



# ***The Hancock Rebel***



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THE SHIELDSBORO RIFLES CAMP #2263 NEWSLETTER

BAY ST. LOUIS, MS

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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.*

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## ***From the Commander's Desk***

***By: Camp Commander Don Green***  
***Greetings everyone,***

***Summer is in full swing and the Division & National Conventions are behind us. Tom Strain from Alabama is the new Commander-In-Chief as elected last weekend in Dallas, TX. We in the Division are still gathering signatures for Initiative 58 to get the state flag on the ballot in 2018 to be voted into the state constitution. 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 in August 2016. We look forward to seeing the positive changes he will make in leading Beauvoir into the future. We need to keep Camp Member Justin Nosser and his family in our prayers as he and his mother continue to recover from an accident. Our next meeting will be the last Tuesday of the month, which falls on July 26<sup>th</sup> this coming week. We will have Army of Tennessee Commander Larry McCluney as our speaker and he will present on Gen. P. G. T. Beauregard.***

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## Upcoming Events

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

*September 10, 2016 State Flag Rally  
State Capitol Grounds; Jackson, MS.*

*August 13, 2016 Combined Board Meeting  
Beauvoir; Biloxi, MS. 10am.*

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

*August 19, 2016 5<sup>th</sup> Brigade Meeting  
Dixie Community Center; 7pm.*

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

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

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

*August 20, 2016 Executive Council Meeting;  
War Memorial Building; Jackson, MS. 10am..*

*Nov. 18-20, 2016 Camp Moore Reenactment;  
Camp Moore Historic Site; Tangipahoa, LA.*

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## 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. 1<sup>st</sup> 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](http://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](http://www.shieldsbororofles.org)*

*Brigade Website: [www.dgreen1865.wix.com/5th-brig-ms-div-scv](http://www.dgreen1865.wix.com/5th-brig-ms-div-scv)*

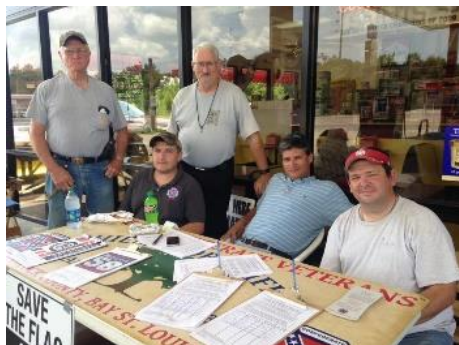
*Division Website: [www.mississippiscv.org](http://www.mississippiscv.org)*

*Beauvoir Website: [www.visitbeauvoir.org](http://www.visitbeauvoir.org) ; [www.beauvoir.org](http://www.beauvoir.org)*

*National Website: [www.scv.org](http://www.scv.org)*

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## Members in Action



**Members of the Shieldsboro Rifles and the Gainesville Vols set up at Dolly's in Kiln, MS on Saturday July 9, 2016. Over 100 signatures were gathered by the group for the day.**



**Camp #2263 honored two young men who helped rescue a person from a flooding car. One of these heroes, Dylan Head, attended the June meeting and received this award and a certificate. The other recipient, Hylan Salles will be awarded at a later date.**



**Camp #2263 Members, Associates and Guests take a photo after the June meeting at the American Legion #139 in Bay St. Louis. Commander Charles Tucker was in attendance and was the speaker for the monthly meeting presenting on the Confederate Soldier.**

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## *List of Speakers for Upcoming Camp Meetings*

*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*

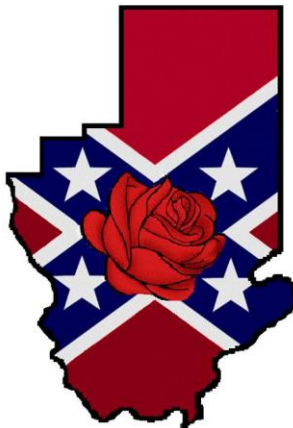
*November 21, 2016 – Beau Ladner; Ironclads*

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

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## *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](mailto:blbice@live.com) for more information.***

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## The Battle of Gettysburg

*This most famous and most important Civil War Battle (according to this author) occurred over three hot summer days, July 1 to July 3, 1863, around the small market town of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. It began as a skirmish but by its end involved 160,000 Americans.*

