



# ***The Hancock Rebel***



***Winner of the 2016-17 Small Camp Newsletter Award from the Mississippi Division SCV***

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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 Compatriots,***

***The spring has sprung on us setting the table for a lot of events to come our way. Confederate Flag Day was celebrated early in the month followed by several reenactments and living histories. We need to pray for our Confederate sites such as Grand Gulf as the Mississippi River has once again spilled over its bank in record height. April is right around the corner and is our month to shine and show our Southern Pride. There will be Memorials, Reenactments, Living Histories and much more to participate in and attend this coming month. This month's meeting will take place Tuesday March 26, 2019 at 6pm at the American Legion in Bay St. Louis. The Almost World-Famous Terry "Beetle" Bailey is set to present on Mrs. Jane Sullivan's Book "Stories on Stone: Beauvoir Memorial Cemetery" which is action-packed with stories of the Old Confederate Veterans who lived at Beauvoir and are buried in the cemetery in the back. Enjoy April somewhere and honor your ancestors.***

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## ***Camp Photos***



***The cemetery at Beauvoir was all dressed up with Confederate Flags on each grave for Flag Day.***



***The 3<sup>rd</sup> Miss Inf & 7 Stars Artillery helped out for Confederate Flag Day on March 2, 2019.***



***The participants all took a photo around the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at the Flag Day Event.***

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## ***More Camp Photos***



***John Schneider (Bo Duke) performed at the Blues & BBQ Festival on March 9, 2019 at Beauvoir.***



***Crazy Cooter's tow truck hauls the Gen. Lee in front of the Jefferson Davis Presidential Library.***



***Camp #2263 Members, Associates and Friends volunteer to help the event run smoothly.***



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***More Photos***



***Camp 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Steve Thomas participated in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday at Beauvoir on March 16, 2019.***



***The 3<sup>rd</sup> Mississippi Infantry & 7 Stars Artillery took a photo around the Pres. Davis Statue.***



***This black and white photo was taken during the Living History at Beauvoir on the grounds.***

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## **Upcoming Events**

**March 29-31, 2019 Port Hudson Reenactment**  
**Port Hudson Historic Site; Jackson, LA.**

**April 6, 2019 Beauvoir Cleanup**  
**Beauvoir Garden; Biloxi, MS.**

**April 7, 2019 I-55 Flag Dedication**  
**Bogue Chitto, MS.; 2pm**

**April 13, 2019 Live Oak Rifles Memorial**  
**Gautier Cemetery; Gautier, MS. 10am**

**April 12-14, 2019 Pleasant Hill Reenactment**  
**Pleasant Hill, LA**

**April 20, 2019 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday Living History**  
**Beauvoir; Biloxi, MS. 9am-3pm**

**April 27, 2019 Beauvoir Confederate Memorial Day**  
**Beauvoir; Biloxi, MS. (3<sup>rd</sup> Miss MAX EFFORT)**

**April 26-28, 2019 Thunder on the Bay**  
**Fort Gaines; Dauphin Island, AL.**

**May 4, 2019 Citronelle Surrender**  
**Camp Pushmataha; Citronelle, AL. (3<sup>rd</sup> Miss MAX EFFORT)**

**May 18, 2019 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday Living History**  
**Beauvoir; Biloxi, MS. 9am-3pm**

**May 17-19, 2019 Trail of Honor**  
**Harley Davidson Shop; Jackson, MS. (3<sup>rd</sup> Miss MAX EFFORT)**

**May 17-19, 2019 Resaca Reenactment**  
**Resaca, GA.**

**May 24-26, 2019 Janney Furnance Reenactment**  
**Ohatchie, AL.**

**June 1, 2019 Pres. Jefferson Davis Birthday Celebration**  
**Beauvoir; Biloxi, MS. (3<sup>rd</sup> Miss MAX EFFORT)**

*June 8, 2018 SCV Division Conv. Color Guard  
Brandon, MS.*

*June 7-9, 2019 Tannehill Reenactment  
Tannehill State Park; McCalla, AL.*

*June 15, 2019 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday Living History  
Beauvoir; Biloxi, MS. 9am-3pm*

*June 29, 2019 Living History Fort Barrancas  
Pensacola NAS; Pensacola, FL.*

*July 10-13, 2019 SCV National Reunion  
Mobile, AL.*

*July 20, 2019 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday Living History  
Beauvoir; Biloxi, MS. 9am-3pm*

*August 3, 2019 Fort Morgan Living History & Garrison  
Fort Morgan Site; Gulf Shores, AL.*

*August 17, 2019 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday Living History  
Beauvoir; Biloxi, MS. 9am-3pm*

*September 21, 2019 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday Living History  
Beauvoir; Biloxi, MS. 9am-3pm*

