



**Official Newsletter of the BG Micah Jenkins
SCV Camp 1569
Volume XII Number IX September 2013**



Honoring the Gray

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Micah Jenkins Camp Meeting Tuesday, September 10th 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.**

**Due to the overwhelming response to last month's open mike
night, we will again have open mike night at September's meeting.
If you would like to participate, please contact 1st Lt Commander
Bucky Sutton and he will add you to the list. You can call Bucky at
803-328-8732 or email him at mbsutton@msn.com.**

Do You Have Children or Grandchildren?

Thank you so much for allowing me to speak at your last meeting. And thank you for your generous donations to the Iredell Jones Chapter, Children of the Confederacy. The funds will be used to further the story of our glorious Confederate ancestors to our children.

Several of you were interested in membership for your children, grandchildren or others in our CofC organization. We would love to have them.

By the time you read this, our first CofC meeting of the year will be over. We will be making plans for our year. I will report to you about our plans and I hope some of those children you know will be able to join us. All are invited. We have fun, we learn about the true history of the South and we always have refreshments. Our first Benevolent Project is to collect school supplies for children in need. If you wish to support this effort, please bring school supplies of any kind to your upcoming SCV meeting. They will be collected and added to the supplies our chapter collects.

To become an official member of CofC, an application must be completed. This may sound difficult, but we are ready to assist in this process. And what a wonderful thing to have documentation of your child's relationship to a real Confederate Hero! This is a true honor. Once this is done, our children begin their journey in knowledge of the Confederacy. They will take part in special ceremonies. They will learn about what it takes to honor the memory of their forbears. For information, please call Judy McCardle at 803/493-6530 or send me an email at mdm1@comporium.net. Don't pass up the opportunity to share this wonderful heritage with the children you love. They will be prepared to continue our Southern tradition, know our true Southern history, and pass it on to future generations. This is our duty to the Cause we hold dear.

*God Bless You All and God Bless the South.
Judy McCardle*

1st Lt Commander's Comments

Wintering Over

Summer is fast coming to an end and winter is just around the corner. So I have begun to think about our ancestors and what they did during those cold wintry days.

Civil War winters were particularly trying and monotonous for the armies. Impassable muddy roads and harsh weather slowed operations. Disease ran rampant, killing more men than battles. But with all of its hardships winter also allowed soldiers an opportunity to bond, have a bit of fun, and enjoy their more permanent camps. Through these bleak months our soldier ancestors had to keep warm and busy in order to survive.

In warmer weather, soldiers often erected canvas tents or they simply slept without cover, under the stars. In winter, large camps were established with more substantial shelter. Winter huts were built by the armies out of the surrounding materials including trees, mud, leaves, and soldiers' canvases.

Private John W. Stevens, 5th Texas Infantry wrote *"We then rake up dry leaves and fill the dog house about ten inches deep with the leaves, which makes us a good warm bed"*.

The camps were set-up much like small villages complete with crisscrossing lanes called "company streets", with churches and sutlers' shops. While this may seem cozy, these temporary villages lacked the appropriate systems to provide clean water and clear away waste; additionally, food was scarce. Disease and death abounded and spread easily.

Bucky Sutton
1st Lt Commander



Prayer Closet

- Please continue to pray for our President & government leaders. Continue to pray for our country. We are in very troubling times. The evening news is rarely about anything good.
- Please keep Vernon Terry on your prayer list. He is doing better, but can still use your prayers.
- Please continue and 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 continue to keep Jeanette Floyd on your list. 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 much better. He has lost a lot of weight and is on a strict special diet.
- 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 September 1863

Sept 1st - Battle of Devil's Backbone (Backbone Mountain), Arkansas

Sept 2nd - Ambrose Burnside occupies Knoxville, Tennessee

Sept 3rd - Lord Russell (Great Britain) orders two ironclad Laird Rams bound for the Confederacy to be detained.

Sept 5th - British forces stop the shipment of two ironclads from Liverpool under orders from Lord Russell. This dashed Confederates hopes of British support during the war.

Sept 6th - P. G. T. Beauregard orders Battery Wagner and Morris Island evacuated. The evacuation is accomplished that night.

Sept 8th - Federal General William Franklin, intending to begin the occupation of Texas, steamed past Sabine Pass to Confederate Fort Griffin on the Texas-Louisiana border. John Bankhead Magruder, with two "cotton-clads" and a force of 44 men turned back more than 200 Union troops

Sept 9th - Confederate Brigadier General John W. Frazier surrenders his men guarding the Cumberland Gap.