*Before the battle, major cities in the North such as Philadelphia, Baltimore and even Washington were under threat of attack from General Robert E. Lee's Confederate Army of Northern Virginia which had crossed the Potomac River and marched into Pennsylvania.*

*The Union Army of the Potomac under its very new and untried commander, General George G. Meade, marched to intercept Lee.*

*On Tuesday morning, June 30, an infantry Brigade of Confederate soldiers searching for shoes headed toward Gettysburg (population 2,400). The Confederate commander looked through his field glasses and spotted a long column of Federal cavalry heading toward the town. He withdrew his brigade and informed his superior, Gen. Henry Heth, who in turn told his superior, A.P. Hill, he would go back the following morning and "get those shoes."*

*Wednesday morning, July 1, two divisions of Confederates headed back to Gettysburg. They ran into Federal cavalry west of the town at Willoughby Run and the skirmish began. Events would quickly escalate. Lee rushed 25,000 men to the scene. The Union had less than 20,000.*

*After much fierce fighting and heavy casualties on both sides, the Federals were pushed back through the town of Gettysburg and regrouped south of the town along the high ground near the cemetery. Lee ordered Confederate General R.S. Ewell to seize the high ground from the battle weary Federals "if practicable." Gen. Ewell hesitated to attack thereby giving the Union troops a chance to dig in along Cemetery Ridge and bring in reinforcements with artillery. By the time Lee realized Ewell had not attacked, the opportunity had vanished.*

*Meade arrived at the scene and thought it was an ideal place to do battle with Lee's Army. Meade anticipated reinforcements totaling up to 100,000 men to arrive and strengthen his defensive position.*



**11<sup>th</sup> Miss. Inf. Monument at Gettysburg**

*Confederate General James Longstreet saw the Union position as nearly impregnable and told Lee it should be left alone. He argued that Lee's Army should instead move east between the Union Army and Washington and build a defensive position thus forcing the Federals to attack them instead.*

*But Lee believed his own army was invincible and he was also without his much needed cavalry which served as his eyes and ears during troop movements. Cavalry leader Jeb Stuart had gone off with his troops to harass the Federals. Stuart's expedition would turn out to be for the most part a wild goose chase which left Lee at a disadvantage until he returned.*

*Lee decided to attack the Union Army's defensive position at the southern end of Cemetery Ridge which he thought was less well defended.*

*About 10 a.m. the next morning, Thursday, July 2, Gen. Longstreet was ordered by Lee to attack. But Longstreet was quite slow in getting his troops into position and didn't attack until 4 p.m. that afternoon thus giving the Union Army even more time to strengthen its position.*

*When Longstreet attacked, some of the most bitter fighting of the Civil War erupted at places now part of American military folklore such as Little Round Top, Devil's Den, the Wheat Field and the Peach Orchard. Longstreet took the Peach Orchard but was driven back at Little Round Top.*

*About 6:30 p.m. Gen. Ewell attacked the Union line from the north and east at Cemetery Hill and Culp's Hill. The attack lasted into darkness but was finally unsuccessful at Cemetery Hill, although the Rebels seized some trenches on Culp's Hill.*

*By about 10:30 p.m., the day's fighting came to an end. The Federals had lost some ground during the Rebel onslaught but still held the strong defensive position along Cemetery Ridge.*

*Both sides regrouped and counted their casualties while the moaning and sobbing of thousands of wounded men on the slopes and meadows south of Gettysburg could be heard throughout the night under the blue light of a full moon.*

*Generals from each side gathered in war councils to plan for the coming day. Union commander Meade decided his army would remain in place and wait for Lee to attack. On the Confederate side, Longstreet once again tried to talk Lee out of attacking such a strong position. But Lee thought the battered Union soldiers were nearly beaten and would collapse under one final push.*

*Lee decided to gamble to win the Battle of Gettysburg and in effect win the Civil War by attacking the next day at the center of the Union line along Cemetery Ridge where it would be least expected. To do this he would send in the fresh troops of Gen. George Pickett. Along with this, Gen. Ewell would renew the assault on Culp's hill.*

