



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

**Volume XIV Number V**

**May 2015**



## *Honoring the Gray*

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## **Micah Jenkins Camp Meeting Tuesday, May 12<sup>th</sup> 2015**

**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.**

Our speaker for the May 12<sup>th</sup> meeting will be Michael C. Hardy. Mr. Hardy is a leading author on mid-19<sup>th</sup> century American History and will be discussing his newest book, "Capitals of the Confederacy." He will have books available for sell after the meeting. Be sure and check out his very informative website: [www.michaelchardy.com](http://www.michaelchardy.com).

Michael C. Hardy has been interested in military history for over thirty years. A graduate of the University of Alabama, Michael has penned twenty books, and his articles have appeared in *America's Civil War*, *Civil War Times*, *Gettysburg Magazine*, and the *Tar Heel Junior Historian*. Michael's works have won numerous awards, and, in 2010, he was named the North Carolina Historian of the Year by the NC Society of Historians. In 2013, he became a Roads Scholar for the NC Humanities Council. Michael became a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans in 1994 and has served as historian for the North Carolina Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans since 2014. Michael lives in western North Carolina with his wife Elizabeth and their children, Nathaniel and Isabella.



## Commander's Comments

### Memorial Services

May is the month to recognize our ancestors with Memorial Services. The first major event this month is the annual service in Columbia sponsored by the Division SCV.

Our ancestors fought for freedom, not only for themselves, but for the new country they had established. We recognize them because most lost their fortunes, and in many cases, their lives.

The fight for freedom is not new to Americans. We fought the first American Revolutionary War against the British, and the second one against Lincoln and his Yankee hoards. Our ancestors deserve no less than a moment of tribute during the month of May. There are many today who profit from accusing our ancestors of fighting to enslave. This is a major untruth, it is wrong and we need to fight to preserve the truth about their Cause.



### Confederate Memorial Day Ceremony

On Sunday May 31 the Micah Jenkins Camp will hold it's memorial service at 10:30am in the cemetery at Armenia United Methodist Church. The church service is at 9:30 am if anyone wants to attend the church service. The Walker-Gaston Camp, the Micah Jenkins Camp and reenactors from the 6th SCVI along with the Chester U.D.C. will all be taking part in the event.

Directions to Armenia United Methodist Church, from Rock Hill: take Hwy 322 to McConnells, S.C. When you get to McConnells turn Left onto Hwy 321 going to Chester, When you come to the town of Lowrys on Hwy 321 you will see a gas station on the right side of the road that will be the Lowrys one stop gas station. Turn right on Armenia Rd, at the gas station. Go about 5.9 miles and look for the church on the left side of the road and you will see a sign and it will read Armenia United Methodist Church. The cemetery will have a chain link fence around the cemetery. It's just before you get to the Hwy 9 crossing.



### Prayer Closet

- Please pray for the unspoken families that are having health and financial problems.
- Please pray, as well, for those unemployed and continually looking for employment. Please add Mike Short to your prayer. Mike is now home from the hospital, but has recently had some problems with internal bleeding.
- Please continue to keep Jim Floyd on your prayer list. Jim is doing much better since his fall.
- Please continue to keep Brad Blackmon's wife, Deborah, on your prayer list.
- Please continue to keep Ray Baker on your prayer list. Ray is doing much better, but still needs your prayers.
- Please continue to keep Micky Parris on your prayer list. He falling issues don't seem to be going away.
- Please continue to pray for the SCV, national, division and brigade.
- Please continue to pray for our President & government leaders. Continue to pray for our country.
- Pray for our service men and women and for their families.

*Camp Chaplain,  
Mike Short*

### From the Chaplain

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

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

## Time Line May 1865

**May 3rd** - Joseph "Joe" Brown, Governor of Georgia, calls a meeting of the state legislature when word reaches him of Joe Johnston's surrender.

**May 4th** - General Richard Taylor surrenders the remaining troops in Alabama and Mississippi based on an agreement signed two days earlier.