Sept 9th - Federal troops enter Chattanooga following its evacuation by the Army of Tennessee.

Sept 9th - James Longstreet leaves Virginia with his corps to reinforce the Army of Tennessee.

Sept 10th - 11th - Battle of Davis Crossroads, Georgia

Sept 10th - Battle of Bayou Forche (Little Rock), Arkansas

Sept 10th - Sterling Price withdraws from Little Rock, Arkansas

Sept 13th - Sensing a change in Lee's lines, George Meade pushes the Army of the Potomac to the Rapidan River, Virginia

Sept 15th - Lincoln suspends the writ of habeas corpus.

Sept 16th - Federal General Thomas Crittenden reaches Lee and Gordon Mill on the Chickamauga River. Federal General Rosecrans orders the rest of his men, spread out along 50 miles of Georgia's backwoods, to concentrate at this landmark.

Sept 17th - Forward echelons of Longstreet's Corps begins arriving in Northwest Georgia.

Sept 18th - Rosecrans orders Thomas north on Lafayette Road in an attempt to outflank Bragg's forces. Georgia

Sept 19th - 20th - At the Battle of Chickamauga, General Braxton Bragg tries to split General William Rosecrans forces as they try to return to the safety of Chattanooga. A second day

breakthrough at the Brotherton Cabin forces the federals into a retreat, halted only by the Rock of Chickamauga, General George Thomas on Snodgrass Hill.

(The bloodiest two days in American history cost the Federals 1,657 dead, 9,756 wounded, and 4,757 missing for a total of 16,170 casualties out of 58,000 troops. The Confederate losses were 2,312 dead, 14,674 wounded and 1,468 for a total of 18,545 out of 66,000 troops).

Sept 21st - After withdrawing from Chickamauga, Gen. George Thomas forms a line in Rossville. He abandons the position that evening.

Sept 21st - Mortally wounded at Chickamauga, Confederate Brigadier General Benjamin "Ben" Hardin Helms dies. He was Abraham Lincoln's brother-in-law.

Sept 22nd - Oct 26th - General Joseph O. "Jo" Shelby raids Missouri and Arkansas

Sept 23rd - Lincoln orders the 11th and 12th Corps to Stevenson, Alabama to relieve the Army of the Cumberland surrounded in Chattanooga.

Sept 24th - Lincoln wires Gen. Rosecrans in Chattanooga, telling him 40,000 to 60,000 troops are on their way. Within a week a corps arrives at Stevenson, Alabama

Sept 26th - Lincoln and members of his Administration are distressed that troop movements aiding General Rosecrans in Chattanooga are published in the New York Post.

Sept 28th - Repercussions from Chickamauga: US Generals Crittenden, Alexander McDowell and McCook are relieved of duty and ordered to Indianapolis to face a court of inquiry.

Sept 30th - Oct 17th - Gen. Joseph Wheeler raids Federal positions north and east of Chattanooga.

Famous Quotes

"After the battle of Gettysburg in July 1863, ...reported among the rebel prisoners were seven blacks in Confederate uniforms fully armed as soldiers..." - New York Herald, July 11, 1863.

THE NEW YORK HERALD.

Negro Confederates (pt. 3)

Black Confederates



Hiram Kendall, 5th TN Infantry Regiment, Henry Love, occupation listed as teamster/blacksmith for the 1st Brigade, Department of Norfolk, Joe Warren, 5th TN Infantry Regiment, Fielding Rennolds, occupation listed as shoemaker for the Clothing Bureau, Quartermaster's Department, & Dan Humphreys occupation listed as cook and aide in Company G 7th TN Cavalry.

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.

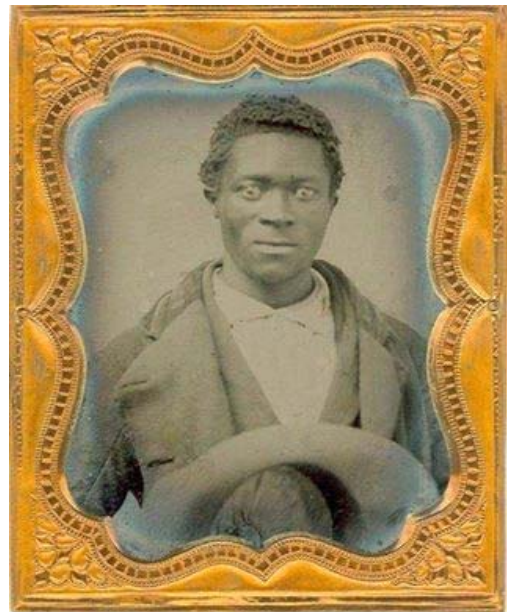
Plan on stopping by when you are near either of these two Confederate stores.

