



The Hancock Rebel



THE SHIELDSBORO RIFLES CAMP #2263 NEWSLETTER

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The Charge

"To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will commit the vindication of the cause for which we fought. To your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate soldier's good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles which he loved and which you love also, and those ideals which made him glorious and which you also cherish.

Given at New Orleans, LA in a speech on April 25, 1906 to the SCV National Convention by Lt. Gen. Stephen D Lee.

From the Commander's Desk

By: Camp Commander Don Green

Greetings everyone,

Summer has begun and the heat is upon us. We have some Initiative 58 possibilities coming up where we can set up to collect signatures. We as a Division are severely behind in collecting them as latest figures are at 15% with 4 months to go. We need to continue to push forward to get signatures from Hancock County to support Initiative 58. If anyone gets signatures certified at the courthouse, they need to be mailed to Chuck Bond. I can get you his address. Beauvoir has elected a new Executive Director and he is none other than Charlie Schmitz from our Big Brother Camp the Gainesville Vols #373 from Picayune. Charlie has already been surveying the position and is set to take over August 1, 2016. We look forward to seeing the positive changes he will make in leading Beauvoir into the future. We are also in the process of helping our ladies form an Order of the Confederate Rose Chapter to help and assist our Camp #2263 Chapter here in Hancock County. They will be meeting with us at our meeting the last Tuesday of the month, which falls on June 28th next week. We also will have Reenactor and Commander Charles Tucker as our speaker and he will present on the Confederate Soldier.

Upcoming Events

*June 28, 2016 Shieldsboro Rifles Camp #2263
Monthly Meeting; American Lergion; 6pm*

*August 19, 2016 5th Brigade Meeting
Dixie Community Center; 7pm*

*July 4, 2016 Independence Day
Celebration of our Nation's Independence*

*August 19-20, 2016 Southern Heritage Conference
Laurel, MS.; Hosted by Laurel SCV Camp.*

*July 9, 2016 Possible set up for Initiative 58
Dolly's; Set up time is 9am.*

*October 14-16, 2016 30th Annual Fall Muster;
Beauvoir; Biloxi, MS.*

*July 13-16, 2016 SCV National Reunion;
Dallas, TX. Annual National Reunion.*

*October 22, 2016 Ship Island Living History;
Ship Island, MS.; Tentative.*

*July 26, 2016 Shieldsboro Rifles Camp #2263
Monthly Meeting; American Lergion; 6pm*

*Nov. 11-13, 2016 Wirt Adams Reenactment
Jefferson College, Washington, MS.*

Media Pages Update

We have a Camp website up and running for recruiting purposes and to pass on information to others on the World Wide Web. 1st Lt. Brad Johnson was instrumental in constructing this site & serves as its webmaster for the Camp. He has added more tabs and information to our site & it looks very good. It can be found at: www.shieldsborrifles.org. Beauvoir is in the process of merging its two websites into one site. More to come here. Other pertinent sites can be found below:

Camp Website: www.shieldsbororofles.org

Brigade Website: www.dgreen1865.wix.com/5th-brig-ms-div-scv

Division Website: www.mississippiscv.org

Beauvoir Website: www.visitbeauvoir.org ; www.beauvoir.org

National Website: www.scv.org

Members in Action



Camp Commander Don Green was awarded the Brigade Commander of the Year Award at the Division Reunion Awards Banquet that was held at Beauvoir June 11, 2016.



Camp #373 Members Daryl Ladner, Alan Spence, Jim Huffman, and new Beauvoir Director Charlie Schmitz take a photo of the JDPL Library Award given to the 7 Stars Artillery for their dedication. They pose for a photo at the Memorial at Beauvoir on the Sunday following the Convention.



Camp #2263 Members, Associates and Guests take a photo with the new Camp Banner after the May meeting at the American Legion #139 in Bay St. Louis. Camp Commander Louis Foley was in attendance and was the speaker for the monthly meeting along with his wife Stephanie.

List of Speakers for Upcoming Camp Meetings

June 28, 2016 – Charles Tucker; The Confederate Soldier

July 26, 2016 – Larry McCluney; Gen. P. G. T. Beauregard

August 30, 2016 – Don Green; Period Musical Instruments

September 27, 2016 – Dwayne Bremer; WBTS Stories

October 25, 2016 – Sid Champion V; Champion Hill

November 21, 2016 – Beau Ladner; Ironclads

December – No Meeting due to Christmas/New Year Holidays.

