



The Hancock Rebel



THE SHIELDSBORO RIFLES CAMP #2263 NEWSLETTER

BAY ST. LOUIS, MS

ISSUE #5

December 2015

Don Green – Camp Commander
dgreen_1865@yahoo.com
601-270-5316

Brad Johnson – 1st Lt. Commander
brad.johnson@usa.com
228-216-8680

Dorty Necaize – 2nd Lt. Commander
djnecaize@icloud.com
228-493-7504

Beau Ladner – Camp Adjutant
ironhorse366@yahoo.com
228-216-0050

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

Christmas Greetings everyone,

At our last meeting in November, we elected officers for the 2016 campaign. All officers were re-elected to their same offices. Congratulation to the Camp officers that were re-elected for another year. Terry "Beetle" Bailey was our speaker for the evening and he did a great job telling us about Capt. Henry Wirz of Andersonville. We had a very successful Brigade Meeting up in Dixie that we hosted on December 4, 2015. Our Camp was well

represented and we will co-host the next Brigade Meeting with the Picauyune Camp and will pass that date along as it becomes available. Up coming will be our First Annual Lee-Jackson Banquet to be held at the American Legion in Bay St. Louis on Saturday January 23, 2016. Compatriot Charlie Schmidt will be our speaker and it will be pot-luck. There will be no cost this year as we will pass the hat at the banquet. We hope you can attend.



Compatriot Beetle Bailey presents on Capt. Henry Wirz at the Camp Meeting.



Compatriot Jim Huffman presents at the 5th Brigade Meeting in Dixie.



Members of the Shieldsboro Rifles and the Gainesville Volunteers helped with a Memorial Service in Monticello on November 18, 2015. A great time was had by all who participated in the service.

Upcoming Events

*January 9, 2016 – Battle of the Bulge WWII
Event at Beauvoir; 9am Program; 2pm Battle.*

*January 23, 2016 – First Annual Lee-Jackson
Banquet; American legion; Bay St. Louis, MS.*

*January 19, 2016 – High Noon Rally, Capital
Building; Jackson, MS. 12PM. ALL SCV Needed.*

*April 23, 2016 – Confederate Memorial Day
Beauvoir; 2pm Program H. K. Edgerton.*

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

Camp Flag Progress



Chirstmas in the Confederate White House in 1864

The Christmas of 1864 was a grim holiday season for the Confederacy, with Nashville, Atlanta, and Savannah under Union control, Southern railroads destroyed, and the Confederate army retreating. Sherman's March to the Sea left Georgia residents with little to be thankful for, leaving some homeless and starving. The previous year, some Southern parents attributed the lack of gifts to Santa not being able to get around the blockade, and in 1864, the situation in the South had deteriorated even further. Despite the bleak outlook for the Confederacy in the coming months of the war, Varina Davis, wife of Confederate President Jefferson Davis, upheld her duty as the Southern First Lady, providing for the lower classes and her community.

In a lengthy reminiscence, published in the December 13, 1896, edition of the New York World, Varina recalls all of the preparations and plans of her last Christmas in the Confederate White House, building an image of Southern cultural identity and charm not yet altered by the changing social customs brought on by the war. She hosted an elaborate evening for children of the Richmond Episcopalian Orphanage, along with several other prosperous Richmond residents, as well as attended a "starvation party" for the Christmas holidays. She describes in detail the events that transpired in her home Christmas Eve:

About twenty young men and girls gathered around small tables in one of the drawing rooms of the mansion and the cornucopias were begun. The men wrapped the squares of candy, first reading the "sentiments" printed upon them, such as "Roses are red, violets blue, sugar's sweet and so are you," "If you love me as I love you no knife can cut our love in two." The fresh young faces, wreathed in smiles, nodded attention to the reading, while with their small deft hands they [glued] the cornucopias and pasted on the pictures.... Then the coveted eggnog was passed around in tiny glass cups and pronounced good. Crisp home-made ginger snaps and snowy lady cake completed the refreshments of Christmas Eve....In most of the houses in Richmond these same scenes were enacted, certainly in every one of the homes of the managers of the Episcopalian Orphanage. A bowl of eggnog was sent to the servants, and a part of everything they coveted of the dainties.

