



The Hancock Rebel



THE SHIELDSBORO RIFLES CAMP #2263 NEWSLETTER

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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.

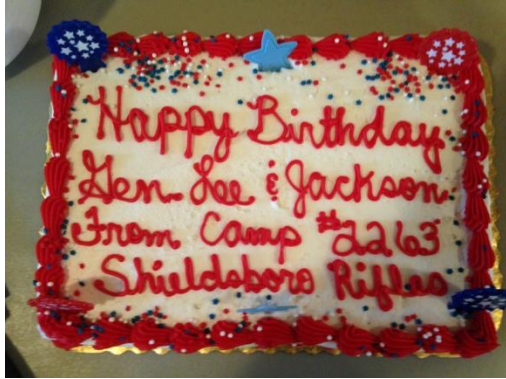
Given at New Orleans, LA in a speech on April 25, 1906 to the SCV National Convention by Lt. Gen. Stephen D Lee.

From the Commander's Desk

By: Camp Commander Don Green

Greetings everyone,

We had a very succesful Lee-Jackson Banquet on January the 23rd at Lakeshore Baptist Church. It was potluck and the food was incredible; fried chicken, all the trimmings, cakes, pies and even King Cakes as we begin to celebrate Mardi Gras. Many thanks goes out to Brother Don Elbourne who provided the meeting location for us. We voted Brother J. W. Binion in the Camp as a trasnfer member and we are glad to have him. Charlie Schmidtz from the Picayune Camp did a wonderful presentation on the influences on both General Lee and General Jackson and what helped make them soldiers, officers, and men. The timeframe stretched from the Mexican War up to the War for Southern Independence. We are still in the flag fight to keep our current state flag. Initiative 58 is up and running and we need to be collecting signatures in Hancock County to put the flag into the state constitution so it can not be changed through the legislature. We need for every Camp Member to take petitions and have your neighbors and friends sign them. This is vital for our culture that is under attack today.



The cake in honor of both Gen. Lee & Gen. Jackson at the banquet.



The table honored Camp Members' Ancestors with the Camp Flags in the backdrop.



Speaker Charlie Schmitz gives a wonderful Presentation on Gen. Lee & Gen. Jackson.



Many thanks to Brother Don Elbourne for use of the Mercy House at Lakeshore.



Group photo of all Camp Members & Friends at the first annual Lee-Jackson Banquet Jan. 23, 2016.

Upcoming Events

**February 13, 2016 – Valentines Event at Beauvoir
8pm-10pm; \$100 per Couple.**

**March 29, 2016 - Shieldsboro Rifles Camp
#2263 Monthly Meeting; Amer. Leg.; 6pm**

**February 20, 2016 – 3rd Saturday Living History at
Beauvoir; 8am-'till. Fall Muster Workday also.**

**April 2, 2016 – Tartan Day at Beauvoir;
Celtic Heritage Festival.**

**February 23, 2016 – Shieldsboro Rifles Camp #2263
Monthly Meeting; American Legion; 6pm.**

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

**March 19, 2016 – 3rd Saturday Living History
At Beauvoir; 8am-'till.**

**May 15, 2016 – Benefit for Beauvoir Golf
Tournament; Windance Golf Course.**

**March 19, 2016 – 3rd Annual Easter Egg Hunt at
Beauvoir; 8am-'till. \$10 per Car Load.**

**June 10-11, 2016 – Miss. Div. Meeting at
Beauvoir; Annual State Reunion.**

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

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

The Story of Confederate Veteran Joe Cain in Mobile

New Orleans may be known to many as the birthplace of Mardi Gras in America, but truth be told...that honor goes to Mobile, Alabama. "Carnival" was first celebrated in the New World in 1703 in the settlement of Fort Louis de la Mobile, 15 years before New Orleans was established, according to the Big Easy's own "[Mardi Gras New Orleans](#)" website. By the 1730s, Mardi Gras celebrations were held in New Orleans, but not with the glitz and glamour of today.



Church Street Graveyard ~ Photo by Beverly Crider

During Mobile's early years, Mardi Gras festivities were held as a celebration of the New Year. The outbreak of the Civil War brought an end to such frivolities for a time, but in 1866 Confederate veteran and Mobile native Joe Cain decided to bring back the festival. Mobile was under Union occupation and residents were feeling discouraged. Old Joe decided to do something about it and on Fat Tuesday of 1866, he rood down the streets of Mobile on a coal wagon pulled by a mule, dressed as a fictional Chickasaw Indian known as "Chief Slacabormorinico" or "Old Slac."

Joe's timing coincided with the older European tradition of celebrating Carnival during the period leading up to Lent, thus reinventing a Mobile tradition as well. Mardi Gras, which is French for "Fat Tuesday," was generally accepted as a day of over-indulgence prior to the beginning of Lent on "Ash Wednesday."

In 1867, according to Scotty Kirkland's entry in the [Encyclopedia of Alabama](#), Joe led a parade of 16 former Confederate soldiers who went by the name of "Lost Cause Minstrels." This troupe created

a mythology that has become a large part of Mobile's Mardi Gras festivities. "Cain was a founding member of the Order of Myths, and the society's emblem, Folly chasing Death around a broken column, is seen by many as another invocation of the mythology of the Lost cause," according to Kirkland.

After many years in Mobile, Joe and his wife moved to Bayou la Batre to live with his son. He died on April 17, 1904 and was buried in Oddfellow's Cemetery near that city. In the 1960s, Mobile author Julian Lee Rayford convinced city officials to exhume the bodies of Joe and his wife and move them to Mobile's Church Street Graveyard. There he was interred with "all the pomp and revelry of a Mardi Gras parade," Kirkland wrote. Joe's tombstone reads "Here Lies Old Joe Cain, the Heart and Soul of Mardi Gras in Mobile."



Joe Cain's Tombstone ~ Photo by Beverly Crider

Mobile continues to honor Old Joe with an annual Joe Cain Day Parade on the Sunday before Fat Tuesday. The parade is led by an honorary "Chief Slackabamarinico." Revelers dance on Joe's grave and "Cain's Merry Widows" mourn his loss.

"Mardi Gras celebrations are born every year in cities across the nation, but none compare to the celebration in Mobile," according to the [Mobile Carnival Museum](#). "For three weeks every February, Mobile comes alive with pageantry, parades and balls associated with carnival. Mardi Gras in Mobile has been referred to as the largest street party in the country. National Geographic says the coronations of the carnival courts rival coronations of Europe's heads of state."

Courtesy of: http://blog.al.com/strange-alabama/2014/02/old_joe_cains_mardi_gras_legacy.html

**Editor's Note: This article does not reflect the opinion of the editor in relation to which city started Mardi Gras. It was intended to explain the exploits of Confederate Veteran Joe Cain.*