



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

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Honoring the Gray

Camp Officers

Commander
Bucky Sutton
803-328-8732

1st Lt. Commander
Chip Adams
803-517-0964

Camp Adjutant
Chris Sims
803-981-7560

Chaplain
Mike Short
803-547-5446

Color Sergeant/
Quartermaster
Jack Morton
803-789-3457

Camp Historian
Jim Floyd
803-324-3532

Webmaster
Jerry Brown
803-371-6237

Graves Registration
Ray Baker
803-329-2257

Honoring the Gray
Editor
Jerry Brown
803-371-6237

Communications
Jerry Brown
803-371-6237
scvcamp1569@yahoo.com
or
jenkinsscvc@yahoo.com

Micah Jenkins Camp Meeting Tuesday, October 14th 2014

**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.**

The educational speaker for the October 14, 2014 meeting will be Stan Clardy, historical musician, songwriter, and author. He will be discussing his novel, "**Timelight.**"

"TimeLight" - story about the H. L. Hunley: Have you ever wanted to go back in time and experience an event, meet a famous person or be a part of history? Make that journey with "TimeLight"! Stan's book, "TimeLight, a journey into the past" is a fictional historical account about the Confederate submarine H. L. Hunley, the War Between the States and the siege of Charleston during 1863 - 1864. Though the five main characters are fictional, they are involved with real historical figures, such as; General Beauregard, Horace Hunley, George Dixon and others involved in the historic submarine. This story is inspired by the mysteries surrounding the Hunley, a ship known only in legend for more than a century, and now, a reality.

Stan lives in Statesville, NC and his website is www.stanclardy.com. He will be selling his books and CD's after the meeting.



Commander's Comments

The Sesquicentennial

The Sesquicentennial of the War for Southern Independence is slowly coming to an end. For me, it has been a revelation of knowledge and a period of paying homage to my ancestors. Five years ago I would never have guessed that I would be attending workshops dedicated to studying the effects of a War so long ago and rubbing elbows with fellow compatriots that I admire so much. I would never have guessed that I would proudly display the grey of my ancestors and begin to understand their dedication, perseverance, and duty to a common Cause. But all of these have come about.

All around us is a torrent of criticism about our past. But I am convinced that that torrent is mostly grown from ignorance and in some cases from personal profit.

I will be speaking at a Memorial Service soon, and my theme for the presentation is just that. I believe the War was fought over power: a power grab by a few to seize control and profit from another. And we all know that in the end that is exactly what happened. Even to this day, few want to acknowledge the injustice of the treatment of the South at the end of the War. So, my fellow compatriots, as we end the Sesquicentennial, our task is to reveal to the world the facts, the true story of just how our ancestors were treated at the end of the that tragic period.



Brattonville Homestead

The Annual Brattonville Reenactment will be held October 25th & 26th at the Brattonville Homestead in McConnells, SC. The Micah Jenkins Camp and the Caroline Jenkins Order of Confederate Rose Chapter will setup an information booth.

Camp members wishing to help at the information booth and with spectator parking should be there by 8:30 to help setup as the Reenactment will be open to the public by 10:00 AM.



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 continue to keep Brad Blackmon's wife, Deborah to your prayer list.
- Please continue to keep Ray Baker on your prayer list. Ray is doing much better, but still needs your prayers.
- Please keep John O'Brien (dad) to your list. He is suffering from pancreatic cancer.
- Please keep Micky Parris to your prayers. He has been having issues falling.
- Please add Nancy Brewer (she was our guest speaker in May). Nancy is battling cancer.
- 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. We are in very troubling times.
- 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 October 1864

Oct 2nd - In Augusta, Jefferson Davis meets with P. G. T. Beauregard to give him command of the Department of Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi.

Oct 4th - Moving north along the Western and Atlantic Railroad in an attempt to sever Sherman's supply line, John Bell Hood attacks blockhouses and encampments at Acworth and Moon's Station.

Oct 5th - At the Battle of Allatoona Pass, Confederates under Samuel French attack entrenched Federals under John Corse protecting the Western and Atlantic Railroad.

Oct 9th - At the Battle of Tom's Brook, Phil Sheridan ordered his cavalry to attack a detachment of Confederate cavalry that had been harassing his column. After a battle that covered almost 10 miles, the Union cavalry stopped, having captured 300 Confederates.

Oct 13th - Maryland, a border state, abolishes slavery in their new constitution.

Oct 17th - General James Longstreet resumes command of his corps after suffering a serious wound at The Wilderness.

