I replied, "Yep. We wear shoes too."

Just three years ago, my wife and I were attending a food seminar in Aspen, Colorado. We were seated with two couples from Las Vegas. One of the Glitter Gulch gals was amused and downright rude when I described our restaurant as a fine-dining restaurant.

"Mississippi doesn't have fine-dining restaurants!" she demanded and nudged her companion.

I fought back the strong desire to mention that she lived in the land that invented the 99-cent breakfast buffet. I wanted badly to defend my state and my restaurant with a 15-minute soliloquy and public relations rant that would surely change her mind. It was at that precise moment that I was hit with a blinding jolt of enlightenment, and in a moment of complete and absolute clarity it dawned on me — my south is the best-kept secret in the country.

Why would I try to win this woman over? She might move down here.

I am always amused by Hollywood's interpretation of the South. We are still, on occasion, depicted as a collective group of sweaty, stupid, backwards-minded and racist rednecks. The south of movies and TV, the Hollywood south, is not my south.

### **Honoring the Gray**

**Needs your input each month.**

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

If so, please send to Jerry Brown at [jenkinsscv@yahoo.com](mailto:jenkinsscv@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.

### **This is my south:**

My south is full of honest, hardworking people. My south is the birthplace of blues and jazz, and rock n' roll. It has banjo pickers and fiddle players, but it also has B. B. King, Muddy Waters, the Allman Brothers, Emmylou Harris and Elvis.

My south is hot.

My south smells of newly mowed grass.

My south is creek swimming, cane-pole fishing, and bird hunting.

In my south, football is king.

My south is home to the most beautiful women on the planet.

In my south, soul food and country cooking are the same thing.

My south is full of fig preserves, cornbread, butter beans, fried chicken, grits and catfish. In my south we also eat foie gras, caviar, and truffles.

In my south, our transistor radios introduced us to the Beatles and the Rolling Stones at the same time they were introduced to the rest of the country. We also watched the Partridge Family, Hawaii Five-O, Bonanza, and Ed Sullivan with the rest of the country.

In my south, grandmothers cooked a big dinner every Sunday.

In my south, family matters, deeply.

My south is boiled shrimp, blackberry cobbler, peach ice cream, and banana pudding.

In my south people put peanuts in bottles of Coca Cola and hot sauce on almost everything.

My south has air-conditioning.

My south is camellias, azaleas, dogwoods, wisteria, magnolias, gardenias, and hydrangeas.

In my south, the only person that has to sit on the back of the bus is the last person that got on the bus.

In my south, people still say, "yes, ma'am," "no, ma'am," "please" and "thank you."

In my south, we all wear shoes ... most of the time.

My south is the best-kept secret in the country. Please continue to keep the secret ... it keeps the idiots away.





### **Prayer Closet**

- Please continue to pray for our those effected by the economy; especially those unemployed. The economy is still not good.

- Please add Dean Wade to your prayers. Dean recently had eye surgery.

- Please keep the following members of the Palmetto Battalion to your prayers: Leland Summers, & Steve Wilson. Each has been an accident or has a serious illness.

- Lets all keep in prayer Bob Jackson, he has a broken leg. Also, Jack Morton's wife Connie, she is healing from a broken arm.

- Please add Laddie's mother (Clara Parrish) on your prayer 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.

### **From the Chaplain**

Please send your Prayer Requests to our Camp Chaplain, Lindsay Waldrop. Lindsay can be contacted by phone (803-329-5921) or by email ([lindsayw@comporium.net](mailto:lindsayw@comporium.net)).

Lindsay will be sure to add you to his prayers and see that your request is added to each month.

### **1st Lt Commander's Comments**

A little over a year ago I asked to join the Sons of Confederate Veterans and the Micah Jenkins Camp. This has turned out to be one of the most enjoyable educational events I have ever experienced. Brad Blackmon served as the 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Commander of the Camp and did a remarkable job getting speakers to add to our knowledge related to the 1861-1865 conflict.

Before SCV came along, I always referred to that period between 1861 and 1865 as the Civil War. If I never learn anything else about my ancestors, it is that they fought a war of Northern aggression and they fought a War for Southern Independence.

