



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

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Honoring the Gray

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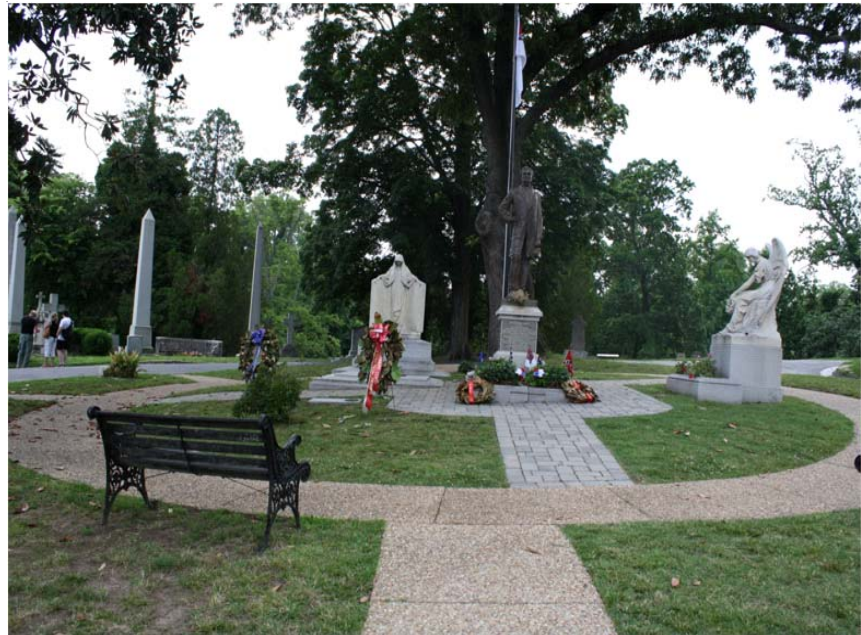
Commander's Comments

I hope all are well at this time of reading this article. By the time we have our meeting on July 14, I hope all of you celebrated the 4th of July. That day represents our freedom from outside sources. We became our own leaders. Let's all pray for our leaders of our country so they may lead us in a Christian way and not try to take our freedom away piece by piece.

Hope to see each one of you on the 14th at our regular meeting.

A good book to read - "The Day Dixie Died" by Thomas & Debra Goodrich.

Jim Floyd - Commander



Jefferson Davis' burial site at Hollywood Cemetery

Honoring the Gray

Editor

Jerry Brown
803-327-2834

Camp Meeting

Tuesday, July 14th 2009

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

Come early join the fellowship and eat.

Our speaker this month will be Ms. Nora Brooks, she will be portraying Mildred Childe Lee, the youngest daughter of General Robert E. Lee

Chaplain's Comments

"Forget not the ancient landmarks thy fathers have set..." Proverbs 22:28

Dear Compatriots of the "Southern Cause":
I hope this writing finds you and yours doing well. Independence Day is a good time for us to give regular attendance to our roots as Americans. This should include certain documents and symbols which are part and parcel of our great Christian heritage. While these documents and symbols live among in many ways, to name a few at this July of 2009 is fitting. First is the Mayflower Compact of 1620 when 41 pilgrims compiled the first written constitution. It opened with "In the name of God. Amen"

And ended by saying "undertaken for the glory of God" Second is the Liberty Bell with the inscription "Proclaim liberty throughout the land unto the inhabitants there of" Leviticus 25:10. Third is the Declaration of Independence, "that all men are created equal,, endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights...life...liberty and the pursuit of happiness" Fourth the American seal on the dollar bill above the pyramid that says "*Annuit Coeptis*" meaning,

"he [God] has favored our undertakings" Fifth is the, Oath of Office of the presidency George Washington wrote and ended with, "So Help Me God". Sixth is the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag. In 1954 President Eisenhower made it the law of the land to add "under God". Seventh, at the signing of the Constitution two comments were made by Benjamin Franklin and President John Adams that say concurrently "Only a virtuous people are capable of freedom" and "Our constitution was made only for moral and religious people".

TRUTH: You know, God has preserved our nation thus far! But let's return to the main theme here again. We may lose all we have materially in this life, but if we have invested in spiritual things, no tragedy that can happen in this fallen world will ever touch us. America was built with allegiance to God in many ways with only a few mentioned above. The beloved hymn "Amazing Grace" says it best: "Through many dangers, toils and snares I have already come; Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home" It was this sort of spiritual drive that led the South to become productive citizens and rebuild their lives, homes and cities after a devastating, un-American and undeserved defeat. But we are now all Americans and we must strive together as Christians to do our part in keeping our nation strong religiously. Honor God with your life!