*But as dawn broke on Friday, July 3, about 4:30 a.m., Lee's timetable was undermined as Union cannons pounded the Rebels on Culp's Hill to drive them from the trenches. The Rebels did not withdraw, but instead attacked the Federals around 8 a.m. Thus began a vicious three hour struggle with the Rebels charging time after time up the hill only to be beaten back. The Federals finally counter attacked and drove the Rebels off the hill and east across Rock Creek. Around 11 a.m. the fighting on Culp's Hill stopped. An eerie quiet settled over the whole battlefield.*

*Once again Lee encountered opposition to his battle plan from Longstreet. Lee estimated about 15,000 men would participate in the Rebel charge on Cemetery Ridge. Longstreet responded, "It is my opinion that no 15,000 men ever arrayed for battle can take that position." But Lee was unmoved. The plan would go on as ordered.*

*Throughout the morning and into the afternoon amid 90° heat and stifling humidity the Rebels moved into position in the woods opposite Cemetery Ridge for the coming charge. Interestingly, some Union troops were moved away from Cemetery Ridge on Meade's orders because he thought Lee would attack again in the south. Several hours before, Meade had correctly predicted Lee would attack the center, but now thought otherwise. He left only 5,750 infantrymen stretched out along the half-mile front to initially face the 15,000 man Rebel charge.*

*Lee sent Jeb Stuart's recently returned cavalry to go behind the Union position in order to divert Federal forces from the main battle area. Around noon, Union and Confederate cavalry troops clashed three miles east of Gettysburg but Stuart was eventually repulsed by punishing cannon fire and the Union cavalry led in part by 23 year old Gen. George Custer. The diversion attempt failed.*

*Back at the main battle site, just after 1 p.m. about 170 Confederate cannons opened fire on the Union position on Cemetery Ridge to pave the way for the Rebel charge. This was the heaviest artillery barrage of the war but many of the Rebel shells missed their targets and flew harmlessly overhead.*

*The Federals returned heavy cannon fire and soon big clouds of blinding smoke and dust hung over the battlefield. Around 2:30 p.m. the Federals slowed their rate of fire, then ceased, to conserve ammunition and to fool the Rebels into thinking the cannons were knocked out - exactly what the Rebels did think.*

*Pickett went to see Longstreet and asked, "General, shall I advance?" Longstreet, now overwhelmed with emotion, did not respond, but simply bowed his head and raised his hand. Thus the order was given.*

*"Charge the enemy and remember old Virginia!" yelled Pickett as 12,000 Rebels formed an orderly line that stretched a mile from flank to flank. In deliberate silence and with military pageantry from days gone by, they slowly headed toward the Union Army a mile away on Cemetery Ridge as the Federals gazed in silent wonder at this spectacular sight.*

*But as the Rebels got within range, Federal cannons using grapeshot (a shell containing iron balls that flew apart when fired) and deadly accurate rifle volleys ripped into the Rebels killing many and tearing holes in the advancing line. What had been, just moments before, a majestic line of Rebel infantry, quickly became a horrible mess of dismembered bodies and dying wounded accompanied by a mournful roar. But the Rebels continued on.*

*As they got very close, the Rebels stopped and fired their rifles once at the Federals then lowered their bayonets and commenced a running charge while screaming the Rebel yell.*

*A fierce battle raged for an hour with much brutal hand to hand fighting, shooting at close range and stabbing with bayonets. For a brief moment, the Rebels nearly had their chosen objective, a small clump of oak trees atop Cemetery Ridge. But Union reinforcements and regrouped infantry units*

*swarmed in and opened fire on the Rebel ranks. The battered, outnumbered Rebels finally began to give way and this great human wave that had been Pickett's Charge began to recede as the men drifted back down the slope. The supreme effort of Lee's army had been beaten back, leaving 7,500 of his men lying on the field of battle.*

*Lee rode out and met the survivors, telling them, "It is all my fault." And to Pickett he said, "Upon my shoulders rests the blame." Later when he got back to headquarters Lee exclaimed, "Too bad. Too bad! Oh, too bad!" The gamble had failed. The tide of the war was now permanently turned against the South.*

*Confederate casualties in dead, wounded and missing were 28,000 out of 75,000. Union casualties were 23,000 out of 88,000.*

