



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

**Volume XII Number VI**

**June 2013**



## *Honoring the Gray*

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## **Micah Jenkins Camp Meeting Tuesday, June 11<sup>th</sup> 2013**

**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.**

**Dr. W. J. Reid is our speaker for the June meeting. He is  
known as “Bill” and he describes himself as “an unreconstructed  
Southron who teaches Computer Engineering classes at Clemson  
University”.**

**Now, for you Yankees out there, or at least for you uneducated  
rebels, “Southron” is just another way of saying he is a true South-  
ern Gentleman, who refuses to acknowledge the invasion and  
those who are continuing to invade.**

**Dr. Reid’s topic is “Lincoln and the Bankers” which should  
bring a new perspective to our thinking about how one person can  
bring about his own personal goals.**



## **Commander's Comments**

May was a good month for the Brigadier General Micah Jenkins Camp. Our annual spring fund raiser was a huge success. The camp sold over 200 bags of vidalia onions this year. A special thanks goes out to Jim Floyd for all his hard work in directing the onion sales again this year.

I would also like to applaud Bucky & Linda Sutton for their efforts in leading our Confederate Memorial Day service again this year which was held at Beth Shiloh Presbyterian Church.

And finally I would like to give a special thanks to Chris Sims for presenting the 2013 H.L. Hunley J.R.O.T.C. Award to Cadet Michael Akers during the awards ceremony at Nations Ford High School in Fort Mill.

I commend our camp officers, camp members, and the ladies auxiliary for all their hard work not just for this month, but for the entire year.-THANK YOU ALL!!!

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

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

### **Confederate Memorial Day**

Once each year those who care about our Confederate ancestors set aside a few hours to honor and pay tribute to those who fought for our Country, our families and our heritage during the period 1861-1865. This year was no different than the last 150 years.

It is estimated that more than 600,000 soldiers died during the War of Northern Aggression and that about 260,000 of these were Confederates.

This year 39 of us gathered at Beth Shiloh Presbyterian Church, told stories about three of the soldiers buried in the cemetery, and laid a wreath to honor the 35 who are known to be buried there. It was a moving experience to have so many members from our Micah Jenkins Camp, the United Daughters of the Confederacy, the 6<sup>th</sup> South Carolina Volunteers, and Beth Shiloh Church participate in the program.

I believe our ancestors were properly recognized and properly honored. That is what it is all about.



### **Prayer Closet**

- Please continue to pray for our President & government leaders - they seem to have lost all concern for the people. Continue to pray for our country. We are in very troubling times.
- Please keep Vernon Terry on your prayer list.
- Please continue keep Brad Blackmon's wife, Deborah to your prayer list.
- Please continue to keep Dan Sipe on your prayer list. Dan is still having back problems.
- Please add Jeanette Floyd to your prayers. She tripped and fell while helping Jim get the onions and severely injured her wrist and arm.
- Please keep Ray Baker on your prayer list. Ray is doing better, but still needs your prayers.
- Also please keep Wayne Conner to your list. Wayne recently had knee replacement surgery.
- Please continue to pray for 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).

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

## Time Line June 1863

**June 1st** - Ambrose Burnside orders the Chicago Times to close because of the paper's anti-Lincoln rhetoric.

**June 3rd** - Robert E. Lee begins moving the Army of Northern Virginia, encamped near Fredericksburg, west towards the Shenandoah Valley.

**June 4th** - Abraham Lincoln suggests the ban on the Chicago Times be lifted and Edwin Stanton orders Ambrose Burnside to do it.

**June 7th** - At the Battle of Milliken's Bend, Confederate forces attack the Union garrison driving federals to the banks of the Mississippi, where the gunboats Lexington and Choctaw turn back the advancing Confederates.

**June 9th** - The Battle of Brandy Station, Virginia was the site of the largest cavalry battle on American soil pitted Alfred Pleasonton against Jeb Stuart.

