



TRAVELLER

Award Winning Publication of the General Robert E. Lee
Camp, #1640

Sons of Confederate Veterans, Germantown, TN

Duty, Honor, Integrity, Chivalry

DEO VINDICE!

December, 2016



CAMP CHRISTMAS PARTY!



December 12, 2014 7:00 p.m. at the home of

**Melody & Arthur Oliver
8863 Calkins Hill Cove
Germantown, TN 38139**

Directions: Travel three blocks north of Poplar on Forest Hill-Irene. Turn west on Winding Way. The house is on the southwest corner of Calkins at Winding Way

Don't miss the party!

CHRISTMAS LETTER OF TALLY SIMPSON

From: Tally Simpson, Camp near Fredricksburg
To: Anna Simpson

Camp near Fred'burg
Dec 25th, 1862

My dear Sister

This is Christmas Day. The sun shines feebly through a thin cloud, the air is mild and pleasant, [and] a gentle breeze is making music through the leaves of the lofty pines that stand near our bivouac. All is quiet and still, and that very stillness recalls some sad and painful thoughts.

This day, one year ago, how many thousand families, gay and joyous, celebrating Merry Christmas, drinking health to absent members of their family, and sending upon the wings of love and affection long, deep, and sincere wishes for their safe return to

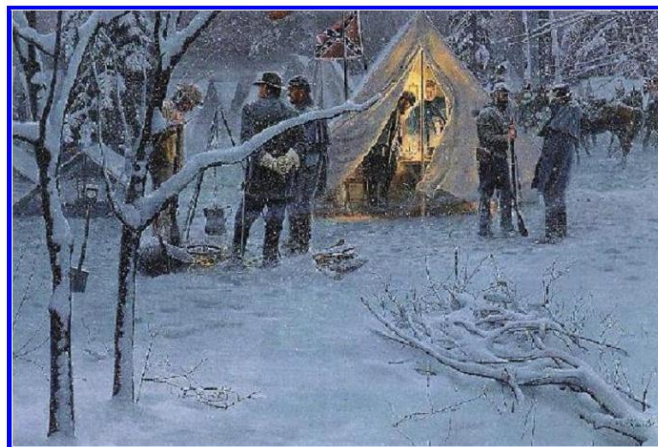
the loving ones at home, but today are clad in the deepest mourning in memory to some lost and loved member of their circle. If all the dead (those killed since the war began) could be heaped in one pile and all the wounded be gathered together in one group, the pale faces of the dead and the groans of the wounded would send such a thrill of horror through the hearts of the originators of this war that their very souls would rack with such pain that they would prefer being dead and in torment than to stand before God with such terrible crimes blackening their characters. Add to this the cries and wailings of the mourners - mothers and fathers weeping for their sons, sisters for their brothers, wives for their husbands, and daughters for their fathers - [and] how deep would be the convictions of their consciences.

Yet they do not seem to think of the affliction and distress they are scattering broadcast over the land. When will this war end? Will another Christmas roll around and find us all wintering in camp? Oh! That

peace may soon be restored to our young but dearly beloved country and that we may all meet again in happiness.

But enough of these sad thoughts. We went on picket in town a few days ago. The pickets of both armies occupy the same positions now as they did before

the battle. Our regt was quartered in the market place while the others occupied stores and private houses. I have often read of sacked and pillaged towns in ancient history, but never, till I saw Fredricksburg, did I fully realize what one was. The houses, especially those on the river, are riddled with shell and ball. The stores have been broken open and



deprived of every thing that was worth a shilling. Account books and notes and letters and papers both private and public were taken from their proper places and scattered over the streets and trampled under feet. Private property was ruined. Their soldiers would sleep in the mansions of the wealthy and use the articles and food in the house at their pleasure. Several houses were destroyed by fire. Such a wreck and ruin I never wish to see again.

Yet notwithstanding all this, the few citizens who are now in town seem to be cheerful and perfectly resigned. Such true patriots are seldom found. This will ever be a noted place in history.