**May 6th** - Shouting "Hurrah for Jeff Davis..." Philip Henry Mulkey was arrested in Eugene, Oregon.

**May 10th** - President Jefferson Davis is captured near Irwinville, Georgia

**May 10th** - President Johnson declares armed resistance at an end

**May 10th** - The CSS Imogene becomes the last known ship to successfully run the naval blockade.

**May 11th** - Confederate Vice President Alexander Stephens is arrested at Liberty Hall, his estate in Crawfordville, Georgia by members of the 4th Iowa Cavalry.

**May 12th - 13th** - The last significant fighting of the War takes place at the Palmito Ranch along the Rio Grande between Col. Theodore Barrett and John S. "RIP" Ford

**May 12th** - 8 conspirators in the Lincoln assassination plead not guilty to the military court holding the trial

**May 12th** - Major General O. O. Howard is appointed by President Andrew Johnson to become head of the Freedman's Bureau.

**May 14th** - President Johnson issues a conditional amnesty to all persons engaged in the late Rebellion.

**May 22nd** - Jefferson Davis imprisoned at Fort Monroe.

**May 23rd** - Grand Review of the Army of the Potomac.

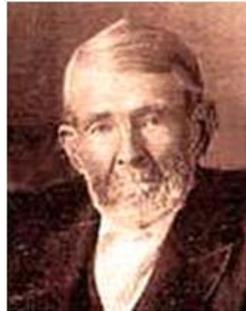
**May 24th** - Grand Review of Sherman's Army.

**May 29th** - Andrew Johnson grants a Presidential pardon to those who directly or indirectly aided the Southern war effort. He restored property rights to the South with the exception of slaves. Unlike Lincoln's declaration in December, 1863, Johnson creates an exception for property owners whose holdings total \$20,000 dollars or more.

**May 29th** - President Johnson appoints William Holden as provisional governor of North Carolina, a blueprint for his plans of Presidential Reconstruction. Holden was instructed to call a constitutional convention of men who had signed an oath of allegiance to the United States.

### "Hurrah for Jeff Davis"

Secessionist sympathizers surfaced in Oregon. The Knights of the Golden Circle, an anti-Union group, reportedly plotted the seizure of Fort Vancouver, military headquarters on the Columbia River. They did not act. When pro-Confederate partisans raised their flag in Jacksonville, they faced opposition and backed down. The Long Tom Rebellion was perhaps the most noteworthy outbreak of secessionist feeling. Emboldened by the assassination of President Lincoln, Philip Henry Mulkey walked the streets of Eugene on May 6, 1865, shouting: "Hurrah for Jeff Davis, and damn the man that won't!"



The First Oregon Volunteer Infantry arrested Mulkey, who promptly grabbed a glass of water and toasted Jeff Davis, the Confederate president. A pro-Union mob, wanting to lynch Mulkey, broke down the jail door. Mulkey slashed one of the men with a hidden knife. Mulkey's supporters from the Long Tom district were ready to fight, but the infantry slipped Mulkey out of town under an armed guard, loaded him on a steamboat, and sent him off to three months in jail at Fort Vancouver. Mulkey sued for \$10,000 for false arrest. After 14 court appearances over a two-year period, he settled for \$200.

### Famous Quotes

"Our country was invaded by armed men intent on the coercion and conquest. We met them on the threshold and beat them and drove them back as long as we had anything to eat or strength to fight with. We could do no more, we could do no less and history, our children and even many of our former enemies, now applaud our conduct."

- Confederate Veteran



## Reconstruction Begins

This is not what you were taught in school. It is not politically correct! Nor should it be. It was written shortly after the war by Southerners about Southerners.

What is known as the reconstruction of the seceded States is a very sad epoch to recall, and no American who loves his country likes to bring back its harsh memories. Yet it is a matter of history and it needs be recorded in order that the part which the North and the South played during that period should be fully understood. It began under President Lincoln before the close of the war, and was carried on by President Johnson after the assassination of President Lincoln, during the years 1865 and 1866. Afterward there was a second phase of reconstruction, or "destruction," known as the congressional plan, which undid all that had been done by Presidents Lincoln and Johnson. This latter period was the greatest trial that the South had to bear, not excepting the terrible ordeal of war.

