



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

Hello everyone,

We had a very successful Camp Chartering Ceremony held at Beauvoir on the 16th of this month. The ceremony was well attended and all that were present were able to sign the Camp Charter. Division Commander Louis Foley presented the Charter to us and installed our officers. We are presently at 20 members and are looking to add more. Those who have not signed the Charter can do so at the next meeting they attend. We also had members participate in the reenactment of Fall Muster on the next

day. Also of note, we had a very succesful day on the 24th of the month at the Gods & Guns Conference at Lakeshore Baptist Church. Thanks to Daryl Ladner for bringing the cannon. We will be meeting this month at the American Legion in Bay St. Louis on Tuesday October 27, 2015 at 6pm. Author Grady Howell is set to speak on the 3rd Miss. Infantry. We will talk about our meeting on Tuesday November 17, 2015 where we are set to elect our officers for the upcoming campaign year.



The Chartering Ceremony was held Oct. 16, 2015. at Beauvoir the Friday of Fall Muster. Commander Foley presented the Charter and installed officers.



Adjutant Beau Ladner showed the Camp the progress that has been made on the Camp Flag.



Camp Members Don Green & Brad Johnson played the part of Yankees at the 29th Annual Fall Muster.



1st Lt. Johnson had his two little nephews in line for his & their first reenactment.

Upcoming Events

**October 27 – Monthly Camp Meeting;
American Legion, Bay St. Louis, MS.**

**November 7-8 – Picayune Street Fair;
Picayune, MS.**

**November 13-15 – Wirt Adams Raid Reenactment;
Historic Jefferson College; Washington, MS.**

**November 17 – Monthly Camp Meeting
American Legion, Bay St. Louis MS.**

**Novemeber 20-22 – Camp Moore
Historic Camp Moore; Tangipahoa, LA.**

**November 28 – Landrum’s Country
Landrum’s Homestead; Laurel, MS.**

**December 4 – 5th Brigade Meeting; Camp
#2263 are the hosts; Hattiesburg, MS.**

**Deember 12 – McCoud’s Mill Reenactment;
Leakesville, MS.**

2nd Lt. Commander's Report

Grave Marker/Headstone Photographic Index In the upcoming months, as the temperature becomes more tolerable we will doubling down on our efforts to locate as many Confederate Veterans as we can buried in Hancock County Cemeteries and resume the process of photographing every "VA Style" marker and common marker or headstone. Early on in the first days of formation of the Shieldsboro Rifles SCV Camp 2263, Commander Don Green set forth the idea of having a photographic index of all Confederate Veterans burial sites in an attempt to ensure their preservation. Myself, Brad Johnson, and J.P Stelly visited several cemeteries in the Southern most part of the County and the process was started. This will be done in an attempt to monitor the status of markers and headstone in order to restore, preserve and protect them from theft, vandalism and the wears of time. In Hancock County we do not have a proper Confederate Monument to honor the hundreds of

men from this County that served, so as it is, these markers and headstones are OUR monuments. They mark the final resting places of great men that were willing to make the ultimate sacrifice for God and Country. Hancock County has around 50 cemeteries. Some of these will not have any Confederate Veterans due to the time period in which they were founded or began to be used as a burial site. The Hancock County Historical Society has done a wonderful job listing all marked burials however they lack the photographs we require for this project. Another great site is the "findagrave" website, however lacks photographs of many graves. It is our goal to have as many graves located and photographed as possible by 2016.

*Dorty Necaize
2nd Lieutenant Commander
Shieldsboro Rifles SCV Camp 2263*

Rotten Bayou Cemetery Update

2nd Lt. Commander Dorty Necaize and the Rotten Bayou Cemetery Committee have neared completion to the headstones project they have been working on for some time now. Here are photos of the Confederate Headstones that the Committee, with help from our Camp & our Picayune Camp Associates, are preparing to set in those Soldiers' Honors.





(Photos Courtesy of Dorthy Necaise)

Media Pages

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. It can be found at: www.shieldsborrifles.org. 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

National Website: www.scv.org

Shiloh Monument Dedication

Hundreds of spectators attended the unveiling & dedication of the Monument set in honor of those Mississippians who fought in the Battle of Shiloh April 6-7, 1862. The ceremony was well attended by many Compatriots from across the Mississippi Division of the SCV. The keynote speaker was Major General Harold Cross (Ret.) who delivered a fantastic speech to the audience. The date of October 10, 2015 will go down in the history books as one we can all be proud of. If you have not seen the monument in person, you need to plan a trip to the Shiloh N.M. P. in the near future.



The Mississippi Monument at Shiloh. (Courtesy of Stan Roda)



The Audience that was present for the dedication ceremony. (Courtesy of Stan Roda)

Gods & Guns Conference

On Saturday October 24, 2015 Camp Commander Don Green, 1st Lt. Commander Brad Johnson, Adjutant Beau Ladner & Associate Member Daryl Ladner attended the Gods & Guns Men's Conference at Lakeshore Baptist Church in Hancock County. We were invited by Pastor Don Elbourne and treated very well at the event. We were able to show and tell about our weapons, including Miss Elizabeth (Daryl's Cannon), which was a smashing hit with the attendees. We heard an inspirational talk on Gen. Robert E. Lee and were fed BBQ. A great day was had by all. (Photos by Don Green)



Camp Officers take a photo.