While we were there, Brig Genl Patrick, U.S.A., with several of his aides-de-camp, came over under flag of truce. Papers were exchanged, and several of our men bought pipes, gloves, &c from the privates who rowed the boat across. They had plenty of liquor and laughed, drank, and conversed with our men as if they had been friends from boyhood.

There is nothing new going on. I am almost dead to hear from home. I have received no letters in nearly three weeks, and you can imagine how anxious I am. The mails are very irregular. I hope to get a letter soon. Dunlap Griffin is dead, died in Richmond of wounds received in the last battle. Capt Hance is doing very well. Frank Fleming is in bad condition. (He has been elected lieutenant since he left.)

Write to me quick right off. I wish to hear from you badly. Remember me to my friends and relatives, especially the Pickens and Lignons. Hoping to hear from you soon I remain

Your bud
Tally

Pres Hix cam for the remains of Nap his brother and Johnnie Garlington yesterday and will take them to Richmond today. They will be carried on home immediately. Tell Aunt Caroline Jim is getting on finely. Howdy to all the negroes. I have received the bundle of clothes sent to Columbia. The bundle contained one shirt, one scarf, and two pairs of socks. At least I suppose it is the one you sent to Col[umbia] to be sent to Barnwell at Richmond. I am a thousand times obliged. When is Harry coming? Oh! that peace may soon be restored to our young but dearly beloved country and that we may all meet again in happiness.

This letter is excerpted from a book titled *Far, Far From Home*. a collection of letters of Dick and Tally Simpson, members of the 3rd South Carolina Volunteers.

WE TRAITORS?



“To people who passed through those memorable days in Dixie, it seems queer to hear Southern men and women spoken of as "traitors," "rebels," "enemies of American liberty" and "foes of the Constitution." I know not what may have been the secret motives of wily leaders, if there were any such leaders, which I gravely doubt, but as for the people, nothing but patriotism pure and simple moved them to vote secession and to enlist in the army.

The people at the South felt just as confident that the people at the North contemplated a deliberate overthrow of the Republic as their fathers in the Revolution felt that King George was a tyrant. In all the public orations and private discussions the idea that slavery was the bone of contention never once entered the minds of the common people . . .

They understood that the Constitution of the United States was assailed, and that they were offering themselves for its defense. The question, as they understood it, was whether American liberty should be perpetuated or crushed by Northern monarchy.

Fighting for slavery? Think of the absurdity of the thing! The Southern army was largely made up of volunteers from the mountain regions. There were no slaves of consequence in that mountain country, and those poor mountaineers hated "stuck-up" slave holders as cordially as a saint hates sin. True, they understood in a vague sort of way that there was some discussion on the subject of slavery in a general way, but to them this was only an incidental and irrelevant topic of public interest which was in no way connected with the question of secession.

The people understood that the question at issue was simply their right to manage their own affairs in their own States. If the North proposed to interfere with that right, what assurance had they that it would not take from them their homes and all their property? I know not what the leaders thought, but there was no

mistaking the feelings and opinions of the common people. . . .

I understood that in seceding the South held on to the Constitution, and the Declaration of Independence, and Bunker Hill monument, and the life of George Washington. . . .

We traitors? We rebels against the American government and enemies of the Constitution? Shades of Washington and Bunker Hill! Why, what were the people up in the mountains fighting for if not for the Constitution? What did they care about slavery? Hadn't it been as a thorn in the flesh to them from time immemorial? Did not everybody know that the North had set aside the Constitution, throttled our liberty and pulled the tail feathers out of the American eagle?"

Excerpted from "*Seventy Years in Dixie*", by F.D. Srygley, Florida Confederate Veteran... Faith and Facts Press, first printing 1891.

BANKHEAD'S BATTERY UPDATE



The Battery received orders to move on Parkers Crossroad, Tennessee and be ready to assist General Forrest as he moves his forces toward an expected crossing on the Tennessee River. I started with our first gun and wagon the morning of the 11th.

Arriving by 10:30 am locating a secure site with all the amenities necessary to support a full battery close to General Forrest's calculated movement. The Battery coming from all posts within our district were expected to arrive independently. Company C commanded by Captain Collins arrived and reported setting their camp with us as well. The weather gave us a bit of a chill at night but the clear skies and dry ground was our blessing.