**June 11th** - General John Hunt Morgan leaves Alexandria, Tennessee to raid Kentucky, Ohio and Indiana

**June 13th - 15th** - The Second Battle of Winchester was fought in Frederick County and Winchester, Virginia as part of the Gettysburg Campaign. As Confederate Lieutenant General Richard S. Ewell moved down the Shenandoah Valley in the direction of Pennsylvania, his corps defeated the Union Army garrison commanded by Major General Robert H. Milroy, capturing Winchester and numerous Union prisoners

**June 14th** - Nathaniel Banks orders a ground assault against Port Hudson, Louisiana but fails to breach the walls.

**June 17th** - The CSS Atlanta engages the USS Weehawken and USS Nahant in Warsaw Inlet, Georgia. After several failed attempts to attack Union blockaders, she was captured after running aground.

**June 18th** - Major General John McClelland is relieved of command by Ulysses S. Grant for insubordination.

**June 20th** - West Virginia becomes the 35th state to enter the United States, but the first to enter where the terms slave and free no longer mattered.

**June 23rd** - Forward units of the Army of Northern Virginia begin crossing the Potomac River into Maryland northwest of Harper's Ferry.

**June 25th** - Union soldiers try to exploit an explosion under the Confederate entrenchments at Vicksburg. The Rebel line easily repulses the attack.

**June 26th** - General Jubal Early passes through Gettysburg on his way to York.

**June 28th** - George Meade assumes command of the Army of the Potomac, replacing Joe Hooker.

**June 28th** - Jubal Early seizes York, Pennsylvania

**June 30th** - Advanced units (2 brigades under Buford) of the Army of the Potomac occupy Gettysburg.

**June 30th** - Army of Northern Virginia Major General Henry Heth orders a brigade under James J. Pettigrew to march to Gettysburg to investigate reports of a large quantity of footwear in the city.

### Member Dues for Renewal are Due No Later Than July 15th

Dues notices have been mailed out to camp members and need to be paid as soon as possible.

By waiting past the due date (August 1st), the dues will have to be paid to HQ and along with an additional late fee of \$5.00 paid by the member.

#### Member Cost to Renew is \$50.00

1. \$30.00 dues paid to International headquarters
  2. \$10.00 dues paid to division headquarters (division fees)
  3. \$10.00 dues paid to camp treasury (camp fees)
- Dues to be paid to Camp Adjutant Chris Sims.

#### Chris's Address:

5266 Bay Rd., Rock Hill, SC 29732  
(803) 981-7560

### Famous Quotes

Speaking of Robert E. Lee, "He loved us  
like a father and led us like a king."

- Confederate Veteran



## Southern Tobacco In The Civil War

Native Americans cultivated tobacco in North America before the first English settlers arrived in Jamestown in 1607. The Indians believed that native tobacco had both religious and medicinal importance. Its use, for example, had great ritual significance for the Indians in the Chesapeake region. Native Americans often smoked tobacco in a pipe to cement a peace accord.

Colonists at Jamestown were the first Europeans on the North American mainland to cultivate tobacco. As early as 1610 John Rolfe shipped a cargo to England for sale. But the naturally occurring tobacco plant in the Chesapeake region (*Nicotiana rustica*) was considered too bitter and harsh, and in 1611 Rolfe obtained seeds of the milder *Nicotiana tabacum* from the Spanish West Indies, Venezuela, and Trinidad for the Jamestown colonists. Thereafter, tobacco production increased rapidly in the Chesapeake Bay area, soon spreading to Maryland. Production continued to increase throughout the colonial period and by the middle of the eighteenth century, Maryland and Virginia were shipping nearly 70 million pounds of tobacco a year to Britain.

Some colonial aristocrats in both Britain and the American colonies believed that tobacco smoking was evil and hazardous to the health. This had little effect in halting the spread of the practice. By the eve of the Revolutionary War, tobacco had become the leading cash crop produced by all the colonies, North and South. Exports rose to over 100 million pounds a year, constituting half of all colonial export trade with Britain.