*September 27-29, 2019 Cedar Hill Reenactment  
Hernando, MS.*

*October 18-20, 2019 Fall Muster  
Beauvoir; Biloxi, MS.*

*November 23-25, 2019 Camp Moore Reenactment  
Camp Moore Historic Site; Tangipahoa, LA.*

*November 30, 2019 Landrum's Country  
Laurel, MS.*

*December 14, 2019 Christmas at the Fort  
Fort Gaines Historic Site; Dauphin Island, AL.*

*December 13-15, 2019 McLeod's Mill Reenactment  
Leakesville, MS.*

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## **Media Pages Update**

*We are looking at creating a new website for a minimum fee, possibly free, for the Camp. Our original website was a bit costly and has not been renewed as of yet. Camp Members are looking at this for us and will report to us in the very near future with possible options .*

**Camp Website: In Progress**

**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)**

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

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## **Upcoming Speakers List**

***Tuesday March 26, 2019 – Terry “Beetle” Bailey – Stories on Stone***

***Tuesday April 30, 2019 - Joe Abbott – Div Commander Platform***

***Tuesday May 28, 2019 – Bridgett Smith – Where the Elephants Fought***

***Tuesday June 25, 2019 – Nic Clark – Civil War Tours of New Orleans***

***Tuesday July 30, 2019 – Capt. Daryl Ladner - Artillery***

***Tuesday August 27, 2019 – Brandi K. Gray - OCR***

***Tuesday September 25, 2019 – Jay Peterson – Collections of Beauvoir***

***Tuesday October 30, 2019 – SPARS – Paranormal at Beauvoir***

***Tuesday November 19, 2019 – Shelby Harriell – Women that Fought in the CW***

***Tuesday December 31, 2019 – No meeting***

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## Order of the Confederate Rose

ORDER OF THE CONFEDERATE ROSE



HANCOCK COUNTY CHAPTER,  
HANCOCK COUNTY, MS

**Camps #2263 and 373 will be helping to start an OCR Chapter in Hancock County. All ladies 12 years and older are eligible to join. We had a lot of interest this year and feel like 2019 will be the year to charter this wonderful organization. Contact Breezy Bice at [blbice@live.com](mailto:blbice@live.com) for more information.**

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## Camp Charter





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## *The Battle of Fort Pemberton*

*Fought between March 11–18, 1863 was the primary engagement of the Yazoo Pass Expedition.*

*By late 1861, President Abraham Lincoln was pressuring Union commanders in the west to invade the South. In early 1862, Brigadier General Ulysses S. Grant's forces gained control of two of the three main rivers connecting the North and South in the Western Theater by capturing Fort Henry, located on the Tennessee River, and Fort Donelson, located on the Cumberland River.*

*Promoted to major general on February 16, 1862, for his achievements, Grant soon turned his attention to controlling the Mississippi River. If the Union could secure dominion over the Mississippi, the Confederacy would be divided and denied easy access to supplies from the Gulf of Mexico and territories in the American West. Admiral David Farragut captured the port city of New Orleans on May 18, 1862, closing down Confederate access to the Gulf. In June, the Union tightened its grip on the Mississippi when Federal forces captured the river city of Memphis, Tennessee. Nevertheless, the South still controlled traffic on much of the river because of its strong fortifications at Vicksburg, Mississippi.*

*Vicksburg is located on the eastern side of the Mississippi, roughly fifteen miles south of the mouth of the Yazoo River. The city was known as "The Gibraltar of the Confederacy" because it is situated on a high bluff overlooking a horseshoe-shaped bend in the river. The bluff upon which the city sits made it nearly impossible to assault from the river. Farragut made two attempts to do so in May and June 1862, but both excursions failed.*

*In December 1862, a Federal attempt to capture the city by land failed miserably when Major General John C Pemberton's Confederate forces mauled Major General William T. Sherman's Federals at the Battle of Chickasaw Bayou (December 26–29, 1862).*

*Undeterred by Sherman's setback, Grant hatched another operation in the late winter of 1863 to advance on Vicksburg, known as the Yazoo Pass Expedition. On February 3, 1863, Union engineers breached a levee on the Mississippi River about 300 miles north of Vicksburg, flooding a channel that previously connected the Mississippi River to the Tallahatchie River via Moon Lake and the Coldwater River. The channel, including its connected waterways, was known as the Yazoo Pass.*

*With the navigable connection created, a naval flotilla of two ironclads, six gunboats, and two rams, commanded by Lieutenant Commander Watson Smith passed through the gap on February 24, 1863, and began steaming toward the Tallahatchie River. Smith's expedition also included troop transports carrying 4,500 Union soldiers from the 13th Army Corps, commanded by General Leonard F. Ross.*

*On February 9, 1863, Confederate General John C. Pemberton, commander of the Army of Vicksburg, learned about the Union expedition. He immediately dispatched a small contingent of soldiers to fell trees and otherwise hinder the progress of the Federal flotilla, which was already moving excruciatingly slow due to natural obstructions and Lieutenant Commander Smith's lack of urgency.*