Private Douglas arrived in the day to accompany me as my adjutant. Private Billings after having his post rescind his orders to move, finally convinced his General that she should let him arrive that night. He escaped post so hurriedly that he left his tent poles

but some were quickly allocated to him to prevent his tent from becoming only his blanket. It appeared that we were to receive infantry support as a lone infantryman wandered into our camp that evening separated from his unit. He was quickly welcomed and placed on picket to our exposed right. The next morning brought a flurry of activity in the area supporting that we were in the correct location. With the arrival of our other piece and wagon, both were placed in park next to our camp. The 1st Tennessee Heavy arrived along with Rutledge's Battery and were placed on the line as well. Sgt. Beasley was placed in charge of the right section of our guns with a veteran crew consisting of Cpl. Geminn, Pvt. Lynch, Pvt. Noble, Pvt. Douglas, and Pvt. O'Steen on "The Noble." A young crew consisting of Pvt. Jones, Pvt. Hunter, Pvt. Hatcher, Pvt. Billings, with Pvt. Elkins and Recruit Caitlin was placed on "Mary Ann". Corporal Geminn conducted drill of the crews and their instruction was put into play on the field. Ellie expertly and bravely, even in the line of fire recorded and documented the campaign.

On the 12th we began to hear the crack of musketry to our front and soon realized it was General Forrest with union infantry in hot pursuit on his heels. We were called to the guns as the fray got closer. General Forrest thinking he could not make it to his crossing in time decided to lead them to our position and provoke them into a fight with our support. His cunning proved itself again! Our infantry moved in to cover the General's movement and we opened with our guns promptly and with devastating fire stopping the enemy in its tracks. The battle raged for nearly an hour before there was a call to par lee on the field in which both sides agreed to a truce for the evening while the articles of the union surrender were drawn up. We cautiously retired from our guns and pickets were set to guard against a resurgence of attack. Our young crew was quite the subject of the day from other officers on the field. I was complimented several times of their energetic and snappy performance on the gun.

Recruit Caitlin saw the elephant that day and the performance was decorated with the traditional ceremonial sponge tattoo across the cheek by Corporal Gemmin. That evening was quiet, too quiet. The people of Parkers Crossroads rewarded us with a dinner of roast pig and sweet pudding at the end of the day. The locals even struck up music and danced with delight as if to taught the enemy whilst those yanks ate their hard bread and blue beef in the cold that night.

The next day however brought with it union

treachery. As the par lee resumed and the deed was about to be sealed, a union battalion of infantry with one gun opened on us from the south. Another unit had arrived as reinforcement and all hedges broke loose. We had been caught in the middle. The report of the situation to General Forrest was replied to as "Charge 'em both ways!" and they did. We opened with our guns to the front only to discover that the enemy was moving on our right rear flank. When asked to oblique the right gun to cover our position, Sgt. Beasley and the veteran crew answered with zeal. They immediately moved the gun to our right and poured shell over their heads. General Forrest seeing our position quickly sent a detachment of cavalry twice to our defense successfully pushing them back. Once they moved so close in to call for canister which did send them away from our line. We were able to hold the enemy at bay while allowing General Forrest to escape eastward toward his river crossing unchallenged. When the union surrendered the field and pulled away, we quickly rolled up camp, loaded our guns, and slipped away to the west before they knew we were gone. This will probably be claimed as a union victory in that we were gone from the field. It was in fact a great tactical defeat to the union by our great General Forrest in spite of their treachery and due in a small and probably never recorded part to the performance of Bankheads Battery that day. The "Old Noble" and her veteran crew's actions saved our position that day with only one loss of Rutledge's Battery in the contest.

I suspect this to be our last campaign before going into winter quarters. We have new recruits coming in and I'm afraid they will be sorely needed in the coming months. Use this time to resupply your war chests and rest for I receive that General Grant's army will attempt a movement along the Tennessee in the spring. We most certainly will be called from our posts and into the fray as Grant is a very formidable foe. My only orders to the Battery are to stay close to your families, keep them safe, and enjoy their comfort during the holidays. Feel free to forward this communication to any recruits I may have missed and await any correspondence from me with information as soon as received. My regards to an excellent Battery that I would put up against any other on the field.

