



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

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November 2011



Honoring the Gray

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Honoring the Gray
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Commander's Comments

It has been an honor to serve as your commander for this year. We have made a lot of progress during the first year of the Sesquicentennial with a number of camp activities which I was proud to be part of. I will be stepping down as commander at the end of this month, and am looking forward to the next four years under new leadership.

We will be holding nominations in November for new camp officers for 2012. These include Camp Commander, 1st Lt. Commander, 2nd Lt. Commander, Adjutant, Chaplain, Camp Historian, Color Sergeant, & Newsletter Editor. If you know of anyone who wishes to serve, or you yourself would like to serve the camp please feel free to nominate them.

Again it has been my privilege to serve as camp commander for 2011. I look forward to serving the Brigadier General Micah Jenkins camp in whatever capacity for 2012.

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

Dr. John Griffin Info

Dr. John Griffin is retired from USC. Upon his retirement the Board of Trustees gave him the honorary title Distinguished Professor Emeritus (those are few and far between). Two years later the SC governor named him to the Order of the Silver Crescent, the state's highest award (for service to South Carolina).

Dr. Griffin's book is: *Silent Heroes, Lancaster County in the Civil War*. His book is 350 pages, with about that many photos, and sells for \$30.)

In 1985, Dr. Griffin invented those little college flags you see flying on cars on their way to football games. He ran the business for four years, then sold out. Took the money and ran! "My nerves still haven't recovered from teaching full time and running a business full time!"

Camp Meeting Tuesday, November 8th 2011

Regularly scheduled meeting at the Mayflower Seafood Restaurant @ 7:00 PM.
Come early join the fellowship and eat.

The Speaker for November is Dr. John Griffin

1st Lt Commander's Comments

Our President - Jeff Davis

I looked at the structure in awe. It is truly amazing. At 351 feet tall, it is the largest non-reinforced concrete obelisk in the world. It is the fifth tallest monument in the United States and it can be seen miles away. The monument has a remarkable similarity to the Washington monument.

The monument is in Fairview, Kentucky, just a few blocks away from the birthplace of the person for whom it was erected. Each year thousands visit the monument and pay homage to the first, and only, President of the Confederacy, Jefferson Finis Davis.

And he should be honored. He was a graduate of West Point. He fought for the United States as a Colonel in the Mexican-American War. He was Secretary of War under President Franklin Pierce. He served both in the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate. And, of course, he was President of the Confederacy.

After the War, he was offered the Presidency of (now) Texas A&M University. He left a book, "A Short History of the Confederate States of America", as part of his legacy. Perhaps Gandhi's quote describes Jefferson Davis best: "My life is my message".

We are going to ask one of our compatriots at each meeting to talk about one of their ancestors who fought in the War. I saw this done over at the States Rights Gist camp, and it was well received.

*Bucky Sutton
1st Lt Commander*



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 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.



Prayer Closet

- Please continue to pray for those effected by the economy; especially those unemployed. We can only hope the economy will improve soon.
- Please keep Vernon Terry to your prayer list. Vernon was recently diagnosed with having a heart attack while at the Manassas re-enactment in July. He is still having problems from an unrelated issue.
- Please continue to keep Laddie's mother (Clara Parrish) on your prayer list.
- Please add Dan Sipe to your prayer list. Dan recently had back suregery.
- Please keep Lindsay Waldrop to your prayers. He is still having back problems.
- Please keep Joshua Bannister (a member of the 6th SCVI). He was involved in a head-on collision. Josh still needs your prayers, but he is improving - he attended the Brattonsville Re-enactment recently. He was not able to be in the ranks and carry a musket, but he did spend the entire week-end.
- Please keep Leland Summers in your prayers as well. Leland is still having problems from his accident a year ago.
- 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).

Time Line November 1861

Oct 1st – President Davis and Generals Johnson, Beauregard and Johnston meet in Centreville, Va to discuss the Southern offensive in Virginia.