Call or contact me at 684-9446 or 230-1175
or jdsipe@bellsouth.net.

COME EARLY TUESDAY TO PATRONIZE OUR MEETING PLACE BY EATING THERE. THEN ENJOY FELLOWSHIP WITH OTHER DIXIE BOYS FOLLOWED BY OUR GENERAL SESSION MEETING AND SPEAKER.

*Rev. Dan Sipe,
Chaplain and Past Commander*

Prayer Closet

- Please continue to pray for our President & government leaders. The SCV, national, division and brigade.
- Continue to pray for our children as during their summer vacation.
- Pray for our nation during this month of our national independence.
- Pray for our service men and women protecting our freedom.
- Pray for the families of our troops.



Romans 1:9

"For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of His Son, That without ceasing I make mentions of you always in my prayers."

Do you have an article for Honoring the Gray?

If so, please send to Jerry Brown at 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 to one page for mailing purposes.



Mildred Childe Lee

Mildred (“Milly,” “Precious Life”) was the baby of the family and was named after Robert E. Lee’s sister Mildred (Lee) Childe. She was at home most of the time until she went away to boarding school at Winchester, Virginia in autumn of 1860. The youngest child, she was a bit spoiled and willful. Her father once complained that she always wanted something. Yet, if able, he gave her everything she wanted. She had some difficulties with her mother in the spring of 1861, for making a fuss over a bonnet at a time when the Union was breaking apart, her home was in danger, and her father’s career in jeopardy. But she was a bright spirit and a lively cheerful person. She had brown hair and rather plain features. She was not pretty and had a tendency to plumpness but her father thought she brought light into a room when she entered it, and she often did surprising things that delighted him.

Like her sister Agnes, she was very fond of her pet chickens and the family cats. She took music lessons but evidently did not practice very hard. She loved the flower garden and she had her own individual plot which she planted with the help of Harry Washington Gray, one of the slave children on the estate. Mildred, too, read novel, religious books, and enjoyed singing hymns. She was very close to her father after the war and was quite lonely when he died. Of the other children, she was closest to Rob, her childhood companion. Mildred never married although she longed for companionship. She traveled widely in the 1870’s and 1880’s, but did not seem to enjoy it much.

On March 26, 1905, Mildred died in New Orleans and was interred in Lexington with other members of her family. The room with which she was most closely associated was the girls’ bedroom where she kept her things and had play tea parties for her dolls, Jenny Lind and Angelina.

James Longstreet

Jan 8, 1821 – Jan 2, 1904 (aged 82)

Longstreet was born in Edgefield District, South Carolina. He was the fifth child and third son of James and Mary Ann Dent Longstreet, originally from New Jersey and Maryland respectively'

James Longstreet was one of the foremost Confederate generals of the American Civil War and the principal subordinate to General Robert E. Lee, who called him his “Old War Horse.” He served under Lee as a corps commander for many of the famous battles fought by the Army of Northern Virginia in the Eastern Theater, but also with Gen. Braxton Bragg in the Army of Tennessee in the Western Theater. Biographer and historian Jeffrey D. Wert wrote that “Longstreet ... was the finest corps commander in the Army of Northern Virginia; in fact, he was arguably the best corps commander in the conflict on either side.”

Longstreet’s talents as a general made significant contributions to the Confederate victories at Second Bull Run, Fredericksburg, and Chickamauga, in both offensive and defensive roles. He also performed strongly during the Seven Days Battles, the Battle of Antietam, and until he was seriously wounded, at the Battle of the Wilderness. His performance in semiautonomous command at Knoxville, Tennessee, resulted in a Confederate defeat. His most controversial service was at the Battle of Gettysburg, where he disagreed with General Lee on the tactics to be employed and reluctantly supervised the disastrous infantry assault known as Pickett’s Charge.