Your Obedient Servant,

Captain H. Cohea – commanding
Bankheads Battery Company B
1st Tennessee Light Artillery
CSA



COMMANDER'S CORNER

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

Luke 2:14

*"Peace on Earth, Good will to men should prevail.
We certainly
would preserve the peace if they would go home and
let us alone..."*

Johnny Green, 4th Kentucky Infantry CSA,
Christmas, 1864

With the approach of Christmas it is important to focus upon Christ. The birth of Christ and the lessons which He taught us should be the focus of all celebration.

Christians throughout the world celebrate Christmas in many ways. One strength of Christianity is in the many ways which the faith can be shared. Some Christian denominations celebrate Advent during the weeks prior to Christmas. Some denominations celebrate Christmas as twelve days instead of one. Christmas can extend to the day of the Epiphany on January 6. Christians may differ in our traditions but we agree that the birth of Jesus is the focus of our celebration.

The challenge for Christians during Christmas is to keep this focus upon Christ. There are many distractions. Our challenge is to return to the faith of our families. Christians are called to return to the Churches which our ancestors attended. We need to remember and honor their traditions and make these traditions our own.

During this Christmas season let us remember those of the American military who served away from home. Whether during peace or war, millions of Americans have been separated from their families during Christmas. We can remember their sacrifice during America's wars whether Christmas was spent in a British prison, a Union POW camp, a trench in

France, the Solomon Islands, Korea, South Vietnam, Iraq or Afghanistan.

Thousands of American Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen will be separated from their families this Christmas. Some will spend this Christmas on an aircraft carrier. Others will spend Christmas deployed to Afghanistan. Many will share their faith and their dedication with the generations who served before them. May we pray for all of them.

Bradford Waters
Commander. RE Lee Camp



Our Father,

Thank you for the blessings of another week in which we can serve you! Thank you for being the source of all truth and the knowledge that when we stand for truth that we are standing with you! Thank you for coming to this earth and freely giving your earthly life in order to redeem all those that trust you as their personal Lord and Savior! Thank you for loving us so much that you have given each of us an opportunity to respond to your salvation. Lord, Bless each one that is standing for truth by participating in

heritage events and rallies this week and in the weeks to come.

Jesus, we ask that you would touch the lives of those who are suffering today using us as your children, as instruments of your divine love, to point them to your cross and your empty tomb, that they might find peace in the midst of their storms! Where there is pain and hurt, bind up their wounds as the Balm of Gilead! Where there is loss and grief, fill their hearts with your love as the Prince of Peace! Thank you for healing that you have brought to many but we continue to lift up those that are in the hospital and suffering at home. Help us as your children to convey your love at every opportunity.

Lord, we are forever indebted to you for the wonderful Southern heritage you have given us that is now our responsibility to preserve for our children and those that come after us. May our actions be always for the purpose of pointing others toward the truth and always bring glory to you and not dishonour to those that have gone before us. We may face, at times, discouragements and heartache as our faith and the things upon which our culture is built are attacked and maligned but help us to remember that truth will always reign supreme in the end. It is in the Holy and Precious name of Jesus Christ that we pray - Amen!

(John Stones)

Go to our website:

<http://www.tennessee-scv.org/camp1640/>

Or visit our Facebook pages at:

<http://www.facebook.com/RELeeCamp1640>

<https://www.facebook.com/BluffCityGraysMemphis>

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/SCV-Memphis-Brigade-Color-Guard/268457703293353>



65th annual

LEE-JACKSON-CHALMERS BANQUET



The Sons of Confederate Veterans

Saturday, January 21st, 2017
6:00 P.M.