Oct 3rd - Battle of Greenbrier River, also known as the Battle of Camp Bartow, took place in Pocahontas County, Va (now West Virginia). The result of the battle was inconclusive.

Oct 4th – Confederate government signs treaties with the Cherokee, Shawnee and Seneca Indians. Southern forces attack Federal troops near the Hatteras Inlet forts in a failed attempt to retake those bases from the Union.

Oct 5th - Major papers in London reflect the division in Britain over the War. In an editorial, the London Post backs an independent Southern Nation. Previously, the London Times had backed the Union. In California, Federal troops carry out an expedition to Oak Grove and Temecula Ranch to reveal the position of pro-Confederates in the state.

Oct 8th - General William Tecumseh Sherman replaces General Robert Anderson as commander of the Department of the Cumberland. Anderson had suffered a severe mental breakdown.

Oct 11th – Federal General William S. Rosecrans assumes command of the Federal Department of Western Virginia

Oct 12th - The Theodora leaves Charleston Harbor for Havana Cuba. On board are the Confederate States of America commissioners to England (James Mason) and France (John Slidell), this leading up to the Trent Affair.

Oct 14th – President Lincoln orders General Winfield Scott to suspend the writ of habeas corpus. Scott is given the authority to implement suspension from Maine to Washington.

Oct 16th – Lexington, Missouri is taken over by Federal forces.

Oct 18th – Lincoln meets with his cabinet to discuss General Winfield Scott's military future.



Oct 19th - President Davis tries to quell an on-going dispute between Generals Johnston and Beauregard.

Oct 20th - George McClellan orders a demonstration in the area of Ball's Bluff, Virginia

Oct 21st - Battle of Leesburg (also known as the Battle of Harrison's Island) by the Confederates or the Battle of Ball's Bluff (by the Federals) was fought in Loudoun County, Va. While a minor engagement in comparison with the battles that would take place in years to follow, it was the second largest battle of the Eastern Theater in 1861, and in its aftermath had repercussions in the Union chain of command structure and raised separation of powers issues under the United States Constitution during the war. Confederate General Nathan Evans defeats Federal General Charles Stone. Oregon Senator Edward Baker, field commander, becomes the first (and only) sitting senator to die in battle.

Oct 22nd - The Army of the Potomac (Confederate) is placed under the Department of Northern Virginia.

Oct 23rd – The writ of habeas corpus is suspended in the District of Columbia for all military cases.

Oct 24th - Western Union completes the final segment of the transcontinental telegraph from Denver to Sacramento. The people of West Virginia vote overwhelmingly in favor of creating a new state as spelled out by the Wheeling Convention.

Oct 31st - Winfield Scott convinces Lincoln to grant his retirement request and is succeeded by General McClellan.

Help save your SCV Camp money!!

Do you have internet and email?
Are you still receiving *Honoring the Gray*
by US Mail?

Take a try at getting *Honoring the Gray*
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: jenkinsscv@yahoo.com

At Brattonsville last weekend

I received a lot of feed back on the different flags we were selling at the event. Many of our camp members were ashamed that they did not know the various flags and expressed interest on learning about the different flags. I would like to submit each month a picture of a different flag and a small article detailing the history of the flags.

I think we should begin with the national flags starting with the Bonnie Blue. Then each month take a look at the various flags used by confederate forces. I will also make a small booklet that we can put in the camp store, and use it to answers any questions at camp events during the year.

Thanks, Brad

Flags of the Confederate States of America

During the War Between the States, there were practical reasons that the color guard, a military force, was devoted to carrying and protecting the colors or flag for a particular military unit. Flags identified troops and provided a moveable landmark on the battlefield. Flags held patriotic, religious and emotional symbolism. Soldiers formed an emotional bond and the flag attained a nearly religious significance.

While the majority of flags were produced and issued by the military quartermaster clothing depots, many units, especially at the onset of the war, carried individual unit colors privately produced and financed. As the men of communities organized themselves into units, the women showed their patriotism by organizing in support of the units. These women worked hard, spending a great deal of time making flags, since the newly formed Confederacy had very few, and presented them to the troops with great fanfare.