Oct 19th - The Battle of Cedar Creek (Belle Grove) was the last major engagement in the Shenandoah Valley. Jubal Early defeats Phillip Sheridan in the first of two fairly distinct engagements. During the second engagement, Sheridan arrived and rallied the federals, who easily repulsed Early.

Oct 19th - Confederate raid on St. Albans, Vermont

Oct 23rd - Battle of Westport, Missouri

Oct 25th - The Battle of Mine Creek was the only battle fought in Kansas between uniformed troops and involved large forces of cavalry on both the Union and Confederate sides.

Oct 26th - Battle of Decatur, Alabama

Oct 27th - Battle of the Southside Railroad in Virginia

Oct 27th - Battle of Hatcher's Run in Virginia

Oct 27th - Battle of Burgess Mill in Virginia

Oct 28th - William Tecumseh Sherman, in Gaylesville, AL, decides to return to his field headquarters in Kingston, GA. rather than pursue John Bell Hood into Alabama.

Oct 31st - Nevada becomes the 36th state in the United States

Famous Quotes

After the Confederate army had finally evacuated the Shenandoah Valley in the autumn of 1864 Major General Philip Sheridan's 35,000 infantry troops essentially burned the entire valley to the ground.

As Sheridan described it in a letter to General Grant, in the first few days he "destroyed over 2200 barns...over 70 mills... have driven in front of the army over 4000 head of stock, and have killed ... not less then 3000 sheep.... Tomorrow I will continue the destruction."

A Sergeant, William T. Patterson wrote that "the whole country around is wrapped in flames, the heavens are aglow with the light thereof ... such mourning, such lamentations, such crying and pleading for mercy [by defenseless women]... I never saw or want to see again."



The First Land Battle of the Civil War

On May 28, 1861, Col. George Porterfield and his Confederate troops arrived in Philippi, where they camped or were quartered in town. Neighbors and families were already divided on the question of secession. There were at least 750, if not upwards of 2,000 troops. At daylight on June 3, two columns of Union forces, with perhaps 3,000 men, arrived from Grafton under the command of Col. Ebenezer Dumont and Col. Benjamin Kelley.

Mistaking a pistol shot by a Mrs. Humpreys on the hill above the town as a signal to start the battle, the Union troops fired on the Confederates with two brass six-pound Napoleon cannons. The Confederates routed to a big rock south of town and departed in good order to Belington and ultimately to Beverly.

Battle sites and encampments have been identified in Philippi and Belington, as well as the location of some of the historical homes of the period. Philippi is listed as the first stop of a self-guided Civil War Auto Tour published by the Monongahela National Forest. Visitors usually explore the camps and battlefields around Belington before heading for Corrick's Ford near Parsons, Beverly, Rich Mountain, and eventually Cheat Summit Fort on Cheat Mountain on U.S. Route 250.

When Col. Porterfield arrived in Grafton by train from Harpers Ferry on May 14, 1861, he had been

ordered by Gen. Robert E. Lee., the Commander of the Provisional Army of Virginia, to recruit troops in the northwestern counties of Virginia. He was happy to find that a Philippi attorney, Thomas Bedford, had organized a company of 42 men called "The Barbour Grays."

These new recruits were almost totally without proper equipment: their weapons were brought from home, they had no tents, no supplies, and no training. Porterfield, a graduate of Virginia Military Institute, reported to Lee that, "the men couldn't even keep in step and the ones drilling the men were even more ignorant than the men." Two companies of the Barbour Grays were part of the command that relocated to the south on June 3, 1861. Later, they were made Company H of the 31st Virginia Regiment.

On June 3, 1911 the first "Home Coming Week" ever held in Barbour County of the "Blue and Gray Soldiers" who participated in the 1861 battle was held. The program included speeches, band concerts, "public talks by Old Soldiers", entertainment, fireworks, parachute jumps, parades, a hot-air balloon ascension, and a "Sham Battle conducted by the State Militia." In 1988, the City of Philippi published a "Call to Arms" to plan for an annual Blue & Gray Reunion to begin the first week of June, 1989.



Three of the So-Called "Border States"

There were three of the so-called "Border States," and each of these felt the brunt of war even though they did not join their Southern sisters in secession. Maryland, indeed, was the first state to be invaded by Northern troops, though she had chosen to be neutral. Judge Handy, born in Maryland but then living in Mississippi, had been sent to present the views of the South to Governor Hicks in December 1860. The governor said that Maryland stood with the South and need not call a convention; he felt that the border states would all join the south eventually but perhaps by neutrality they might preserve peace. In April 1861, Hicks issued a proclamation that no troops would be sent to fight in any other state and no troops sent at all except to defend the national capital which stood on ground ceded by Maryland.