On April 25, 1861 over three hundred free Blacks, and a few slaves “volunteered” by their owners, left Petersburg by train for labor service on the fortifications of Norfolk with their own Confederate flag, and leader.”

“We are willing to aid Virginia’s cause to the utmost of our ability. There is not an unwilling heart among us, not a hand but will tell in the work before us, and we promise unhesitating obedience to all orders that may be given us.”

“Realizing that many free Black households would be in want following the departure of their husbands on voluntary work, the Petersburg City Council voted family assistance funds for wives and children left behind. Such assistance continued for the length of the war.”

Mayor Dodson presented them with a Confederate flag and promised the men that they would “...reap a rich reward of praise and merit from a thankful people.



Charles Tinsley, Free Black, Pocahontas, Petersburg, Va.

(* NOTE: All articles are from Facebook. Defending the Heritage is a Confederate Heritage page for those who enjoy reading facts and anecdotes about our Confederate ancestors and heroes.

Defending the Heritage received the “Heritage Defense” medal received at the 2011 National Reunion of the Sons of Confederate Veterans in Montgomery Alabama. For outstanding dedication to the protection of Southern heritage and to the guiding principles of the Charge to the SCV. Website: (<http://defendingtheheritage.com/>)

Black Confederates, by Walter E. Williams

During our War of 1861, ex-slave Frederick Douglass observed, "There are at the present moment, many colored men in the Confederate Army doing duty not only as cooks, servants and laborers, but as real soldiers, having muskets on their shoulders and bullets in their pockets, ready to shoot down . . . and do all that soldiers may do to destroy the Federal government."

Dr. Lewis Steiner, a Union Sanitary Commission employee who lived through the Confederate occupation of Frederick, Maryland said, "Most of the Negroes . . . were manifestly an integral portion of the Southern Confederacy Army." Erwin L. Jordan's book *Black Confederates and Afro-Yankees in Civil War Virginia* cites eyewitness accounts of the Antietam campaign of "armed blacks in rebel columns bearing rifles, sabers, and knives and carrying knapsacks and haversacks." After the Battle of Seven Pines in June 1862, Union soldiers said that "two black Confederate regiments not only fought but showed no mercy to the Yankee dead or wounded whom they mutilated, murdered and robbed."

In April 1861, a Petersburg, Virginia newspaper proposed "three cheers for the patriotic free Negroes of Lynchburg" after 70 blacks offered "to act in whatever capacity may be assigned to them" in defense of Virginia. Erwin L. Jordan cites one case where a captured group of white slave owners and blacks were offered freedom if they would take an oath of allegiance to the United States. One free black indignantly replied, "I can't take no such oath as dat. I'm a secesh nigger." A slave in the group upon learning that his master refused to take the oath said, "I can't take no oath dat Massa won't take." A second slave said, "I ain't going out here on no dishonorable terms." One of the slave owners took the oath but his slave, who didn't take the oath, returning to Virginia under a flag of truce, expressed disgust at his master's disloyalty saying, "Massa had no principles."

Horace Greeley, in pointing out some differences between the two warring armies said, "For more than two years, Negroes have been extensively

employed in belligerent operations by the Confederacy. They have been embodied and drilled as rebel soldiers and had paraded with white troops at a time when this would not have been tolerated in the armies of the Union." General Nathan Bedford Forrest had both slaves and freemen serving in units under his command. After the war, General Forrest said of the black men who served under him "[T]hese boys stayed with me . . . and better Confederates did not live." Southern generals owned slaves but northern generals owned them as well. General Ulysses Grant's slaves had to await for the Thirteenth Amendment for freedom. When asked why he didn't free his slaves earlier, General Grant said, "Good help is so hard to come by these days."



These are but a few examples of the important role that blacks served, both as slaves and freemen in the Confederacy during the War Between the States. The flap over the Confederate Flag is not quite as simple as the nation's race experts make it. They want us to believe the flag is a symbol of racism. Yes, racists have used the Confederate Flag, but racists have also used the Bible and the U.S. Flag. Should we get rid of the Bible and lower the U.S. Flag? Black civil rights activists and their white liberal

supporters who're attacking the Confederate Flag have committed a deep, despicable dishonor to our patriotic black ancestors who marched, fought and died to protect their homeland from what they saw as Northern aggression. They don't deserve the dishonor.