The Bonnie Blue Flag, a single white star on a blue field, was the flag of the short-lived Republic of West Florida. Decades later, during the Civil War, it became an unofficial banner of the Confederacy, inspiring the song "The Bonnie Blue Flag," which was often sung by Southern troops.

The flag was created by Melissa Johnson, wife of Major Isaac Johnson, commander of the West Florida Dragoons. In September 11, 1810, settlers in the Spanish territory of West Florida revolted against the Spanish government and proclaimed an independent republic. The Bonnie Blue Flag was raised at the Spanish fort in Baton Rouge on September 23, 1810.

On December 6, 1810, West Florida was annexed by the United States and the republic ceased to exist as an independent entity, after a life of 74 days. In 1836, The Bonnie Blue served as the inspiration for the first flag of the Republic of Texas, known as the Burnet Flag. It was replaced in 1839 by the currently used Lone Star Flag, which also bears a single star.



Folks,

The Lowry's Christmas Parade will be on December 18th 2011.
Here is a link to their website (<http://www.townoflowrys.com/christmasparade.htm>)
Might want to think about stocking up on some candy after Halloween after Tuesday.

Thanks, Brad

P.G.T. Beauregard (May 28, 1818 – February 20, 1893)

Pierre Gustave Toutant Beauregard was a Louisiana-born American military officer, politician, inventor, writer, civil servant, and the first prominent general of the Confederate States Army during the War.

Beauregard was trained as a civil engineer at the United States Military Academy and served with distinction as an engineer in the Mexican-American War. Following a brief appointment at West Point in 1861, with the South's secession, he became the first Confederate brigadier general.

Beauregard was born at the "Contreras" sugarcane plantation in St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana, about 20 miles outside New Orleans, to a French-Spanish Creole family. Beauregard attended New Orleans private schools and then went to a "French school" in New York City. It was during his four years in New York, beginning at age 12, that he first learned to speak English, as French was his first language.

He trained at the United States Military Academy at West Point. One of his instructors was Robert Anderson, who would later become the commander of Fort Sumter and surrendered to Beauregard at the start of the War. Upon enrolling at West Point, Beauregard dropped the hyphen from his surname and treated Toutant as a middle name, to fit in with his classmates. From that point on, he rarely used his first name, preferring "G. T. Beauregard." He graduated second in his class in 1838 and excelled both as an artilleryman and military engineer. His Army friends gave him many nicknames: "Little Creole", "Bory", "Little Frenchman", "Felix", and "Little Napoleon".

In 1841, Beauregard married Marie Laure Villeré, the daughter of Jules Villeré, a sugar cane planter in Plaquemines Parish and a member of one of the most prominent French Creole families in southern Louisiana. Marie was a paternal granddaughter of Jacques Villeré, the second governor of Louisiana. The couple had three children: René, Henri, and Laure. Marie died in March 1850, while giving birth to Laure. Ten years later, the widower Beauregard married Caroline Deslonde, the daughter of André Deslonde, a sugar cane planter from St. James Parish. Caroline was a sister-in-law of John Slidell, a U.S. senator from Louisiana and later a Confederate diplomat. She died in New Orleans in March 1864, when it was under Union occupation. They had no children together.

During the Mexican-American War, Beauregard served as an engineer under General Winfield Scott. He was brevetted captain for the battles of Contreras and Churubusco and again to major for Chapultepec, where he was wounded in the shoulder and thigh. Beauregard considered his contributions in dangerous reconnaissance missions and devising strategy for his superiors to be more significant than those of his engineer colleague, Captain Robert E. Lee, so he

was disappointed when Lee and other officers received more brevets than he did.