The methods used for cultivating and curing tobacco have changed over time and varied from region to region. Initially, planters in the Chesapeake region cured tobacco by gathering the plant on the ground and letting the sun dry the leaves, but sun-curing was soon given up in favor of a technique known as air-curing. Tobacco workers gathered leaves in parcels called "hands" and placed them over polls five feet in length. Then the hands were hung inside an open barn to complete the curing process. When fully dried, the tobacco was packed into large containers called hogsheads for shipping. Air-curing, popular in the Piedmont and tidewater regions until the early nineteenth century, resulted in a milder tasting leaf.

Methods of curing tobacco by heat were known in the 1700s, but the process did not become popular until the early nineteenth century. In the 1820s the bright tobacco leaves of North Carolina and eastern Virginia, and later Kentucky and middle Tennessee, were cured by using enclosed smoking-sawdust fires to dry the tobacco hung in small barns. Although the modern method of flu-curing tobacco using charcoal heat was invented in 1839 in North Carolina, this method was not widely used until after the Civil War.

Both tobacco cultivation and manufacturing are labor-intensive activities. Initially, the Virginia Company of London used white indentured servants to harvest the crop, but they were soon replaced by African slaves. The presence of a large slave population engaged in the cultivation and curing of tobacco tied the growth of slavery to the rise of the plantation system. By 1860, 350,000 slaves were cultivating tobacco. It was, however, an exploitive crop that quickly exhausted the soil, requiring constant clearing of new land. The system also worked against the establishment of urban industrial centers in the colonial and antebellum South.

Throughout the colonial period commercial production of tobacco had centered in Northern port cities, but by the antebellum period, as a result of a surplus of slave labor and the great supply of raw material, commercial manufacturing shifted to the tobacco-growing regions in the South. Virginia dominated the industry with factories located at Richmond, Petersburg, Lynchburg, and Danville, and the border states of Kentucky, Tennessee, and Missouri also became tobacco manufacturing centers.

The differing ways of consuming tobacco have often mirrored larger cultural trends. Tobacco has been smoked in pipes, cigars, and cigarettes, and also chewed and taken as snuff. Pipe smoking was the most prevalent form of tobacco consumption in the colonial period, although in the late 1700s taking snuff became popular among the elite who were emulating the European aristocracies. Chewing was distinctly American and became popular on the expanding frontier. After the Mexican War cigar smoking became the fad, but during the Civil War people returned to pipes and began rolling cigarettes for the first time.

As in so many other areas of Southern life, the Civil War seriously disrupted the South's tobacco growing and manufacturing. The tobacco-rich states of Virginia, North Carolina, and Tennessee sided with the Confederacy; the success of their crop rose and fell with that of the rebel nation. The tobacco-producing border states of Missouri, Kentucky, and Maryland fell early to Union control. Under the pressure of war, tobacco manufacturing, located in the South throughout the antebellum period, shifted quickly to the North. New York City became the North's tobacco-manufacturing center, servicing the area once dominated by Virginia tobacco planters. Like New York, Louisville also profited by the war's disruption of Southern market towns, becoming the center of tobacco trade in the West.

Confederate policy and military campaigns in the heartland of the South's tobacco regions devastated Southern tobacco planting and manufacturing.

*continued on next page*

## Southern Tobacco In The Civil War

In an attempt to encourage the planting of foodstuffs, the Confederate Congress in March 1862 passed a joint resolution recommending that Confederate states refrain from planting tobacco. Planters often ignored Congress's suggestions, however. The Virginia Assembly also attempted to limit tobacco growing with a law passed in March 1863, and renewed planting restrictions again in February 1864. Other tobacco-growing states passed similar legislation during the war. In addition, local newspapers such as the Edgefield Advertiser of South Carolina also exhorted their readers to switch from the planting of tobacco to desperately needed foodstuffs.