To understand properly the surroundings, it is necessary to enumerate briefly the events which occurred early in 1865, and the directions given by President Johnson to the military officers of the United States. First, I would mention the death of Mr. Lincoln himself, which was regarded as the greatest calamity that could have happened to the people of the South. The arrest and imprisonment of President Davis and many of the Confederate soldiers and statesmen have been already related. The treatment of Mr. Davis was very harsh indeed, complicity in the assassination of Mr. Lincoln being cruelly imputed to him, and a large reward offered for his capture. He was placed in prison and shackled with irons in the strongest fortress in the Union, and a military guard placed over him day and night.

Every town, village and district was occupied rapidly by the Union troops as the Confederate resistance melted away, and all civil government was ignored. The governors of most of the seceded States attempted to call their legislatures together to conform to the results of the war and take steps for their restoration to the Union. They did this, believing that the American principle of government—the sovereignty and indestructibility of the States—would be respected and that these prompt proceedings would be favored as the constitutional plan of restoration. They did this also believing it absolutely necessary to preserve civil government, and to show by legislative enactment complete submission to the results of the war in repealing their ordinances of secession and in accepting the freedom of the negro.

The order issued by General Wilson, of the United States army in Georgia, when the legislature was called to meet, was to this effect: "Neither the legislature nor any other political body will be permitted to assemble under the call of the rebel State authorities." The spirit of this order was carried out in all the seceded States. Existing civil government was ignored everywhere, and military rule inaugurated in municipal and local communities. The only

government allowed was that of the local military officers, or under their supervision.

This harsh action of the United States authorities, civil and military, immediately following the collapse of the Confederate government, caused all prominent actors in the war to feel insecure. They did not know what to expect. It was not known how general the arrests and imprisonments would be, and many leading men, civil and military, escaped to foreign lands, and for the time expatriated themselves. Gen. Jubal Early, with others, escaped to Cuba. Generals Loring, Graves, and a few other officers went to Egypt and took service under the khedive. Hons. Robert Toombs, J. C. Breckinridge and many others went to Europe. Gov. Isham G. Harris, Gens. J. Bankhead Magruder, Hindman and Price went to Mexico; in fact, prominent citizens and soldiers everywhere felt great apprehension as to the course of the government, even with their paroles. It was even contemplated by President Johnson and his advisers to arrest and imprison Gen. Robert E. Lee, who had surrendered his army to General Grant and had been paroled. General Grant, however, entered a vigorous protest against such action, and insisted that men who had surrendered with arms in their hands were entitled to the usual laws recognized by all civilized nations, and that their paroles should be respected. This action on his part, and the advice of Gen. Robert E. Lee and the leading statesmen, officers, and soldiers of all the lately seceded States, caused it to be thought best for all to remain in their respective States and share whatever fate was in store for the South. The feeling of expatriation was greatly allayed when such prominent men advised against it.

*This originally appeared in  
"The Confederate Military History"*

Annual dues notices will start showing up in your mailbox in the coming weeks, please return them as soon as possible. If you know of a member that has not been active, please invite them back.

Dues notices will 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:  
5266 Bay Rd., Rock Hill, SC 29732  
(803) 981-7560

## Robert Charles Tyler (1833 – April 16, 1865)

Robert Charles Tyler was a Confederate Brigadier General during the War. Missing or conflicting sources make both his early life and his military career in the early civil war years unsure. Killed at the Battle of West Point on April 16, 1865, Tyler was the last general officer to die in the war.

Robert Tyler is generally credited with being born in Baltimore, although some claim he was born in Jonesborough, Tennessee and moved to Baltimore in his early childhood. He served as a First Lieutenant in William Walker's filibustering army and fought in Nicaragua during the Campaign of 1856–57. Returning to Baltimore via New York City he moved to Memphis, Tennessee working as a clerk. Prior to the war he allegedly helped organize the Knights of the Golden Circle.