Beauregard returned from Mexico in 1848. For the next 12 years, he was in charge of what the Engineer Department called "the Mississippi and Lake defenses in Louisiana." Despite this title, much of his engineering work was done elsewhere, repairing old forts and building new ones on the Florida coast and in Mobile, Alabama. He also improved the defenses of Forts St. Philip and Jackson on the Mississippi River below New Orleans. He worked on a board of Army and Navy engineers to improve the navigation of the shipping channels at the mouth of the Mississippi. He created and patented an invention he called a "self-acting bar excavator" to be used by ships in crossing bars of sand and clay.

Employing the political influence of his brother-in-law, John Slidell, Beauregard obtained an appointment as superintendent of West Point starting on January 23, 1861. His orders were revoked and he relinquished the office after only five days when Louisiana seceded from the Union. He protested to the War Department that they had cast "improper reflection upon his reputation in the Corps of Engineers" by forcing him out as a southern officer before any hostilities began.

Beauregard traveled by steamship from New York to New Orleans and immediately began giving military advice to the local authorities, which included further strengthening Forts St. Philip and Jackson, which guarded the Mississippi approaches to New Orleans. He hoped to be named commander of the state army, but was disappointed that the state legislature appointed Braxton Bragg. Aware that Beauregard might resent him, Bragg offered the officer the rank of colonel. Instead Beauregard enrolled as a private in the "Orleans Guards", a battalion of French Creole aristocrats. At the same time, he communicated with Slidell and the newly chosen President Davis, angling for a senior position in the new Confederate Army. Rumors that Beauregard would be placed in charge of the entire Army infuriated Bragg. Davis, concerned about the political situation regarding the Federal presence at Fort Sumter in Charleston Harbor, selected Beauregard to take command of Charleston's defenses. Beauregard seemed the perfect combination of military engineer and charismatic Southern leader needed at that time and place.

Arriving in Charleston on March 3, 1861, Beauregard met with Governor Pickens and inspected the defenses of the harbor, which he found to be in disarray. He was said to display "a great deal in the way of zeal and energy ... but little professional knowledge and experience." Major Robert Anderson at Fort Sumter wrote to Washington, D.C., that his former West Point student would guarantee that

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P.G.T. Beauregard (continued)

South Carolina's actions would be exercised with "skill and sound judgment." Beauregard wrote to the Confederate capital of Montgomery, Alabama, that Anderson was a "most gallant officer".

Political tensions mounted by early April and Beauregard demanded that Sumter surrender before a planned Union expedition to re-provision the fort could arrive. Early in the morning of April 12, negotiations with Anderson had failed and aides of Beauregard, sent to deal personally with Anderson, ordered the first shots of the War to be fired from nearby Fort Johnson. The bombardment of Fort Sumter lasted for 34 hours. Subjected to thousands of rounds fired from batteries ringing the harbor, Anderson surrendered Fort Sumter on April 14. Biographer T. Harry Williams described the extravagant praise from throughout the Confederacy that Beauregard received for his victory: "He was the South's first paladin."

Summoned to the new Confederate capital of Richmond, Virginia, Beauregard received a hero's welcome at the railroad stations along the route. He was given command of the "Alexandria Line" of defenses against an impending Federal offensive that was being organized by Brig. Gen. Irvin McDowell against the Confederate railroad junction at Manassas. Beauregard devised strategies to concentrate the forces of General Joseph E. Johnston from the Shenandoah Valley with his own, aiming not only to defend his position, but to initiate an offensive against McDowell and Washington. Despite his seniority in rank, Johnston acquiesced to the plan of Beauregard, essentially giving the latter control of the impending battle. President Davis considered many of Beauregard's plans to be impractical for an army as inexperienced as the Confederates could field in 1861; throughout the war, Davis and Beauregard would argue about Beauregard's tendencies to devise grand strategies based on formal military principles. Davis believed he lacked a pragmatic grasp of logistics, intelligence, relative military strengths, and politics.