The next day, Federal troops arrived and were attacked by citizens with stones. They were dispersed by city police and the Baltimore militia was called out to preserve order. Lincoln called the mayor of Baltimore and other influential citizens to Washington for an interview with Lincoln, his cabinet and General Scott. Both Lincoln and Scott assured the mayor that troops were only being brought through Baltimore for the protection of Washington and not to fight the Southern states.

The Maryland legislature sent commissioners to both Montgomery and Washington, asking for a cessation of hostilities until Congress met in July. Jefferson Davis replied that he too wanted peace. In May, General Butler marched troops into Baltimore and occupied the city. He issued a proclamation about "well disposed" citizens and others, the "well disposed" being those who agreed with him. He took charge of the city's arms and maintained strict control, even arresting women who dared to wear the Confederate colors of red and white. Maryland remained under Federal control for the remainder of the war.

In Missouri, the state militia, camped for exercises in a camp near St. Louis, were attacked by Federal troops and an overwhelming force made resistance impossible. The Federal troops fired on the militia and killed ten of them. Peace was temporarily restored by agreement between General Harvey and Sterling Price, General of the state guard, but General Harvey was removed from command and the Union felt that the arsenal of St. Louis was necessary and seized it. Missouri refused to war upon her sister Southern states and so was occupied and disarmed. The battle of Wilson's Creek in August

was a Confederate victory, under the leadership of General Ben McCulloch and General Sterling Price.

No state, North or South, was so sharply and bitterly divided as Kentucky. Both Abraham Lincoln and Jefferson Davis were born in Kentucky, not quite a hundred miles apart. There were sixty-five native Kentuckians who served as Union generals and thirty-eight who were Confederate generals. It is a fact that more men were drafted into Federal army service from Kentucky (90,000) than from Ohio, while more volunteered from the state for Confederate duty (40,000) than from Virginia. It is a Louisville tradition that if one stood on Main Street, one saw a constant stream of men going north to join the Union army on one side of the street, while on the other side a similar stream flowed south to join the Confederacy.

The Louisville Courier-Journal, in November 1960, issued a magazine section, "The War in Kentucky," which is an excellent review of the role of the state throughout the conflict. There are brief biographies of both Lincoln and Davis as well as of the other prominent figures of the day. In the biography of Davis, there is an affecting account of his visit to the dedication of the Memorial Church at Fairview, where he was born, in his eightieth year. Though he had declined to make a formal speech, the enthusiastic crowd insisted on his saying a few words, and he spoke with great simplicity of his religious faith. It is at Fairview that today a great white shaft honors the memory of the only president of the Confederacy.

It is interesting to note that Transylvania College, founded in 1780, is proud of four gallant alumni who served the Confederacy, Jefferson Davis, John C. Breckenridge, Albert Sidney Johnston and John Hunt Morgan. John C. Breckenridge, who had been Vice-President of the United States, attended the special session of Congress in July 1861 and urged peace and spoke for the neutrality of his native state. This neutrality was utterly disregarded by the Federal troops.

One of the favorite games of the historian is the game of "It might have been." Had Kentucky joined the South, giving the Confederacy control of the Ohio River and of the important rail-roads in the state, the war might have ended differently. It is possible that the three border states might well have turned the tide; but we cannot rewrite history.

*Mrs. Lafayette Banes
Article from UDC magazine October, 1961*

Prisoner of War Camps

Prisoner of War Camps were operated by both the Union and the Confederacy to handle the 409,000 soldiers captured during the war, 1861–65. The Record and Pension Office in 1901 counted 211,000 Northerners who were captured. In 1861–63 most were immediately paroled; after the parole exchange system broke down in 1863, about 195,000 went to prison camps. Some tried to escape but few succeeded. By contrast 464,000 Confederates were captured and 215,000 imprisoned. Over 30,000 Union and nearly 26,000 Confederate prisoners died in captivity. Just over 12% of the captives in Northern prisons died, compared to 15.5% for Southern prisons.