*As concern about the newest threat to Vicksburg traveled up the Confederate chain of command all the way to President Jefferson Davis, Pemberton sent Major General William W. Loring's 1,500-man division up the Yazoo River to halt the Yankees in February.*

*Loring arrived at Greenwood, Mississippi, on February 21, 1863. He quickly began constructing defenses at the junction of the Tallahatchie and Yazoo Rivers, about four miles downriver from Greenwood. By March 11, Loring's men had created a series of artillery batteries, protected by earthworks and cotton bales, which were connected by lines of rifle pits and entrenchments. The largest gun in Loring's arsenal was a 32-pounder that had a clear field of fire nearly two miles up the Tallahatchie River, from where the Union flotilla would be coming. In addition to the breastworks, Loring's soldiers constructed an obstructing raft to block the river, and they scuttled a ship named the Star of the West in the channel to further impede navigation. The Rebels named the formidable stronghold Fort Pemberton, but the Federals referred to it as Fort Greenwood.*

*When Lieutenant Commander Smith and General Ross finally approached Fort Pemberton aboard Smith's flagship, the USS Chillicothe, on March 11, 1863, their options were limited. The narrow river channel ensured that no more than two vessels could approach the Rebel fortifications at one time. A land attack would have required infantrymen to cross 600 yards of cleared ground and a bayou, exposing them to rifle and canister fire.*

*As the Chillicothe rounded the last bend in the river above Fort Pemberton, at about 10 a.m., the Confederate gunners opened fire. The Rebels fired twenty-five to thirty rounds, two of which found their target, causing significant damage and forcing Smith to retreat.*

*The Yankees spent the next two days repairing their damaged ships and constructing shore batteries upstream from Fort Pemberton. By 11 a.m. on March 13, the Chillicothe and Baron De Kalb made another run at the Rebel fortifications. This engagement lasted longer, but the results were similar. The Confederates forced both ships to withdraw after inflicting more destruction and killing three sailors and wounding nine others. The Federals managed to kill one Rebel soldier and injure twenty others.*

*For the next couple of days, the Federals strengthened their shore batteries by introducing several more guns. On March 16, the Chillicothe and De Kalb made another unsuccessful assault on Fort Pemberton. One sailor was wounded and one drowned after an enemy shell damaged the Chillicothe's forward port cover, making it impossible to open. Smith ordered yet another withdrawal.*

*Throughout the entire expedition, Smith's health deteriorated to the point that on March 17, 1863, he reported himself unfit for duty due to illness. Lieutenant Commander James P.*

*Foster, captain of the Chillicothe assumed command of the expedition. After consulting with General Ross, Foster decided that any further attempts to subdue Fort Pemberton would be futile. On March 18, Foster ordered the flotilla to return to Helena, Arkansas, on the Mississippi, ending the Battle of Fort Pemberton.*

*As the Yankees withdrew upriver after their loss at the Battle of Fort Pemberton, they encountered Union Brigadier General Isaac F. Quinby, leading part of his division downstream to reinforce the expedition. Quinby assumed command of all the army forces and ordered them back downstream. He intended to disembark near Fort Pemberton and then send the transports upstream to return with the rest of his division in preparation for a land assault against the Rebel stronghold. Spearheaded by the naval gunboats, the assault on March 23 had barely begun before it was halted when the Chillicothe struck an underwater mine and withdrew.*

*Even before this latest failure to subdue Fort Pemberton, General Grant began to have second thoughts about the expedition. On March 22, 1863, Grant notified Major General James B. McPherson that "The party that first went in have so delayed as to give the enemy time to fortify. I see nothing for it now but to have that force return the way they went in." Five days after Quinby's unsuccessful assault, Grant formally cancelled the Yazoo Pass Expedition. On March 28, Grant informed Brigadier General Benjamin M. Prentiss, Quinby's commander, "The troops that have gone down the Yazoo Pass are now ordered back." Prentice passed the message down the chain of command and Quinby began the withdrawal on April 5. The flotilla cleared the Yazoo Pass on April 8, 1863, ending the expedition.*

*Loss of life during the Battle of Fort Pemberton was minimal. Each side suffered fewer than twenty casualties (killed, wounded, missing/captured).*

### *Sources*

*"Battle of Fort Pemberton," Ohio Civil War Central, 2019, Ohio Civil War Central. 23 Mar 2019 <<http://www.ohiocivilwarcentral.com/entry.php?rec=1718>>*

*"Battle of Fort Pemberton." (2019) In Ohio Civil War Central, Retrieved March 23, 2019, from Ohio Civil War Central: <http://www.ohiocivilwarcentral.com/entry.php?rec=1718>*