In my ignorance, I did not know that I had ancestors who had the courage, the determination and the patriotism to put down a plow, to pick up a rifle and to fight to preserve the freedoms granted to us in the Constitution of the United States. In my ignorance, I always thought that the war was fought to free 'negroes' from slavery, that Abraham Lincoln was the Great Emancipator and only the South benefitted from enslaving the dark skinned race from Africa.

Over the past year in the Micah Jenkins Camp, our educational programs have revealed the true history of the 1861 to 1865 period. As the 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Commander, it is now my task to continue developing programs to add to our knowledge of that dreadful period. I will do my best to fulfill that responsibility.

### **Help save your SCV Camp money!!**

Do you have internet and email?  
Are you still receiving  
by US Mail?

Take a try at getting  
by email.

Send me your email address and  
I'll send you the newsletter by email.  
If you are not happy with receiving by email, you  
can always switch back to "snail mail".

Send to: [jenkinsscvc@yahoo.com](mailto:jenkinsscvc@yahoo.com)

## William Barksdale (August 21, 1821 – July 3, 1863)

William Barksdale was a lawyer, newspaper editor, U.S. Congressman, and a Confederate general during the War. A staunch secessionist, he was mortally wounded during the Battle of Gettysburg while leading his brigade's attack on Union forces not far from Cemetery Ridge.

William Barksdale was born in Smyrna, Tennessee, the son of William Barksdale and Nancy Hervey Lester Barksdale. He was the older brother of Ethelbert Barksdale, who would serve in both the antebellum U.S. Congress and then the Confederate States Congress during the War.

Barksdale graduated from the University of Nashville and practiced law in Mississippi from the age of 21, but gave up his practice to become the editor of the Columbus [Mississippi] Democrat, a pro-slavery newspaper. He enlisted in the 2nd Mississippi Infantry Regiment and served in the Mexican War as a captain and quartermaster, but often participated in the infantry fighting as well.

After the war, he entered the U.S. House of Representatives and achieved national prominence as a States' rights Democrat, serving from March 4, 1853, to January 12, 1861. He was considered to be one of the most ferocious of all the "Fire-Eaters" in the House. He allegedly stood by the side of Representative Preston S. Brooks as Brooks attacked Massachusetts abolitionist Senator Charles Sumner in the Senate chamber with a cane, although he was not one of the members that the House tried to censure after the incident.

After the state of Mississippi seceded just before the start of the War, Barksdale resigned from Congress to become adjutant general, and then quartermaster general, of the Mississippi Militia, at the rank of brigadier general, with date of rank March 1, 1861. On May 1, he was appointed colonel in the Confederate States Army of the 13th Mississippi Infantry, a regiment that he led in the First Battle of Bull Run that summer. The following spring, he took his regiment to the Virginia Peninsula and fought in the Peninsula Campaign and the Seven Days Battle. When his brigade commander, Brig. Gen. Richard Griffin, was mortally wounded at the Battle of Savage's Station on June 29, 1862, Barksdale assumed command of the brigade and led it in an heroic, but bloody and futile, charge at the Battle of Malvern Hill. The brigade became known as "Barksdale's Mississippi Brigade." He was promoted to brigadier general on August 12, 1862.

In the Northern Virginia Campaign, Barksdale's Brigade was stationed at Harpers Ferry, and thus did

not participate in the Second Battle of Bull Run. In the Maryland Campaign, his brigade was assigned to the division of Maj. Gen. Lafayette McLaws in Lt. Gen. James Longstreet's First Corps of the Army of Northern Virginia. It was one of the brigades that attacked Maryland Heights, leading to the surrender of the Union garrison at Harpers Ferry. At the subsequent Battle of Antietam, McLaws's Division defended the West Woods against the assault by Maj. Gen. John Sedgwick's division, saving the Confederate left flank. At the Battle of Fredericksburg, Barksdale's Brigade defended the waterfront of the city from Union forces attempting to cross the Rappahannock River, sniping at infantry and engineer forces from buildings that had been turned into rubble by Union artillery.

At the Battle of Chancellorsville in May 1863, Barksdale's Brigade was one of the few units in James Longstreet's Corps that was present at the battle; most of the corps was detached for duty in Suffolk, Virginia. Once again, Barksdale's brigade defended the heights above Fredericksburg, this time against his previous adversary, Sedgwick, whose VI Corps was over ten times the size of his brigade. Sedgwick's assault was successful and Barksdale pulled back after delaying the Union force, but he was able to rally his brigade and retake the lost ground the next day.