He enjoyed a successful post-war career working for the U.S. Government as a diplomat, civil servant, and administrator. However, his conversion to the Republican Party and his cooperation with his old friend, President Ulysses S. Grant, as well as critical comments he wrote in his memoirs about General Lee’s wartime performance, made him anathema to many of his former Confederate colleagues. Authors of the Lost Cause movement focused on Longstreet’s actions at Gettysburg as a primary reason for the Confederacy’s loss of the war. His reputation in the South was damaged for over a century and has only recently begun a slow reassessment.

The Battle of Gettysburg (July 1–3, 1863)

The Battle of Gettysburg was fought in and around the town of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, as part of the Gettysburg Campaign, was the battle with the largest number of casualties in the American Civil War and is often described as the war's turning point. Union Maj. Gen. George Gordon Meade's Army of the Potomac defeated attacks by Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia, ending Lee's invasion of the North.

Shortly after the Army of Northern Virginia won a major victory over the Army of the Potomac at the Battle of Chancellorsville (April 30 – May 6, 1863), Robert E. Lee decided upon a second invasion of the North (the first was the unsuccessful Maryland Campaign of September 1862). Such a move would upset Federal plans for the summer campaigning season and possibly reduce the pressure on the besieged Confederate garrison at Vicksburg. It would allow the Confederates to live off the bounty of the rich Northern farms while giving war-ravaged Virginia a much needed rest. In addition, Lee's 72,000-man army could threaten Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Washington, and possibly strengthen the growing peace movement in the North.

Thus, on June 3, Lee's army began to shift northward from Fredericksburg, Virginia. In order to attain more efficiency in his command, Lee had reorganized his two large corps into three new corps. Lt. Gen. James Longstreet retained command of his First Corps. The old corps of deceased Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson was divided into two, with the Second Corps going to Lt. Gen. Richard S. Ewell and the new Third Corps to Lt. Gen. A.P. Hill. The Cavalry Division was commanded by Maj. Gen. J.E.B. Stuart.

The Union Army of the Potomac, under Maj. Gen. Joseph Hooker, consisted of seven infantry corps, a cavalry corps, and an Artillery Reserve, for a combined strength of about 94,000 men. However, President Lincoln replaced Hooker with Maj. Gen. George Gordon Meade, a Pennsylvanian, because of Hooker's defeat at Chancellorsville and his timid response to Lee's second invasion north of the Potomac River.

Lee gave strict orders to his army to minimize any negative impacts on the civilian population. Food, horses, and other supplies were generally not seized outright, although quartermasters reimbursing Northern farmers and merchants using Confederate money were not well received.

Meanwhile, in a controversial move, Lee allowed J.E.B. Stuart to take a portion of the army's cavalry and ride around the east flank of the Union army. Lee's orders gave Stuart much latitude, and both generals share the blame for the long absence of Stuart's cavalry, as well as for the failure to assign a more active role to the cavalry left with the army. Stuart and his three best brigades were absent from the army during the crucial phase of the approach to Gettysburg and the first two days of battle. By June 29, Lee's army was strung out in an arc from Chambersburg (28 miles (45 km) northwest of Gettysburg) to Carlisle (30 miles (48 km) north of Gettysburg) to near Harrisburg and Wrightsville on the Susquehanna River.

On June 29 Lee ordered a concentration of his forces around Cashtown, located at the eastern base of South Mountain and eight miles (13 km) west of Gettysburg. On June 30, while part of Hill's Corps was in Cashtown, one of Hill's brigades, North Carolinians under Brig. Gen. J. Johnston Pettigrew, ventured toward Gettysburg. The memoirs of Maj. Gen. Henry Heth, Pettigrew's division commander, claimed that he sent Pettigrew to search for supplies in town—especially shoes.

The two armies began to collide at Gettysburg on July 1, 1863, as Lee urgently concentrated his forces there. Low ridges to the northwest of town were defended initially by a Union cavalry division, which was soon reinforced with two corps of Union infantry. However, two large Confederate corps assaulted them from the northwest and north, collapsing the hastily developed Union lines, sending the defenders retreating through the streets of town to the hills just to the south.

On the second day of battle, most of both armies had assembled. The Union line was laid out in a defensive formation resembling a fishhook. Lee launched a heavy assault on the Union left flank, and fierce fighting raged at Little Round Top, the Wheatfield, Devil's Den, and the Peach Orchard. On the Union right, demonstrations escalated into full-scale assaults on Culp's Hill and Cemetery Hill. All across the battlefield, despite significant losses, the Union defenders held their lines.