Weapons are on display.



Adjutant Ladner explains loading.



Future Compatriot fires a round.

McCloud's Mill

The Battle of McLeod's Mill occurred on December 10, 1864, and was part of the much larger Pascagoula Expedition or "Davidson's Raid", which traversed much of South Mississippi in early December 1864. The goal of the campaign was to destroy and sever the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, weaken the defenses of Mobile, and divert Confederate resources away from General John Bell Hood's army outside Nashville.

Under the command of Brigadier General John Wynn Davidson of Virginia, a four thousand strong Cavalry force, departed Baton Rouge on November 27, 1864 divided into two main columns. After crossing miles of swamps and fighting brief skirmishes at Columbia and Monticello, Davidson's forces arrived at Augusta, Mississippi, near the Leaf River, on December 8. Upon Davidson's arrival receipt of certain intelligence made him alter his plans. An excerpt from Davidson's official report provides

"The day after my arrival at Augusta I found Mobile papers containing full accounts of our strength and design and our daily progress and marches were telegraphed to Meridian Where Gen. R. Taylor had his headquarters, and to Mobile. "

As a result Davidson decided to divide his command, sending elements of the 2nd New York Veteran Cavalry, 1st Louisiana Cavalry, and a detachment of the 11th New York Cavalry under the command of Lt. Col. Asa Gurney north via Leakesville to destroy telegraph lines and a bridge on the Mobile and Ohio at State Line near the Alabama line, while he continued on toward Farley's Ferry.

On the same day, December 8, the Confederate Col. Robert McCullough's Brigade along with Leonidas Willis' Texas Battalion of Cavalry were ordered to Leakesville and Buckatunna, Mississippi, to protect telegraph lines and the vital M & O Railroad

Leaving behind the 1st Louisiana to cover in the event of a retreat at Leaf River, Gurney struck out the morning of December 9th with around two hundred and fifty men of the 2nd New York Veteran Cavalry and a squadron of the 11th New York Cavalry, more well known as, "Scott's 900", They reached the Chickasawhay River where they encamped that night.

After crossing the river the next morning around 7:00, Gurney continued the march toward State Line by way of Leakesville. Around noon they encountered Confederate fire from about one hundred to one hundred a fifty men. This was the Confederate advance guard, part of the 2nd Missouri and Willis' Texas Battalion, who had been sent out from the main body of around fifteen hundred men. Willis Texas Battalion was led by Lt. Col. Leonidas Willis, and consisted of six companies. Willis was attached to the Second Brigade of Colonel Robert McCulloch with his Second Missouri Cavalry Regiment.

During the ensuing Battle of McLeod's Mill, one Union soldier stated the lead flew faster than he had ever seen before. The Confederates kept falling back to their main body. Finally, Lieutenant Albert

Westinghouse, in command of the first squadron, was ordered to draw sabre and make a charge, which took them past the mill.

Westinghouse in the vanguard spurred his horse and shouted to his men to “follow me, “ all the while swinging his sabre overhead. Westinghouse was shot in the stomach while making the charge and died shortly thereafter. Three charges were made against the Confederates after they had fallen back on their main body. The Union detachment soon realized they were now facing superior numbers with the advantage interior lines of communication, and therefore abandoned the mission. After withdrawing from the engagement, the Confederates did not follow in pursuit.

When the fight concluded, three soldiers from the 2nd New York were killed, including Company B’s 1st Lt. Albert Westinghouse along with Sergt. Theodore Moss and James Woods of Company A. After this struggle, two days later, Gurney rejoined Davidson’s main column. According to different accounts around fourteen or fifteen Confederates were killed along with several being taken prisoner by the withdrawing column.

The Battle of McLeod’s was the most significant battle or skirmish that occurred during Davidson’s three hundred mile long raid deep into Confederate territory. While there were subsequent skirmishes led by Major Seth Pierre Remington of “Scott’s 900” near Pascagoula none resulted in additional deaths.

Soon after arriving at the Pascagoula Sound and making diversionary feints toward Mobile, Davidson’s Raiders were disembarked by awaiting Union warships and transported back to New Orleans.

Particularly noteworthy participants were 1st LT Albert Westinghouse who was the elder brother of future inventor and industrialist George Westinghouse, and Major Seth Remington, who was the father of renowned western painter Fredic Remington. (Courtesy of

*<http://www.davidsonraid.com/about.html>) *Editor’s Note: Davidson’s Raid involved the capture & fortification of the John Ford House South of Columbia in Sandy Hook, MS.*



Map of Davidson’s Raid through Pascagoula, Miss.



1st Lt. Albert Westinghouse (US)