Union control of the Mississippi from mid-1863, combined with the naval blockade, restricted the export and manufacturing of tobacco products, as did the shift of factories to manufacturing war materiel. In Richmond, after the First Battle of Manassas, several tobacco warehouses were converted into prisons for Union soldiers. The tobacco-rich county of Louisa, Virginia, saw the kind of physical destruction typical of regions exposed to intense military activity. Intermittent Union raids into the county and one of the wars largest cavalry battles at Trevillians Depot destroyed not only the crops and livestock but also the county's infrastructure. Every Confederate and border state saw a decline in tobacco production in the 1860s.

The tobacco town of Danville, Virginia, however, took advantage of the vicissitudes of war. In the late 1850s its tobacco industry was in decline, and the community was reluctant to answer the call to arms in 1861. Nevertheless, Danville prospered during the war. Located safely behind enemy lines along a major railroad to Richmond, Danville became a lucrative place for the activities of merchants and manufacturers. Through their investments, the town and the surrounding county saw a revival in the tobacco industry. As a result of its returning prosperity, Danville citizens opposed attempts by Confederate soldiers to destroy the rail connection with Richmond in order to stop the Union advance. Local businessmen also looked favorably upon the Union takeover on the ground that it would bring peace and stability to the region.

While the war made it difficult for the public to obtain tobacco, both Confederate and Union soldiers found it plentiful. Since much of the fighting took place in the tobacco rich regions of the South, soldiers often helped themselves. For years the U.S. Navy had supplied its sailors with tobacco rations. In February 1864 the Confederate government followed suit and included tobacco as part of the army's rations. Often, in the quiet moments between battle, Confederate and Union soldiers would exchange goods. The traditional swap was Northern coffee for Southern tobacco. Tobacco habits also revealed class

distinctions in the South. Confederate officers did not receive the tobacco rations granted to soldiers. Nevertheless, Confederate officers favored the more fashionable smoking of cigars.

Tobacco had a profound influence on the history of the South. Early cultivation brought prosperity and helped ensure the economic survival of the colonies. The development of the tobacco plantation system, however, helped establish slavery in the South to a degree not found in the North. Because tobacco cultivation quickly wore out the soil, planters were constantly clearing new land, leading to the expansion of slavery and tobacco growing.

*Source: "The Confederacy"  
A Macmillan Information Now Encyclopedia,  
article by Orville Vernon Burton and Henry Kamerling.*

### High Water Mark

Soon (hopefully) many of us will be heading to Gettysburg for what should be one of the MAJOR events of the Sesquicentennial. Gettysburg marks the "high water mark" for the Confederacy. This designation was invented by government historian John B. Bachelder after the war when the monuments of the Gettysburg Battlefield were being erected. Some historians have argued that the battle was the turning point of the war and that this was the place that represented the Confederacy's last major offensive operation in the Eastern Theater.

Has the Sons of Confederate Veterans already passed it's "high water mark"? To date reenactments for the 150<sup>th</sup> have not turned out as hoped for. SCV Camp's Confederate Memorial Day ceremonies are not drawing the crowds they once were. Confederate flags are being vandalized from graves, store fronts and private property. Businesses do not display Confederate symbols the way they once did. The SCV is not politically correct anymore.

Maybe now is time to reread two Honoring the Gray articles: The Future is in Our Hands (February 2012) and The "Charge" Do We Honor It? (March 2012). These can be found among older issues of Honoring the Gray on the Camp website ([bgmicahjenkins.org](http://bgmicahjenkins.org)).

*Jerry Brown  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lt Commander*

## Contrabands of the Civil War

Wherever Federal troops invaded Southern territory, fugitive slaves sought protection behind Union lines. Since the government had no policy for dealing with the runaways, military commanders used their own discretion, according to circumstances. Union political general and abolitionist Benjamin F. Butler first applied the term contrabands of war to fugitives at Fort Monroe when he learned they had been building fortifications for the Confederates. These slaves he did not return to their owners, but later, under different circumstances in Louisiana, he did order fugitives back to Unionist masters.