The First Battle of Manassas began early on July 21, 1861, both McDowell and Beauregard planned to envelop their opponent with an attack from their right flank. McDowell struck first, crossing Bull Run and threatening Beauregard's left flank. For a while, Beauregard persisted in moving his troops for an attack on his right flank, but Johnston urged him to travel with him to the threatened flank at Henry House Hill, which was weakly defended. Seeing the strength of the Union attack at that point, Beauregard insisted that Johnston leave the area of immediate action and coordinate the overall battle from a position 1.5 miles to the rear. As Johnston's final troops arrived from the Shenandoah Valley, the Confederates launched a counterattack that routed the Union Army, sending it streaming in disorder back toward Washington. Beauregard received the bulk of the acclaim from the press and general

public. On July 23, Johnston recommended to President Davis that Beauregard be promoted to full general which Davis approved. After Manassas, Beauregard advocated the use of a standardized battle flag other than the "Stars and Bars" Confederate national flag to avoid visual confusion with the U.S. flag.

As the Army went into winter quarters, Beauregard caused considerable friction with the Confederate high command. He strongly advocated an invasion of Maryland to threaten the flank and rear of Washington. With his plan rebuffed as impractical, he requested reassignment to New Orleans, which he assumed would be under Union attack in the near future, but his request was denied. He quarreled with Commissary General Lucius B. Northrop (a personal friend of Davis's). He issued public statements challenging the ability of the Confederate Secretary of War to give commands to a full general. And he enraged President Davis when his report about Manassas was printed in the newspaper, which suggested that Davis's interference with Beauregard's plans prevented the pursuit and full destruction of McDowell's army and the capture of Washington.

Having become a political liability in Virginia, Beauregard was transferred to Tennessee to become second-in-command to General Albert Sidney Johnston in his Army of Mississippi, effective March 14, 1862. The two generals planned the concentration of Confederate forces to oppose the advance of Maj. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant before he could combine his army with that of Maj. Gen. Don Carlos Buell in a thrust up the Tennessee River toward Corinth, Mississippi.

In the Battle of Shiloh, which began April 6, 1862, the Confederates launched a surprise attack against Grant's Army of the Tennessee and nearly defeated it. Once again a more senior general named Johnston deferred to the junior Beauregard in planning the attack. The massive frontal assault was marred by Beauregard's improper organization of forces—successive attacks by corps in lines 3 miles long, rather than assigning each corps a discrete portion of the line for a side-by-side assault. This arrangement caused intermingling of units and confusion of command; it failed to concentrate mass at the appropriate place on the line to affect the overall objectives of the attack. In midafternoon, Johnston, who was near the front of the battle action, was mortally wounded. Beauregard, positioned in the rear of the army to send reinforcements forward, assumed command. As darkness fell, he chose to call off the attack against Grant's final defensive line, which had contracted into a tight semicircle with their backs to the Tennessee River at Pittsburg Landing.

Beauregard's decision was one of the most controversial of the Civil War. Numerous veterans and historians have wondered what might have

P.G.T. Beauregard (continued)

happened if the assault had gone forward into the night. Beauregard believed that the battle was essentially won and his men could finish off Grant in the morning. He knew the terrain to be crossed was extremely difficult and Grant's defensive line was heavy with massed artillery. Unbeknownst to Beauregard, Buell's Army of the Ohio arrived in the night, and he and Grant launched a massive counterattack on April 7. Overwhelmed, the Confederates retreated to Corinth.

Maj. Gen. Henry W. Halleck cautiously and slowly approached Beauregard's fortifications at Corinth; his action became derisively called the Siege of Corinth. Beauregard withdrew from Corinth on May 29 to Tupelo, Mississippi. He was able to deceive Halleck into thinking the Confederates were about to attack; he ran empty trains back and forth through the town while whistles blew and troops cheered as if massive reinforcements were arriving. Beauregard retreated because of the overwhelming Union force and because of contaminated water supplies in Corinth. In April and May, the Confederates lost almost as many men to death by disease in Corinth as had been killed in battle at Shiloh. Nevertheless, his leaving the critical rail junction at Corinth without a fight was another controversial decision. When Beauregard went on medical leave without requesting permission in advance, President Davis relieved him of command and replaced him with Gen. Braxton Bragg.