When the War erupted Tyler joined the Confederate Army as a Private in Company D of the 15th Tennessee Infantry Regiment, and was promoted to Quartermaster Sergeant the same date. Within early 1861 Tyler was promoted to the position of Regimental Quartermaster, and is said to have been Quartermaster-General on the staffs of Generals Benjamin F. Cheatham and Gideon Pillow with the rank of Captain and later as Major. Promoted to Lieutenant Colonel shortly before the Battle of Belmont as his predecessor resigned, Tyler commanded the regiment during the battle as Colonel Charles M. Carroll was absent. Tyler retained command of the regiment till the Battle of Shiloh. Losing 3 horses under him he was wounded himself on April 7. His services were officially noted by Tyler's brigade commander, Brigadier Bushrod Johnson.

Stationed at Corinth the 15th Tennessee reorganized, and Tyler was elected to become Colonel of the regiment. Partially due to his wounds; by order of General Braxton Bragg he served as Provost-Marshal General of the Army of Tennessee during the Confederate Heartland Offensive. After the Battle of Stones River the depleted 15th Tennessee was consolidated with the 37th Tennessee Infantry Regiment and Tyler was selected by General Bragg to command the 15th-37th Consolidated Tennessee Infantry Regiment; which he led into the Battle of Chickamauga. Capturing four guns on September 19, Tyler was slightly wounded in the assault on the next day.

After the battle Brigadier William B. Bate was elevated to division command and Tyler took com-

mand of the brigade. Tyler now had command not only his own 15-37th Tennessee, but also the 10th, 20th and 30th Tennessee Regiments, as well as the 1st Tennessee Battalion, the 4th Georgia Battalion and the 37th Georgia Regiment. In the ensuing Chattanooga Campaign Tyler's (Bate's) brigade was posted on Missionary Ridge, right in the center of the Confederate second line near Bragg's headquarters. During the Battle of Missionary Ridge the brigade initially hold its position against Wagner's brigade, but was dislodged by the flanking attack of Hazen's brigade. Trying to rally his fleeing men Tyler was shot in the left leg and was carried from the field.

The wound eventually led to the amputation of his leg; and bound him to use crutches for the rest of his life. For his physical recovery he transferred into a hospital at West Point, Georgia, and was still there when he received a promotion to Brigadier General on February 23, 1864. Though his brigade was renamed to Tyler's Brigade he never commanded the unit in the field. Instead he stayed in Georgia; and later in 1864 commanded a camp near Macon where dismounted cavalymen, stragglers and shirkers were organized into infantry. When the area was evacuated in late 1864 Tyler returned to West Point as commander of Fort Tyler, a small square earthwork with two field guns and a large 32-pounder gun. He held the position during winter, guarding the railroad bridges over the Chattahoochee River with a small detachment of reconvalescent soldiers, invalids and militiamen.

At the Battle of West Point, on the morning of April 16, 1865, seven days after Robert E. Lee's surrender, one of the brigades of Wilson's Cavalry Corps, commanded by Colonel Oscar Hugh La Grange and accompanied by a battery of artillery, attacked Fort Tyler. The battle raged on through most of the day as the outnumbered Confederates under command of General Tyler attempted to hold their fort. Around noon, during a stalemate, Tyler looked out onto the battlefield and was shot by a sniper positioned in a nearby cottage - which Tyler had refused to burn earlier because he knew the owner and did not believe the person could afford the loss. Reputedly another soldier shot at the same time, splitting his crutches.

General Tyler is buried on the Fort Tyler Cemetery at West Point, like the other fallen defenders of Fort Tyler. He rests in a joint grave together with a longtime friend, Captain Celestino Gonzalez of the 1st Florida Infantry.



BG Micah Jenkins Camp # 1569  
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**Robert Charles Tyler (1833 – April 16, 1865)**