She ends her article with a poignant description of the "starvation party," highlighting the customs and social nuances of a different time, and how, despite the war and the difficulties it brought upon everyday life, the endurance of Southern morale was still evident:

The night closed with a "starvation" party, where there were no refreshments, at a neighboring house. The rooms lighted as well as practicable, some one willing to play dance music on the piano and plenty of young men and girls comprised the entertainment....The officers, who rode into town with their long cavalry boots pulled well up over their knees, but splashed up their waists, put up their horses and rushed to the places where their dress uniform suits had been left for safekeeping. They very soon emerged,

however, in full toggery and entered into the pleasures of their dance with the bright-eyed girls, who many of them were fragile as fairies, but worked like peasants for their home and country...

So, in the interchange of the courtesies and charities of life, to which we could not add its comforts and pleasures, passed the last Christmas in the Confederate mansion.

Varina subtly applauds the perseverance of Southern citizens during the hardships of the war, as well as highlights the continued preservation of Southern customs and ideals in her nostalgic and descriptive article. By hosting an event for the orphans, Varina upholds the etiquette and ideals of a Southern lady, selflessly performing her duty to the lower class. By continuing the modified luxuries she and fellow Richmond residents used to enjoy as part of upper class society, she exemplified one of the ways in which she helped lift the spirits of the upper class constituents during some of the most difficult times of the war.

Bibliography:

Davis, Varina. "Christmas in the Confederate White House," New York Sunday World December 13, 1896.



Initiative 58

Keep The State Flag of Mississippi

WHAT, WHY, WHERE, HOW, & WHO?

All you need to know to help gather signatures efficiently.

WHAT IS A BALLOT INITIATIVE?

The ballot initiative is a means by which a petition signed by a certain minimum number of registered voters can bring about a public vote on a proposed statute or constitutional amendment.

HOW IS I-58 BALLOT TITLE WORDED?

Should the current State Flag be adopted by constitutional amendment?

Note: If this Initiative were to make the ballot we would vote for YES!

WHY IS INITIATIVE 58 IMPORTANT?

Initiative No. 58 proposes to amend the Mississippi Constitution to recognize that the State Flag of Mississippi is and shall be the flag adopted by the Legislature of 1894 and used continuously since then. Any proposed amendment to the State Flag of Mississippi shall conform to the provisions of the amendment process found mm Section 273 of the Mississippi Constitution of 1890, as proposed by the Legislature or by initiative of the people.

INITIATIVE REQUIREMENTS

According to Mississippi law, for an initiative measure to be placed on the ballot, a minimum of 107,216 certified signatures must be gathered, with at least 21,443 certified signatures from each of the five congressional districts.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Obtain copies of the petition and ask friends and family to sign it. Note: Signatures MUST be from registered voters or it will not be certified @ the Courthouse. See "Voter Registration" the below post.

- 1. Do not make copies! Must be original forms.*
- 2. One County per form, do not mix signatures of different counties on a form.*
- 3. Use BLUE INK only!*
- 4. Take a picture of completed form and send it to your County Captain via their desired methods.*
- 5. Turn completed form into Circuit Clerks Office at the Courthouse in the respective County.*

WHAT IS A COUNTY CAPTAIN?

Initiative County Captains are the people that will keep track the progress of all volunteers. This person will be able to track signatures county wide thereby being able to later provide a walking list of persons that have not yet signed. This walking list will be helpful during the door to door campaign by allowing volunteers to focus only on households that have not yet signed the initiative.

To find the county captain in your area, please contact your local SCV (Sons of Confederate Veterans):

<http://www.mississippiscv.org/>

Or email us at:

keeptheflag1894@gmail.com