At the Battle of Gettysburg, Barksdale's Brigade arrived with McLaws's Division after the first day of battle, July 1, 1863. The plan from General Robert E. Lee was for Longstreet's Corps to maneuver into position and attack northeast, up the Emmitsburg Road, to roll up the Union left flank. Barksdale's sector of the attack placed him directly at the tip of the salient in the Union line anchored at the Peach Orchard, defended by the Union III Corps. At about 5:30 p.m., Barksdale's Brigade burst from the woods and started an irresistible assault, which has been described as one of the most breathtaking spectacles of the War. A Union colonel was quoted as saying, "It was the grandest charge that was ever made by mortal man." Although he ordered his subordinate commanders to walk during the charge, Barksdale himself rode on horseback "in front, leading the way, hat off, his wispy hair shining so that it reminded [a Confederate staff officer] of 'the white plume of Navarre'."

The Confederates smashed the brigade manning the Peach Orchard line, wounding and capturing the Union brigade commander himself. Some of Barksdale's regiments turned to the north and



## William Barksdale (cont)

shattered Maj. Gen. Andrew A. Humphreys's division. Others of his regiments went straight ahead. By the time his men had gone as far as Plum Run, a mile into the assault, they were counterattacked by a brigade under Colonel George L. Willard. Barksdale was wounded in his left knee, followed by a cannonball to his left foot, and finally was hit by another bullet to his chest, knocking him off his horse. He told his aide, W.R. Boyd, "I am killed! Tell my wife and children that I died fighting at my post." His troops were forced to leave him for dead on the field and he died the next morning in a Union field hospital (the Joseph Hummelbaugh farmhouse). Barksdale is buried in Greenwood Cemetery in Jackson, Mississippi.

Barksdale is portrayed in the film Gettysburg and in the prequel, Gods and Generals, by Lester Kinsolving, who is a descendant of Barksdale.

## Micah Jenkins Website

The web address is:  
[bgmicahjenkins.org](http://bgmicahjenkins.org)

## Time Line: February 1861

- February 1st** - Texas secedes from the Union.
- February 2nd** - Confederate States of America formed at Montgomery, Alabama.
- February 4th** - Delegates from seceded states meet in Montgomery, Alabama to establish the Confederate government.
- February 8th** - The convention of seceded states adopts a provisional constitution.
- February 9th** - Jefferson Davis elected provisional President of the Confederate States of America with Alexander Stephens as provisional Vice President.
- February 12th** - Provisional Confederate Congress establishes Peace Commission to prevent war with the United States. State troops take possession of Federal munitions stored at Napoleon, Arkansas.
- February 16th** - Provisional Confederate President Jefferson Davis arrives in Montgomery, Alabama. Texas state troops seized the U.S. Arsenal at San Antonio.
- February 18th** - Jefferson Davis inaugurated as provisional President of the Confederate States of America.
- February 19th** - Louisiana State troops seize the U.S. paymaster's office in New Orleans.
- February 20th** - The Department of the Navy of the Confederacy is established.
- February 27th** - Davis receives missives from Governor Pickens of South Carolina, expressing the need for Confederate takeover of Fort Sumter to preserve "honor and safety".
- February 28th** - Missouri holds a state convention with the purpose to debate secession.

## Southern Photographers By Mrs. W. T. Fowler

To most of us the pictures of our war mean Matthew Brady; but an article in August Camera Magazine by James Murphy, Director of Art, Binghamton, New York throws new light on the subject. He gives credit to Southern photographers for many good pictures. He asks "why the photographers of the South so seldom receive credit?" One of these was George S. Cook of Charleston, South Carolina.

He especially refers to "the great A. J. Lytle" of New Orleans, the first Secret Service photographer; and states that his activities as a camera spy were of great assistance to the Confederacy, and that his name is known only to a few devoted Civil War specialists. Lytle and the others were aided by the fact that "passes to trade" were common and it was not unusual for the southern photographers to obtain their materials from Washington supply houses without the necessity to smuggle. These passes for medicine were issued regularly through the war to its end. However in one theatre in Virginia photo-

graphic material was contraband and the chemicals had to be smuggled in the bottles as quinine.