Order of the Confederate Rose

ORDER OF THE CONFEDERATE ROSE



*HANCOCK COUNTY CHAPTER,
HANCOCK COUNTY, MS*

Camp #2263 and 373 Camps will be helping to start an OCR Chapter in Hancock County. All ladies 12 years and older are eligible to join. Contact Breezy Bice at blbice@live.com for more information.

The Battle of Brice's Crossroads

Sherman begin his [Atlanta Campaign](#) during the first week of May, moving slowly south while battling Confederate forces under General [Joseph Johnston](#), an excellent defensive fighter. Johnston called in reinforcements, including [Lieutenant-General Leonidas Polk](#) and two divisions of his [Army of Mississippi](#), which in turn left Major-General [Stephen Lee](#) in command of all remaining Confederate forces within Polk's Department of Alabama, Mississippi, and East Louisiana. Lee took charge of the department, but wisely gave Forrest authority to act independently in the northern part of Mississippi and Tennessee.

During the four-month Atlanta Campaign, the U.S. Army advanced steadily, but in the process extended their supply lines that stretched back to [Nashville](#). As the campaign progressed, Sherman grew concerned the brazen Forrest might move his Confederate cavalry force out of [North Mississippi](#) into [Middle Tennessee](#), strike the supply lines, and perhaps jeopardize the entire Federal effort. As a result, Sherman in late May ordered Sturgis out of Memphis and into North Mississippi with a force of just over 8,000 men. Sturgis's mission was to keep Forrest occupied and, if possible, destroy the Confederate cavalry force that Forrest commanded. Sherman's orders to Sturgis came just in time, as Forrest's cavalry had just left for Middle Tennessee and was forced to turn back to Mississippi to once again defend the northern part of the state. The Federal expedition marched out of Memphis on June 1. Sturgis had a great deal of discretion in his movements, but was generally expected to "proceed to [Corinth](#), Mississippi, by way of Salem and Ruckersville, capture any force that may be there, then proceed south, destroying the [Mobile and Ohio Railroad](#) to [Tupelo](#) and [Okolona](#), and as far as possible toward [Macon](#) and [Columbus](#).

At 9:45 a.m., on June 10th, a brigade of [Grierson's](#) Cavalry Division reached Brice's Crossroads. The battle started at 10:30 a.m. when the Confederates performed a stalling operation with a brigade of their own. Forrest ordered the rest of his cavalry to converge around the crossroads. The remainder of the Federal cavalry arrived in support, but a strong Confederate assault soon pushed them back at 11:30 a.m., when the balance of [Forrest's Cavalry Corps](#) arrived on the scene. Grierson called for infantry support and Sturgis obliged. The line held until 1:30 p.m. when the first regiments of U.S. infantry arrived.

The Federal line, initially bolstered by the infantry, briefly seized the momentum and attacked the Confederate left flank, but Major-General Forrest launched an attack from his extreme right and left wings, before the rest of the Federal infantry could take the field. In this phase of the battle, Forrest commanded his field artillery to unlimber, unprotected, only yards from the Federal line, and to shred their troops with canister (Which in effect turns an [artillery piece](#) into a giant shotgun.) The massive damage caused Brigadier-General Sturgis to re-order his line in a tighter semicircle around Brice's Crossroads, facing east.

At 3:30, Forrest's [2d Tennessee Cavalry](#) assaulted the bridge across the Tishomingo. Although the attack failed, it caused severe confusion among U.S. troops, and Sturgis ordered a general retreat. With the Tennesseans still pressing, the retreat bottlenecked at the Tishomingo bridge and a panicked rout developed instead. Sturgis' forces fled wildly, pursued on their return to Memphis across six counties before the exhausted Confederate attackers retired.