In summer 1861 several officers recommended returning all fugitives because they had no system of caring for them, a policy generally adopted in the West. The House of Representatives addressed the problem 9 July by passing a resolution absolving the army from any responsibility to capture and return fugitives, but a few weeks later Lincoln interceded on behalf of some Virginia slaveowners seeking to cross the Potomac River to recover their property. The Confiscation Act of August 1861 established the first official policy: any fugitive slave used with his master's knowledge to advance Confederate victory was to be considered a prize of war and set free.

Using these criteria, several commanders set up contraband camps where they provided as best they could for the fugitives' welfare. Lacking funds

to carry out extensive relief programs, they provisioned their charges variously, sometimes leasing them to loyal planters or hiring them as laborers for the army. Finally, in Dec. 1862, Brig. Gen. Rufus Saxton, then commanding the Department of the South, ordered the refugees under his jurisdiction settled on abandoned lands, issued each laborer 2 acres of land, and gave them tools to plant crops for their own consumption; in exchange, they produced a portion of cotton for government use. Some commanders appointed superintendents to oversee the blacks' welfare, and private relief associations quickly organized to provide additional supplies, supervision, and education.

Despite efforts to care for the contrabands, many were crowded into unhealthy camps, where they died from disease, exposure, or, occasionally, starvation. An official in one camp reported a 25% mortality rate over a 2-year period. Some contrabands returned voluntarily to former masters and many men joined the Union army when permitted to enlist in 1863.

Regardless of relief measures taken, commanders complained chronically of the trouble caused by hordes of contrabands following the army. Congress finally established the Freedmen's Bureau in Mar. 1865 to provide a formal structure for helping former slaves adapt to their new status.

*Source: Historical Times "Illustrated Encyclopedia of the Civil War" Edited by Patricia L. Faust*

## Ambrosio Gonzales (1818 - 1893)

Ambrosio Gonzales was a Spanish-born Cuban heavily involved in the island's independence movement. In fact, he authored a manifesto advocating American annexation of Cuba. Gonzales married into South Carolina society before the War and was active in Confederate coastal defenses after the fall of Fort Sumter.

Appointed a Colonel in the Confederate Army during the War, he was chief of artillery for the Department of South Carolina, Georgia and Florida from 1862 to 1865. He had a significant role in Confederate coastal defenses and his finest hour as a Confederate as an artillery commander at the Battle of Honey Hill.

During his lifetime, Gonzales would forge friendships and crucial political alliances with such legends as General PGT Beauregard, SC Senator John C. Calhoun and Mississippi governor John Quitman. Gonzales would use these relationships to advance his dual missions: Cuban independence from Spanish rule and victory for the Confederate States Army. In pursuing his quests, Gonzales's fortunes would cross paths with that of both General Robert E. Lee and CSA president Jefferson Davis.



## Henry "Harry" Heth (December 16, 1825 – September 27, 1899)

Henry "Harry" Heth was a career United States Army officer and a Confederate general in War. He is best remembered for inadvertently precipitating the Battle of Gettysburg, when he sent some of his troops of the Army of Northern Virginia to the small Pennsylvania village, according to his memoirs, to get some shoes.

Heth was born at Black Heath in Chesterfield County, Virginia, son of United States Navy Captain John Heth, and Margaret L. Pickett. He was a cousin of George Pickett. He usually went by "Harry," the name also preferred by his grandfather, American Revolutionary War Colonel Henry Heth, who had established the Heth family in the coal business in the Virginia Colony after emigrating from England about 1759.

He was one of the few generals whom Robert E. Lee called by his first name. Heth graduated from the United States Military Academy at the bottom of his class in 1847; he was wounded at West Point in 1846 with a bayonet stab to his leg. He was commissioned a brevet second lieutenant and assigned to the 1st Infantry Regiment. His antebellum career was served primarily in western posts, some as a quartermaster. He was serving as a first lieutenant in the 6th Infantry when John C. Symmes III refused a captaincy in the new 10th Infantry on March 3, 1855, and Heth was appointed in his place. He played a prominent role in the 1855 Battle of Ash Hollow leading a company of mounted infantry against the Lakota. In 1858, he created the first marksmanship manual for the Army.