Walter E. Williams is a professor of economics at George Mason University. To find out more about Walter E. Williams and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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*More interesting articles by Mr Williams can be found at:
<http://econfaculty.gmu.edu/wew/articles.html>
or google : Walter E Williams
Jerry Brown
2nd Lt Commander*

Joseph Banks Lyle
Captain, 5th Regt SC Infantry
Dec. 6, 1829 Aug. 16, 1913
Forgotten Hero of the Confederacy

Captain Lyle prior to the Civil War was a school teacher in South Carolina and at the outbreak raised a company of volunteers composed chiefly of his pupils. He served the entire four years in the Confederate Army and was recommended for promotion for conspicuous bravery and intelligent conduct.

In 1864 he was married to Mrs. Lyle, who still survives him, and who goes this week to the reunion at Richmond. In announcing his getting married to general Bratton, the Captain requested a present to his bride, and general Bratton gallantly gave him a carbine which he had captured from the Federal troop; and this carbine Mrs. Lyle yet owns, having it in her home today. Just prior to taking his furlough to get married Captain Lyle made a capture of six hundred men and three colors alone, the account of which is related by general Bratton in a letter to Miss Fannie which follows:

The most conspicuous feat of valor and skill (personal) that came in my knowledge during the war of secession was achieved in my brigade by an officer on the 27th of October, 1864. In the severe and constant fighting of that army, my staff, as well as line suffered, and it was necessary to fill the places of the wounded with officers of the line. To meet such demands, Capt. J. Banks Lyle, of the 5th S.C. regiment was then and had been for some time rendering efficient service in the brigade staff. On the morning of the above date, the enemy were in heavy force on the north side of the James and assailed our works with more or less vigor at various points, extending their attacks to and beyond the Charles City Wood.

In the afternoon his cavalry assaulted our works, on the Williamsburg road held by our cavalry and were driven off. Field's division of cavalry was promptly moved to the Williamsburg road in anticipation of the assault by infantry, which followed, pushing our cavalry further to the left, my brigade under its Senior, Col. Walker, occupying the line crossing the road and were in position to meet and repulse it. In their retreat quite a number of them took refuge in a wash or gully, which ran through a depression in the field some 300 or 400 yards in front of our line, nearly half way to the enemy's line. Capt. Lyle saw that they were whipped and would surrender if called on to do so. He so reported and asked permission to

advance the skirmish line and take them in. His request was refused, but convinced that they would escape, simply because they were not invited to surrender before night came to cover their retreat he determined to attempt their capture.

He went to the skirmish line and tried to get them to volunteer, and failing in that (all were willing to go if ordered), he started alone, but had not advanced a great ways when two men (I am sorry I cannot give their names) called out "hold on captain, you shan't go by yourself" and moved out with him. They had gone but a short distance when he concluded not to subject his brave little force to the danger of the possible error of his judgment, but to use their aid without risk to them.

He had observed an officer trying to arouse the collapsed spirit of his men in the gully, and halting his volunteers on the crest overlooking their position, and ordered them to fire on the officer and put a stop to the harangue, while he advanced alone over the open field in full view of Field's division on our side and the whole force of the enemy on the other side. He was recognized by the men of his own brigade, but those of the other one, misapprehending his conduct, fired on him at long range so heavily that the dust from bullets falling around him almost concealed him from view. This continued until

word could be passed along the line stopping it, and of course served to attract the attention of all to him as he approached the gully where the enemy were, and in full view of friend and foe accomplished the capture, and made them file out without arms and move on to our lines.

There was great excitement and enthusiasm on our side. Men all along the division mounted the works and exclamations of admiration, and inquiring "who is he, etc." The enemy did not seem to understand it at first, and took no part until they saw the men filing into our works, when they opened a battery on the scene which contributed to the general excitement, but was especially effective in hurrying the movement of the prisoners into our works.

The number of officers and men captured were about 600 with three stands of colors and swords by the armful.

Your Humble & Obedient Servant;
Brad Blackmon, Commander



Benjamin Hardin Helm (June 2, 1831 – September 21, 1863)

Benjamin Helm was a Kentucky politician, attorney, Confederate brigadier general, and a brother-in-law of Abraham Lincoln. He was also the son of Kentucky Governor John L. Helm. He attended the Kentucky Military Institute and the West Point Military Academy and then went to study law at the University of Louisville and Harvard University. He served as the assistant inspector-general for the Kentucky state guard. Helm was offered the position of Union Army paymaster by his brother-in-law, President Abraham Lincoln, a position which he declined. Helm felt it was an honor to serve in the Confederate States Army, where he was initially a colonel and later promoted to brigadier general. Helm was married to Emilie Todd, the half-sister of Mary Todd Lincoln.