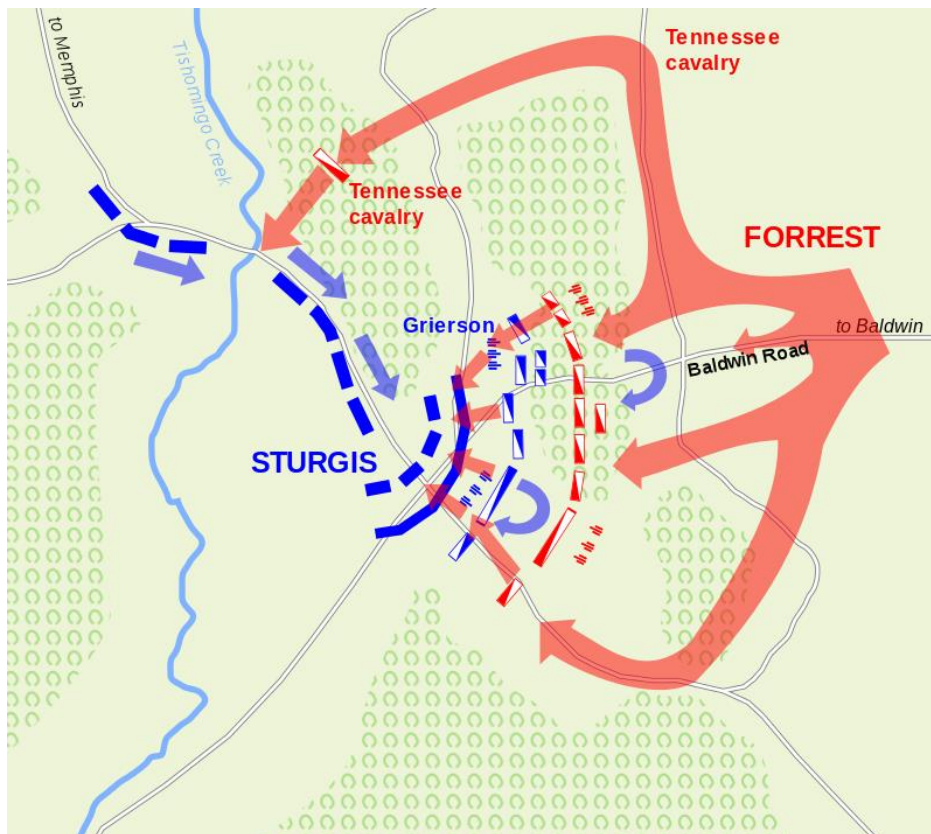
In correspondence with Brigadier-General Sturgis, Colonel Alex Wilkin, commander of the [9th Minnesota Infantry Regiment](#) listed several reasons for the loss of the battle. He stated that General Sturgis, knowing that his men were under-supplied, having been on less than half rations, had been hesitant to advance on the enemy, but had done so against his better judgment because he had been ordered to do so. When the cavalry had engaged the enemy, many of the infantry had been ordered to advance double-time to support the cavalry. In their weakened condition, many had fallen out in the advance. Those who did arrive were exhausted at the beginning of the battle, while the Confederates were fresh and well fed, owing to a large supply in their rear.

The roads to Tupelo were wet and sloppy due to six sequential days of rain, which slowed the advance of the supply wagons and ammunition train. Several men were detailed to try to make the roads passable. Additionally, the horses pulling the trains were poorly fed because there had been little in the way of forage for them to eat along the way. This accounted for Major-General Forrest's capture of the artillery and supplies. Intelligence had entirely favored the South, because the Confederates had been constantly fed information about the position and strength of the Federals from civilians in the area, while Brigadier-General Sturgis had received no such intelligence. Because of this information, Forrest planned to meet the Federals at a place where he could ambush Sturgis and make retreat as difficult as possible. This location was close to his supply depot, and very far from the U.S. Army's. When the retreat had occurred, with food and supplies exhausted, many of the Federal soldiers were unable to retreat with the rest because of fatigue. This was why so many Federals were taken prisoner during the battle. Finally, Wilkin stated that the rumors that Sturgis had been intoxicated at the battle were false.

The [Brice's Cross Roads National Historic Site](#), established in 1929, commemorates the Battle of Brice's Crossroads and is considered one of the best preserved of the American Civil War. The [National Park Service](#) erected and maintains monuments and interpretive panels on a small 1-acre (4,000 m²) plot at the crossroads. In 1994, concerned citizens organized the Brice's Crossroads National Battlefield Commission, Inc., to protect and preserve additional battlefield land. With assistance from the [Civil War Trust](#), and the support of federal, state, and local governments, BCNBC has purchased for preservation over 1,330 acres (5.4 km²).

Much of the land was purchased from The Agnew Family, who still own some of the property that became the site of the battlefield. The modern Bethany Presbyterian Church is at the southeast side of the crossroads. At the time of the battle this congregation's meeting house was located further south along the Baldwin Road. Bethany Cemetery, adjacent to the National Park Service monument, predates the American Civil War. Many of the area's

earliest settlers are buried here. The graves of more than 90 Confederate soldiers killed at the crossroads are also located in Bethany Cemetery. Federal soldiers were buried in common graves, but were later reinterred in the [Memphis National Cemetery](#).



Courtesy of: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Brice%27s_Crossroads