*That night and into the next day, Saturday, July 4, Confederate wounded were loaded aboard wagons that began the journey back toward the South. Lee was forced to abandon his dead and begin a long slow withdrawal of his army back to Virginia. Union commander Meade, out of fatigue and caution, did not immediately pursue Lee, infuriating President Lincoln who wrote a bitter letter to Meade (never delivered) saying he missed a "golden opportunity" to end the war right there.*

*On November 19, President Lincoln went to the battlefield to dedicate it as a military cemetery. The main orator, Edward Everett of Massachusetts, delivered a two hour formal address. The president then had his turn. He spoke in his high, penetrating voice and in a little over two minutes delivered the Gettysburg Address, surprising many in the audience by its shortness and leaving others quite unimpressed.*

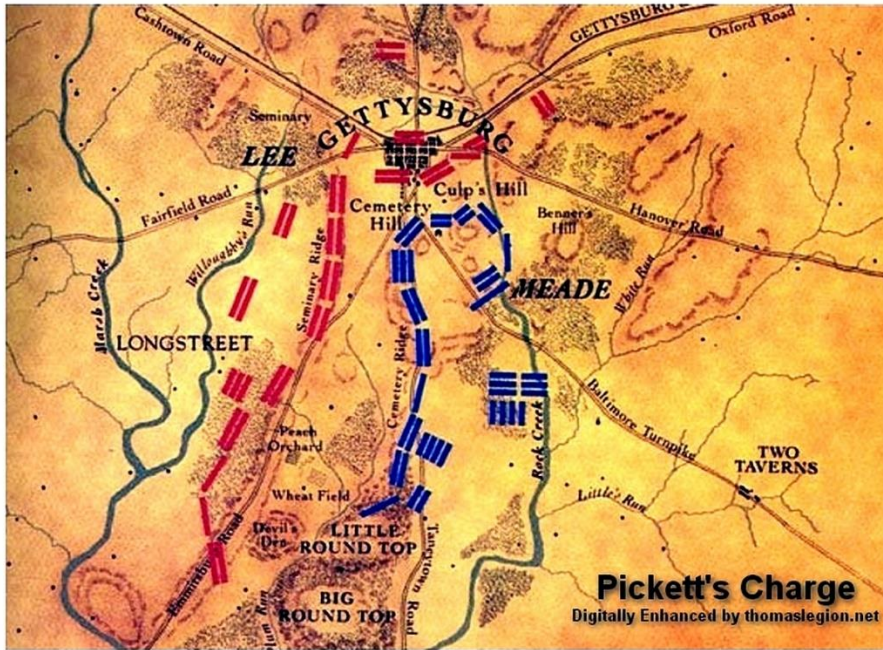
*Over time, however, the speech and its words - government of the People, by the People, for the People - have come to symbolize the definition of democracy itself.*

Courtesy of: <http://www.historyplace.com/civilwar/battle.htm>





# Gettysburg, July 3



***\*\*\*Editor's Note: It is the belief that there are other battles such as Vicksburg, among others, that would be more important than Gettysburg. The article above is the opinion of the website, which it was referenced from and definitely not from this editor.***

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## Intiative 58 Logo



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## Old Gainesville (at Stennis)

*The town of Gainesville was one of several towns which formerly stood on what is now the [Stennis Space Center](#), and the only such town in the fee area. It had its origin in 1810, when Dr. Ambrose Gaines acquired a land grant for over 500 acres along the Pearl River in what was then Spanish territory. The first European settlement in this area appears to have occurred in the 1790s, in the form of a small shipping point called Cottonport. Cottonport was the destination for flatboats carrying cotton grown upriver, where it was loaded onto schooners and sent to New Orleans. Beginning in 1802, the settlement seems to have gone by the name English Bluff, having been named by one William Baites. It was not until 1810 when Ambrose Gaines received his patent and laid out a new town, which he called Gaines Bluff, that the town began to grow substantially. The name of the town was later changed to Gainesville.*

*Just prior to the Battle of New Orleans in 1813, Andrew Jackson marched his troops through Gainesville to avoid detection by British troops. Pierre Rameau, an infamous pirate operating from nearby Honey Island who raided ships in the Gulf of Mexico, joined Jackson's troops while they were camped in the town.*