Lacking means for dealing with large numbers of captured troops early in the War, the Union and Confederate governments both relied on the traditional European system of parole and exchange of prisoners. A prisoner who was on parole promised not to fight again until his name was “exchanged” for a similar man on the other side. Then both of them could rejoin their units. While awaiting exchange, prisoners were briefly confined to permanent camps. The exchange system broke down in 1863 when the Confederacy refused to treat captured black prisoners as equal to white men. The prison populations soared. There were 32 major Confederate prisons; 16 were in the Deep South states of Georgia, Alabama, and South Carolina. Training camps were turned into prisons, and new settlements were made. The Union always had plenty of men but the Confederacy did not and the loss of its men to Northern prisons hurt the Southern economy and war effort.

At the outbreak of the War, the Federal government avoided any action, such as prisoner exchanges, that might appear as an official recognition of the Confederate government, including the formal transfer of military captives. In the North, public opinion on prisoner exchanges changed after the First Battle of Manassas, when Confederates captured about one thousand Union soldiers.

Both sides exchanged prisoners sporadically, usually as an act of humanity between opposing field commanders. Throughout the initial months of the War, support for prisoner exchanges grew in the North. Petitions from prisoners in Southern captivity and articles in Northern newspapers increased pressure on the Lincoln administration. On December 11, 1861, the US Congress passed a joint resolution calling on President Lincoln to “inaugurate systematic measures for the exchange of prisoners in the present rebellion.” In two meetings on February 23 and March 1, 1862, Union Major Gen. John E. Wool and Confederate Brig. Gen. Howell Cobb met to reach an agreement on prisoner exchanges. They discussed many of the provisions later adopted in the Dix-Hill agreement. However, differences over which side would cover expenses for prisoner transportation stymied the negotiations.

Prisoner camps were largely empty in mid-1862 because of the informal exchange system. Both sides agreed to formalize it. Negotiations resumed in July, 1862, when the Union appointed Maj. Gen. John A.

Dix and the Confederacy appointed Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill. The cartel agreement established a scale of equivalents to manage the exchange of military officers and enlisted personnel. For example, a naval captain or a colonel in the army would exchange for fifteen privates or common seamen, while personnel of equal ranks would transfer man for man. Each government would appoint an agent to handle the exchange and parole of prisoners. The agreement allowed the exchange of non-combatants, such as citizens accused of disloyalty, and civilian employees of the military, and also allowed the exchange or parole of captives between the commanders of two opposing forces.

Authorities were to parole any prisoners not formally exchanged within ten days following their capture. The terms of the cartel prohibited paroled prisoners from returning to the military in any capacity including “the performance of field, garrison, police, or guard, or constabulary duty.”

The exchange system collapsed in 1863 because the Confederacy refused to treat black prisoners the same as whites. They said they were probably ex-slaves and belonged to their masters, not to the Union Army. The South needed the exchanges much more than the North did, because of the severe manpower shortage in the Confederacy. In 1864 Ulysses Grant, noting the “prisoner gap” (Union camps held far more prisoners than Confederate camps), decided that the growing prisoner gap gave him a decided military advantage. He therefore opposed wholesale exchanges until the end was in sight. Around 5600 Confederates were allowed to join the Union Army. Known as “Galvanized Yankees” these troops were stationed in the West facing Indians. Around 1600 former Union troops joined the Confederate army.

In 1865, as the war was ending, the Confederates sent 17,000 prisoners North while receiving 24,000 men. On April 23, after the war ended, the riverboat SS Sultana was taking 1900 ex-prisoners North on the Mississippi River when it exploded, killing about 1500 of them.

The overall mortality rates in prisons on both sides were similar, and quite high. Many Southern prisons were located in regions with high disease rates, and were routinely short of medicine, doctors, food and ice. Northerners often believed their men were being deliberately weakened and killed in Confederate prisons, and demanded that conditions in Northern prisons be equally harsh, even though shortages were not a problem in the North.

About 56,000 soldiers died in prisons during the war, accounting for almost 10% of all Civil War fatalities. During a period of 14 months in Camp Sumter, located near Andersonville, Georgia, 13,000 (28%) of the 45,000 Union soldiers confined there died. At Camp Douglas in Chicago, Illinois, 10% of its Confederate prisoners died during one cold winter month; and Elmira Prison in New York state, with a death rate of 25%, very nearly equaled that of Andersonville.

Samuel Gibbs French (November 22, 1818 – April 20, 1910)

Samuel Gibbs French was an officer in the U.S. Army, wealthy plantation owner, author, and a major general in the Confederate army during the War. He commanded a division in the Army of Tennessee in the Western Theater.