He also tells of a traveling exhibit put out by The Ansco Co., suppliers of photographic material. A section on Confederate photography is included, especially pointing out some of George Cook's excellent photography in Charleston that was reproduced by cooperation of the Valentine Museum of Richmond which own the original plates. One of his best pictures is of a line up of the "Palmetto Battery" of the Charleston Light Artillery at Stone Inlet, Charleston in 1863.

Another of Cook's from the Valentine Museum was taken in 1861 of prisoners being held in Castle Pinckney and guarded by the Charleston Zouaves.

The best known portraits of Julius Vannerson were of Confederate military men. The one of Robert E. Lee is in the Library of Congress.

## **Genesis of the Civil War** by Llewellyn H. Rockwell, Jr.

The historical event that looms largest in American public consciousness is the Civil War. One-hundred thirty-nine years after the first shot was fired, its genesis is still fiercely debated and its symbols heralded and protested. And no wonder: the event transformed the American regime from a federalist system based on freedom to a centralized state that circumscribed liberty in the name of public order. The cataclysmic event massacred a generation of young men, burned and looted the Southern states, set a precedent for executive dictatorship, and transformed the American military from a citizen-based defense corps into a global military power that can't resist intervention.

And yet, if you listen to the media on the subject, you might think that the entire issue of the Civil War comes down to race and slavery. If you favor Confederate symbols, it means you are a white person unsympathetic to the plight of blacks in America. If you favor abolishing Confederate History Month and taking down the flag, you are an enlightened thinker willing to bury the past so we can look forward to a bright future under progressive leadership. The debate rarely goes beyond these simplistic slogans.

And yet this take on the event is wildly ahistorical. It takes Northern war propaganda at face value without considering that the South had solid legal, moral, and economic reasons for secession which had nothing to do with slavery. Even the name "Civil War" is misleading, since the war wasn't about two sides fighting to run the central government as in the English or Roman civil wars. The South attempted a peaceful secession from federal control, an ambition no different from the original American plea for independence from Britain.

But why would the South want to secede? If the original American ideal of federalism and constitutionalism had survived to 1860, the South would not have needed to. But one issue loomed larger than any other in that year as in the previous three decades: the Northern tariff. It was imposed to benefit Northern industrial interests by subsidizing their production through public works. But it had the effect of forcing the South to pay more for manufactured goods and disproportionately taxing it to support the central government. It also injured the South's trading relations with other parts of the world.

In effect, the South was being looted to pay for the North's early version of industrial policy. The battle over the tariff began in 1828, with the "tariff of abomination." Thirty year later, with the South

paying 87 percent of federal tariff revenue while having their livelihoods threatened by protectionist legislation, it became impossible for the two regions to be governed under the same regime. The South as a region was being reduced to a slave status, with the federal government as its master.

But why 1860? Lincoln promised not to interfere with slavery, but he did pledge to "collect the duties and imposts": he was the leading advocate of the tariff and public works policy, which is why his election prompted the South to secede. In pro-Lincoln newspapers, the phrase "free trade" was invoked as the equivalent of industrial suicide. Why fire on Ft. Sumter? It was a customs house, and when the North attempted to strengthen it, the South knew that its purpose was to collect taxes, as newspapers and politicians said at the time.

To gain an understanding of the Southern mission, look no further than the Confederate Constitution. It is a duplicate of the original Constitution, with several improvements. It guarantees free trade, restricts legislative power in crucial ways, abolishes public works, and attempts to rein in the executive. No, it didn't abolish slavery but neither did the original Constitution (in fact, the original protected property rights in slaves).

Before the war, Lincoln himself had pledged to leave slavery intact, to enforce the fugitive slaves laws, and to support an amendment that would forever guarantee slavery where it then existed. Neither did he lift a finger to repeal the anti-Negro laws that besotted all Northern states, Illinois in particular. Recall that the underground railroad ended, not in New York or Boston-since dropping off blacks in those states would have been restricted-but in Canada! The Confederate Constitution did, however, make possible the gradual elimination of slavery, a process that would have been made easier had the North not so severely restricted the movements of former slaves.

Now, you won't read this version of events in any conventional history text, particularly not those approved for use in public high schools. You are not likely to hear about it in the college classroom either, where the single issue of slavery overwhelms any critical thinking. Again and again we are told what Polybius called "an idle, unprofitable tale" instead of the truth, and we are expected to swallow it uncritically. So where can you go to discover that the conventional story is sheer nonsense?