After the war began at Fort Sumter, Heth resigned from the U.S. Army and joined the Confederate Army. He was promoted to lieutenant colonel and served for a brief time as Robert E. Lee's quartermaster in the Virginia Provisional Army, but that time was influential for his career, because Lee looked out for Harry for the rest of the war. He spent the remainder of 1861 in the Kanawha Valley in western Virginia in the 5th and 45th Virginia Infantry regiments. He was promoted to brigadier general on January 6, 1862, and sent west to the Department of East Tennessee, to serve under Kirby Smith. During the Kentucky Campaign, he was sent by Smith to take a division north from Lexington, Kentucky, to make a demonstration on Cincinnati; although this caused a great commotion in the city's defenses, only a few skirmishes occurred.

In March 1863, Lee brought Heth back into his command, the Army of Northern Virginia, as a brigade commander in Maj. Gen. A.P. Hill's division. He fought in the Battle of Chancellorsville, showing aggressive, but misguided, qualities in his first large-scale combat, attacking without reserves against a Union force emerging from the Wilderness. He assumed temporary command of the division when Hill was wounded. Following the death of Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson, Lee reorganized his army into three corps, promoting Hill to the Third Corps. Heth retained his division command and was promoted to major general on May 24, 1863.

Heth's division made history by inadvertently

starting the Battle of Gettysburg. Marching east from Cashtown on July 1, 1863, Heth sent two brigades ahead in a reconnaissance in force. His memoirs referred to sending them in a search of shoes in Gettysburg, but some historians consider this an apocryphal story; they say Heth knew that Jubal A. Early had been in Gettysburg a few days earlier and any available shoes would have been taken at that time. They also consider sending two brigades on such a mission would have been wasteful.

Lee had ordered A.P. Hill to avoid a general engagement with the enemy before he could assemble his full army, but Heth's actions had now rendered that order moot. They were engaged and Union reinforcements started arriving quickly. Heth's decision to deploy his two brigades before the arrival of the rest of his division was an error as well; they were repulsed in hard fighting against an elite division of the Army of the Potomac's I Corps, including the famously tenacious Iron Brigade. After a lull in fighting, Heth brought two more brigades into the fray in the afternoon and the Union forces were driven back to Seminary Ridge, but principally because the XI Corps' right flank was crushed by Richard S. Ewell's corps coming in from the north. Finally, Heth attacked again in conjunction with the division of Maj. Gen. Robert E. Rodes and the Union corps were routed, retreating back through town to Cemetery Hill. But Confederate losses were severe; Heth should have better coordinated his attack with the division of Maj. Gen. Dorsey Pender.

Heth was wounded during the attack when a bullet struck him in the head. Fortunately for him, he was wearing a hat that was too large and stuffed with papers to make it fit. The papers probably deflected the bullet to avoid a fatal wound, but Heth was knocked unconscious and effectively out of the battle. Parts of his division, under the command of Brig. Gen. Johnston Pettigrew, saw more action two days later in Pickett's Charge and he recovered enough to command during the retreat back to Virginia and the minor engagements of the fall of 1863.

Harry Heth commanded his division through the 1864 Overland Campaign, the Siege of Petersburg. Following the death of Gen. A.P. Hill on April 2, 1865, Heth briefly took over command of the Third Corps. Heth's troops, now led by Gen. John R. Cooke, were pushed back at the Battle of Sutherland's Station. Heth led the remainder of his troops in the retreat of the Appomattox Campaign to Appomattox Court House, where he surrendered with Lee on April 9, 1865.

After the war, Heth worked in the insurance business and later served the government as a surveyor and in the Office of Indian Affairs. He died in Washington, D.C., and is buried in Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond, Virginia. Heth served as the first Commander of the Centennial Legion of Historic Military Commands when it was founded in 1876.

Heth was portrayed by Warren Burton in the 1993 film *Gettysburg*, based on Michael Shaara's novel, *The Killer Angels*.



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**Henry "Harry" Heth (December 16, 1825 – September 27, 1899)**