On the third day of battle, July 3, fighting resumed on Culp's Hill, and cavalry battles raged to the east and south, but the main event was a dramatic infantry assault by 12,500 Confederates

The Battle of Gettysburg (continued)

against the center of the Union line on Cemetery Ridge. Pickett's Charge was repulsed by Union rifle and artillery fire, at great losses to the Confederate army.

The armies stared at one another across the bloody fields on July 4, the same day that the Vicksburg garrison surrendered to Maj. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant. Lee reformed his lines into a defensive position, hoping that Meade would attack. The cautious Union commander, however, decided against the risk, a decision for which he would later be criticized. By mid-afternoon, the firing at Gettysburg had essentially stopped, and both armies began to collect their remaining wounded and bury some of the dead. A proposal by Lee for a prisoner exchange was rejected by Meade.

On July 5, in a driving rain, the bulk of the Army of Northern Virginia left Gettysburg on the Hagerstown Road; the Battle of Gettysburg was over, and the Confederates headed back to Virginia. Meade's army followed, although the pursuit was half-spirited. The recently rain-swollen Potomac trapped Lee's army on the north bank of the river for a time, but when the Federals finally caught up, the Confederates had forded the river. The rear-guard action at Falling Waters on July 14 ended the Gettysburg Campaign and added some more names to the long casualty lists, including General Pettigrew, who was mortally wounded.

Effect on the Confederacy

The Confederates had lost politically as well as militarily. During the final hours of the battle, Confederate Vice President Alexander Stephens was approaching the Union lines at Norfolk, Virginia, under a flag of truce. Although his formal instructions from Confederate President Jefferson Davis had limited his powers to negotiations on prisoner exchanges and other procedural matters, historian James M. McPherson speculates that he had informal goals of presenting peace overtures. Davis had hoped that Stephens would reach Washington from the south while Lee's victorious army was marching toward it from the north. President Lincoln, upon hearing of the Gettysburg results, refused Stephens's request to pass through the lines. Furthermore, when the news reached London, any lingering hopes of European recognition of the Confederacy were finally abandoned. Henry Adams wrote, "The

disasters of the rebels are unredeemed by even any hope of success. It is now conceded that all idea of intervention is at an end."

Casualties

The two armies had suffered between 46,000 and 51,000 casualties. Union casualties were 23,055 (3,155 killed, 14,531 wounded, 5,369 captured or missing). Confederate casualties are more difficult to estimate. Many authors cite about 28,000 overall casualties, but Busey and Martin's definitive 2005 work, *Regimental Strengths and Losses*, documents 23,231 (4,708 killed, 12,693 wounded, 5,830 captured or missing). The casualties for both sides during the entire campaign were 57,225.[65] There was one documented civilian death during the battle: Ginnie Wade, 20 years old, was shot by a stray bullet that passed through her kitchen in town while she was making bread.

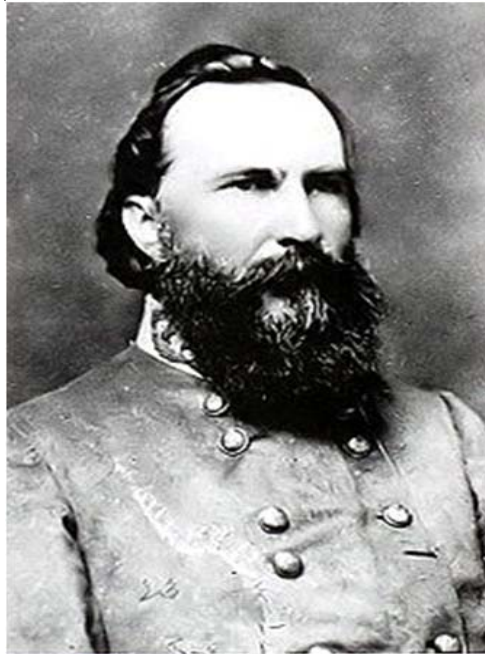
Nearly 8,000 had been killed outright; these bodies, lying in the hot summer sun, needed to be buried quickly. Over 3,000 horse carcasses were burned in a series of piles south of town; townsfolk became violently ill from the stench. The ravages of war would still be evident in Gettysburg more than four months later when, on November 19, the Soldiers' National Cemetery was dedicated.



Gen. Jenkins Dr at the Wilderness



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James Longstreet
January 8, 1821 – January 2, 1904 (aged 82)