Samuel G. French was born in Mullica Hill, New Jersey. His larger family lived in both Gloucester and Salem Counties. He graduated from the United States Military Academy in 1843. His classmates included future generals Ulysses S. Grant, William B. Franklin, Roswell Ripley, and Franklin Gardner. French was brevetted as a second lieutenant in the 3rd U.S. Artillery and assigned to garrison duty.

During his military service in the Mexican-American War, he was wounded at the Battles of Monterrey and Buena Vista. He was awarded a congressional award and a sword from the State of New Jersey. He rose to the rank of Captain, but resigned his commission in May 1856 to become a planter in Mississippi.

When the War began, French sided with the South. On February 12, 1861, French was appointed chief of ordnance of the state of Mississippi; and on October 23, 1861, he was appointed a brigadier general in the provisional army of the Confederate States of America. French became a major general on August 31, 1862. General French commanded a brigade and subsequently a division under Gen. Daniel Harvey Hill at Petersburg, Virginia. He led a demonstration against Harrison's Landing on July 4, 1862 and one against Suffolk, Virginia on September 22, 1862. (Fort French at Suffolk was named for him.) In 1863, French led a division under Lt Gen James Longstreet in the Siege of Suffolk. French's division intervened in the Battle of Suffolk (Hill's Point), with its commander waiting for the federals who had seized Fort French to withdraw from their exposed position.

May 28, 1863, he was ordered to report to Gen. Joseph E. Johnston at Jackson, Miss. There was much discouragement at that time in the Southwest on account of Pemberton's disastrous defeats in the field and because of the fact that Vicksburg was now closely besieged. There was also much distrust among soldiers and citizens of all officers of Northern birth. General Johnston therefore addressed a communication to Mr. Davis to the effect that it had been suggested to him that General French's arrival would be a source of weakness instead of strength. President Davis in his reply informed General Johnston that General French was a citizen of Mississippi and a wealthy planter until the enemy had robbed him. He also stated that before the Confederate States had an army, General French "was the chief of ordnance and artillery in the force Mississippi raised to maintain her right of secession." General French entered upon his duties and was soon one of General Johnston's most trusted

officers. The people of Mississippi knew him already and believed in his fidelity and honor.

French commanded a division at Jackson, Mississippi during Gen Joseph E. Johnston's effort to relieve the Siege of Vicksburg. Later he served under Lt Gen Leonidas Polk in Mississippi. French served in Polk's corps, later under Lt Gen Alexander P. Stewart, in the Atlanta Campaign of the Army of Tennessee, which was led by Johnston and then by Gen John Bell Hood. On October 5, 1864, after the fall of Atlanta, Hood sent French with his division to break the line of communication of Sherman's army by capturing Allatoona Pass. The pass was held by a federal garrison under Gen. John M. Corse, who defended it in the Battle of Allatoona. When federal reinforcements arrived, General French withdrew his division to New Hope Church and rejoined the Army of Tennessee. French served in the Franklin-Nashville Campaign. Illness forced him to return home in December 1864; but he returned to service in 1865, commanding forces in Mobile, Alabama to the end of the war.

After the war, he returned to his work as a southern planter, and later authored the book "Two Wars" about his war experiences. French had married Mary Fontaine Abercrombie on 12 January 1865. Mary Fontaine Abercrombie died on 16 May 1900 at Atlanta, Georgia. They had two sons and a daughter. Gen French died in Pensacola, Florida in 1910. Gen French was buried in Florida but a memorial to him was constructed in the Laurel Hill Cemetery in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. There is also a bust and marker of French in the National Military Park in Vicksburg, Mississippi.

Looking for Somewhere to Get Confederate Stuff?

If you are ever heading up hwy 81 in the Shenandoah Valley take exit 243, please stop in and visit Rex Miller in the Shenandoah Heritage Market. He has lots of Confederate items (including some books that are very hard to find). You can also check out his store on his website: www.ConfederateShop.com

Another place to visit, a little closer, is Dixie Republic. They boast to be: the South's Largest Confederate Store. They are located at: 1315 Hwy 25 N, Travelers Rest, SC. You can find out more about the store on their website: www.dixieoutpost.net or you can call them at: 864-834-7024.

Plan on stopping by when you are near either of these two Confederate stores.



BG Micah Jenkins Camp # 1569
4240 Mt Gallant Road
Rock Hill, South Carolina 29732



Samuel Gibbs French (November 22, 1818 – April 20, 1910)