At Beauregard's request, his allies in the Confederate Congress petitioned Davis to restore his command in the West. Davis remained angry at Beauregard's absence and told them he general should have stayed at his post even if he had to be carried around in a litter. Beauregard was ordered to Charleston and took command of coastal defenses in South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. Beauregard was unhappy with his new assignment, believing that he deserved command of one of the great Confederate field armies. He performed successfully, preventing the capture of Charleston by Union naval and land attempts in 1863. On April 7, 1863, Rear Admiral Samuel Francis Du Pont, commander of the South Atlantic Blockading Squadron, led an ironclad attack against Fort Sumter that was repulsed by highly accurate artillery fire from Beauregard's forces. In July through September 1863, land forces under Brig. Gen. Quincy A. Gillmore launched a series of attacks on Fort Wagner on Morris Island and other fortifications at the mouth of the harbor, while Rear Adm. John A. Dahlgren attempted to destroy Fort Sumter. Because the latter operation failed, the successful seizure of Morris Island was not effective in threatening Charleston.

During this period, Beauregard promoted innovative naval defense strategies, such as early experimentation with submarines, naval mines (called "torpedoes" in the War), and with a small vessel called a torpedo-ram.

While visiting his forces in Florida, which had just repelled a Union advance at Jacksonville, Beauregard received a telegram that his wife had died on March 2, 1864. Living in Union-occupied New Orleans, she had been seriously ill for two years. A Northern-leaning local newspaper printed an opinion that her condition had been exacerbated by the actions of her husband. This so fanned negative popular opinion that 6,000 people attended her funeral.

In 1864, Beauregard assisted Robert E. Lee in the defense of Richmond. He defeated Maj. Gen. Benjamin Butler in the Bermuda Hundred Campaign near Drewry's Bluff. He followed this victory with a desperate defense of Petersburg. His tiny 2,200-man force resisted an assault by 16,000 Federals, known as the Second Battle of Petersburg. He gambled by withdrawing his Bermuda Hundred defenses to reinforce Petersburg. He assumed that Butler would not capitalize on the opening. His gamble succeeded, and he held Petersburg long enough for Lee's army to arrive. Self-confident in the wake of victory over Butler, Beauregard proposed to Lee and Davis that he lead a great invasion of the North, to defeat Grant and Butler and win the war. Instead, Davis appointed him commander of Confederate forces in the West. Since his forces were engaged elsewhere (in Tennessee, Alabama, and Mississippi), he had insufficient resources to halt the superior Union forces under Maj. Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman in their march to the sea. Beauregard and Joseph E. Johnston surrendered to Sherman near Durham, North Carolina, in April 1865.

After the war, Beauregard spoke in favor of civil rights and voting for the recently freed slaves. Beauregard was a Democrat who worked to end Republican rule during Reconstruction.

General Beauregard declined offers from other nations to take command of the armies of Romania (1866) and Egypt (1869). Instead he became involved in promotion of railroads, both as a company director and a consulting engineer. He was the president of the New Orleans, Jackson & Mississippi Railroad from 1865 to 1870. While president of the New Orleans and Carrollton Street Railway (1866-1876), he invented a system of cable-powered street railway cars.

Beauregard served in the government of the State of Louisiana, first as adjutant general for the state militia, and then less successfully as manager of the Louisiana Lottery. Though considered personally honest, he failed to reform corruption in the lottery. Perhaps the leading critic of the lottery on moral grounds was Benjamin M. Palmer, longtime pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of New Orleans, who worked to kill the project. In 1888, Beauregard was elected as New Orleans' commissioner of public works. Beauregard died in New Orleans and was interred in the tomb of the Army of Tennessee in the historic Metairie Cemetery.



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P.G.T. Beauregard (May 28, 1818 – February 20, 1893)