The son of lawyer and politician John L. Helm and Lucinda Barbour Hardin, Benjamin Hardin Helm was born in Bardstown, Kentucky on June 2, 1831. In the winter of 1846, at age 15, Helm enrolled at the Kentucky Military Institute, where he remained for three months. He left on his 16th birthday to accept an appointment in West Point the same day. Helm graduated in 1851 near his 20th birthday, ranked 9th in a class of 42 cadets. He became a brevet second lieutenant in the 2nd U.S. Dragoons. He served at a cavalry school at Carlisle, Pennsylvania, and at Fort Lincoln, Texas, but resigned his commission after a year, when he was diagnosed with inflammatory rheumatism.

Helm then studied law at the University of Louisville and Harvard University, graduating in 1853 and practicing law with his father. In 1855, he was elected to the House of Representatives of Kentucky from Hardin County, and was the state's attorney for the 3rd district of Kentucky from 1856 to 1858. In 1856, Helm married Emilie Todd, a half-sister of Mary Todd Lincoln.

In 1860, he was appointed assistant inspector-general of the Kentucky State Guard, which he was active in organizing. Kentucky remained officially neutral in the War, but his brother-in-law, now President Abraham Lincoln, offered him the position of paymaster of the Union Army. Helm declined the offer, and returned to Kentucky to raise the 1st Kentucky Cavalry Regiment for the Confederate Army.

Helm was commissioned a colonel on October 19, 1861, and served under Brigadier General Simon B. Buckner in Bowling Green, Kentucky. Helm and the 1st Kentucky were then ordered south. He was promoted to brigadier general on March 14, 1862 and, three weeks later, received a new assignment to raise the 3rd Kentucky Brigade, in the division of Major General John C. Breckinridge. During the Battle of Shiloh, Helm used his brigade to guard the Confederate flanks. In 1862, he was also sent to protect the Arkansas, an ironclad warship of the

Confederate Navy under construction in Yazoo City, Mississippi. Serving under Breckinridge in January 1863, he was given command of the First Kentucky Brigade, commonly known as the "Orphan Brigade". Helm's brigade was assigned to the Army of Tennessee, where it participated in the 1863 Tullahoma and Chickamauga campaigns. Near the end of the spring of 1863, Breckenridge ordered Helm to deploy the brigade to Vicksburg, Mississippi to participate in General Joseph E. Johnston's unsuccessful attempt to break the siege. Helm called it "the most unpleasant and trying [campaign] of his career".

In the fall of 1863, the 1st Kentucky Brigade formed a part of General Braxton Bragg's attempt to counter Union Major General William Rosecrans' offensive against Chattanooga, Tennessee. At 9:30 am on September 20, 1863, the divisions of Generals Breckinridge and Patrick Cleburne were ordered to move forward. Helm's brigade and the others in Breckinridge's division drove into the Federals' left. General Cleburne's division, which was intended to strike near the center of the line, was delayed by heavy fire from Union soldiers, leaving the left flank unguarded. Repeated attempts to overwhelm the Federals were in vain, though some of Helm's Kentuckians managed to reach within 39 yards of the Federal line. In less than an hour of the order was given to advance, fully one third of the Orphan Brigade had been lost. The remainder of his men clashed with the well-fortified Union line. A sharpshooter from the 15th Kentucky Union Infantry shot Helm in the chest. Bleeding profusely, he remained in the saddle a few moments before toppling to the ground. Helm was carried off the battlefield and surgeons realized his wounds were fatal. Helm clung to life for several hours. Knowing that his health was deteriorating, he asked who had won the battle. When assured that the Confederates had carried the day, he muttered: "Victory!, Victory!, Victory!". On September 21, 1863, Gen. Helm succumbed to his wounds.

Following his death, Abraham Lincoln and his wife went into private mourning at the White House. May Lincoln's niece recalled: "She knew that a single tear shed for a dead enemy would bring torrents of scorn and bitter abuse on both her husband and herself." However, the widowed Emilie Todd Helm was granted safe passage to the White House in December 1863.

In an official report of the Battle of Chickamauga, General Daniel Harvey Hill stated that Benjamin Helm's "gallantry and loveliness of character endeared him to everyone." In a letter to Emilie Todd Helm, General Breckinridge said, "Your husband commanded them [the men of the Orphan brigade] like a thorough soldier. He loved them, they loved him, and he died at their head, a patriot and a hero."



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Benjamin Hardin Helm (June 2, 1831 – September 21, 1863)