*An important figure in the growth of Gainesville was W. J. Poitevent, a settler who came from North Carolina in 1832 and founded the Pearl River Lumber Company in the town. This mill became one of the largest lumber companies in the South, and Poitevent later moved downstream and opened another mill at Pearlington.*

*Gainesville experienced rapid growth thanks primarily to the shipping and logging industries, and became one of the most prosperous towns in southern Mississippi. It was incorporated in 1846, and served as the Hancock County Seat until the courthouse burned in 1853.*

*After this blow, the town continued to be an economic center until the introduction of the railroad outmoded shipping by water. In 1883, the Southern Railroad Line between New Orleans and Meridian bypassed the town by 10 miles. New towns, including Picayune and Nicholson, sprang up along the railroad, and Gainesville suffered rapid decline as its residents moved to search for better jobs. By 1961, when the area was being considered by NASA for the development of an engine test facility, the town had only one store and about 35 families.*

*Other towns which once stood on what is now the SSC facility include [Logtown](#), [Napoleon](#), [Santa Rosa](#), [Westonia](#), and [Dillville](#).*



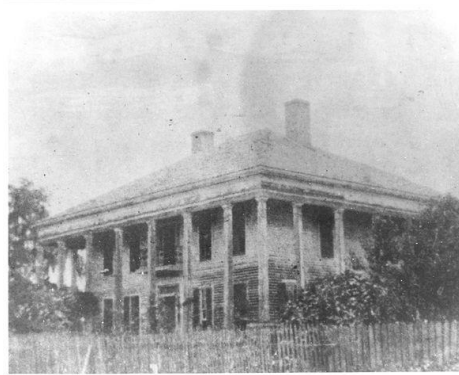
*The Carver House*

***Though most no longer stand, many of the structures of Gainesville are known from descriptions or photographs. The three most famous structures of the town's history were the courthouse, the Poitevent house, and the Carver house. Historian S. G. Thigpen describes them in a 1917 visit:***

***"All the houses of Gainesville were built of rough lumber with the boards placed up and down, except the big two-story mansion on the river banks built by Captain Bill Poitevent, and one other nice two-story house a little back from the river and known as the Carver House. The Poitevent place was a big, old style two-story Southern Mansion with a porch all the way around." (Picayune Item, April 26, 1962)***

***We know from other records that the town also included a hotel called the Gainesville Exchange, a track for horse racing, one or more coffee houses, two barrooms, two drug stores, a Masonic Lodge, shops, stables, brick factories, a telegraph office, dry dock facilities, a steamboat landing, stores for distilling turpentine and other resinous products, and, of course, saw mills.***

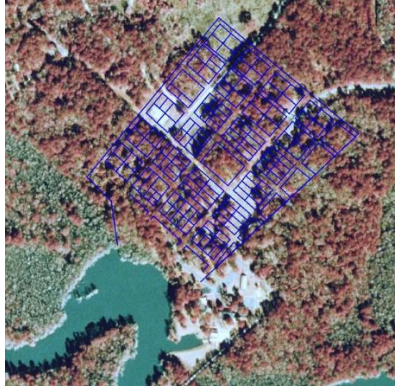
***Several Gainesville buildings were used for various purposes in the early days of NASA ownership, including the fishing lodge of Dr. Rouchon (known as the Rouchon House) which served as the original center headquarters and was the site of the first flag-raising ceremony in 1962.***



***Poitevent House***



***1837 Plat of Gainesville***



***Overlay of Plat by Ikonos Satellite***



***1962 NASA Flag Raising at the Rouchon House***

**<http://crgis.ndc.nasa.gov/historic/Gainesville>**

***\*\*\*Editor's Note: I was able to gain access to Stennis due to my work and took some photos of modern day Gainesville (aka Stennis Space Center-SSC). The following photos were taken by Camp Commander Don Green.***



***Entrance to NASA's Stennis Space Center***



***Stennis Space Center Mississippi Historic Plaque***



***Social Ops Naval Craft***



***Booster Rocket Display***



***NASA Water Tower***



***Upper Gainesville Street Sign***