## Genesis of the Civil War by Llewellyn H. Rockwell, Jr.

The last ten years have brought us a flurry of great books that look beneath the surface. There is John Denson's *The Costs of War* (1998), Jeffrey Rodgers Hummel's *Emancipating Slaves, Enslaving Free Men* (1996), David Gordon's *Secession, State, and Liberty* (1998), Marshall de Rosa's *The Confederate Constitution* (1991), or, from a more popular standpoint, James and Walter Kennedy's *Was Jefferson Davis Right?* (1998).

But if we were to recommend one work-based on originality, brevity, depth, and sheer rhetorical power-it would be Charles Adams's time bomb of a book, *When in the Course of Human Events: Arguing the Case for Southern Secession* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2000). In a mere 242 pages, he shows that almost everything we thought we knew about the war between the states is wrong.

Adams believes that both Northern and Southern leaders were lying when they invoked slavery as a reason for secession and for the war. Northerners were seeking a moral pretext for an aggressive war, while Southern leaders were seeking a threat more concrete than the Northern tariff to justify a drive to political independence. This was rhetoric designed for mass consumption. Adams amasses an amazing amount of evidence-including remarkable editorial cartoons and political speeches-to support his thesis that the war was really about government revenue.

Consider this little tidbit from the pro-Lincoln *New York Evening Post*, March 2, 1861 edition:

"That either the revenue from duties must be collected in the ports of the rebel states, or the port must be closed to importations from abroad, is generally admitted. If neither of these things be done, our revenue laws are substantially repealed; the sources which supply our treasury will be dried up; we shall have no money to carry on the government; the nation will become bankrupt before the next crop of corn is ripe. There will be nothing to furnish means

of subsistence to the army; nothing to keep our navy afloat; nothing to pay the salaries of public officers; the present order of things must come to a dead stop.

"What, then, is left for our government? Shall we let the seceding states repeal the revenue laws for the whole Union in this manner? Or will the government choose to consider all foreign commerce destined for those ports where we have no custom-houses and no collectors as contraband, and stop it, when offering to enter the collection districts from which our authorities have been expelled?"

This is not an isolated case. British newspapers, whether favoring the North or South, said the same thing: the feds invaded the South to collect revenue. Indeed, when Karl Marx said the following, he was merely stating what everyone who followed events closely knew: "The war between the North and the South is a tariff war. The war is further, not for any principle, does not touch the question of slavery, and in fact turns on the Northern lust for sovereignty."

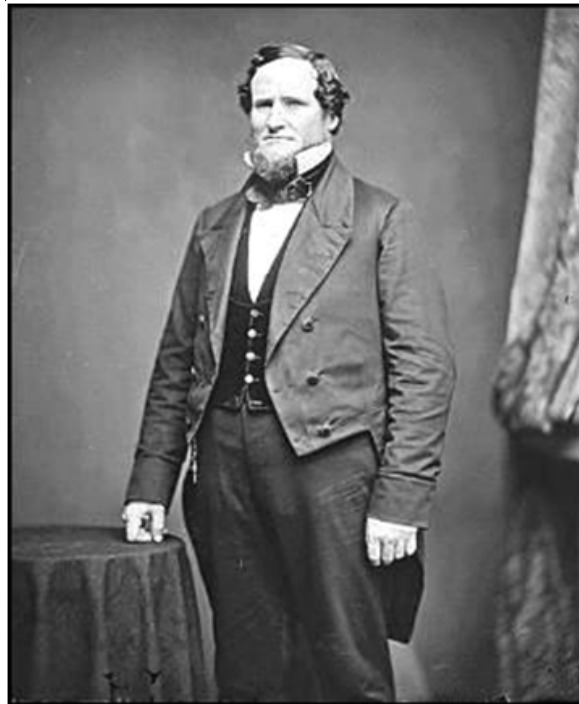
Marx was only wrong on one point: the war was about principle at one level. It was about the principle of self-determination and the right not to be taxed to support an alien regime. Another way of putting this is that the war was about freedom, and the South was on the same side as the original American revolutionaries.

Interesting, isn't it, that today, those who favor banning Confederate symbols and continue to demonize an entire people's history also tend to be partisans of the federal government in all its present political struggles? Not much has changed in 139 years. Adams's book goes a long way toward telling the truth about this event, for anyone who cares to look at the facts.





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**William Barksdale (August 21, 1821 – July 3, 1863)**