Catered Dinner
Hillwood Hall, Davies Plantation
3570 Davieshire Dr, Memphis, TN 38133-0901

Guest Speaker:

Maj. Gen. (ret) Harold A. Cross

Catered Banquet Dinner, Awards Ceremony, Silent Auction,
Ancestor Candlelight Tribute, And Music by the 52nd Regimental String Band

Tickets are \$30.00 per person

Tickets may be purchased from Cdr Alan Doyle (901) 454-7139, Cdr John Leake (901) 921-1637,
Cdr Sam Escue (901)359-4801, Adj Arthur Oliver (901) 754-7369

Make checks payable to Lee-Jackson-Chalmers Banquet, P.O. Box 11141, Memphis, TN 38111
Deadline for ticket purchase and reservation is Saturday, January 14

*** Please bring your donations for the silent auction ***

All members of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, the United Daughters of the Confederacy, and Friends, Family and
Reenactors are encouraged to attend. Dress is Coat and Tie

GET A TAG SAVE A FLAG



18th Tennessee Infantry Regiment



14th Tennessee Infantry

The Tennessee Division of the
Sons of Confederate Veterans
generously donates a portion of the tag sales to the
Tennessee State Museum to be solely used for the museum's
flag conservation program. If you do not have a SCV tag, you
need to get one to help preserve your history.



This plate is available to any
Tennessee resident
who is registering a
private passenger motor vehicle.



Join the

Military Order of the Stars and Bars

A society of male descendants of the
military and governmental leadership of the
Confederate States of America.

**Lt. Dabney M. Scales Chapter No. 141
Military Order of the Stars and Bars
Memphis, Tennessee**

For more information on the MOSB
and the Memphis Chapter, contact:

T. Tarry Beasley II

Tarry@BeasleyLawFirm.org

(901) 682-8000

The Confederate Calendar

2016 Event Schedule

A listing of events of interest for Southern Heritage organizations.

<u>Aug</u>	2	Bartlett	-- Gayoso UDC, Grace Presbyterian Church, 7pm
	3	Memphis	-- History Awards dinner, Davies Plantation, 6pm
	8	Germantown	-- Lee Camp meeting, TnGen Center, 7pm
	9	Collierville	-- Wigfall Greys meeting, VFW, 347 Center St, 7pm
	11	Memphis	-- Forrest Camp meeting, Jason's Deli, Poplar @ Highland, 7pm
	17	Memphis	-- Gen'l Forrest Chapter UDC business meeting/lunch, Chickasaw CC, 1100
	18	Memphis	-- Chalmers Camp meeting, 7pm
	27	Jackson, TN	-- Symphony and family picnic, Civil War cannons in 1812 Overture, 500pm
<u>Sept.</u>	???	Memphis	-- UDC Founders' Day luncheon, Racquet Club 1130am
	6	Bartlett	-- Gayoso UDC, Grace Presbyterian Church, 7pm
	8	Memphis	-- Forrest Camp meeting, Jason's Deli, Poplar @ Highland, 7pm
	12	Germantown	-- Lee Camp meeting, TnGen Center, 7pm
	13	Collierville	-- Wigfall Greys meeting, VFW, 347 Center St, 7pm
	21	Memphis	-- Gen'l Forrest Chapter UDC meeting/lunch, Chickasaw Cntry Club, 1100
	22	Memphis	-- Chalmers Camp meeting, 7pm
<u>Oct.</u>	4	Bartlett	-- Gayoso UDC, Grace Presbyterian Church, 7pm
	7	Collierville	-- memorial flags placed on CS graves, Wigfall Greys, Magnolia Cemetery
	7-8	Chattanooga, TN	-- UDC Tenn Div convention
	7-9	Columbus, Ky	-- reenactment & dance (one of the very best events of the year, recommended)
	10	Germantown	-- Lee Camp meeting, TnGen Center, 7pm
	11	Collierville	-- Wigfall Greys meeting, VFW, 347 Center St, 7pm
	13	Memphis	-- Forrest Camp meeting, Jason's Deli, Poplar @ Highland, 7pm
	19	Memphis	-- Gen'l Forrest Chapter UDC meeting/lunch, Chickasaw Cntry Club, 1100
	20	Memphis	-- Chalmers Camp meeting, 7pm
	29	Memphis	-- Forrest Passing ceremony, Forrest Park, 715pm
<u>Nov.</u>	???	Richmond, VA	-- UDC national convention
	1	Bartlett	-- Gayoso UDC, Grace Presbyterian Church, 7pm
	4	Bartlett	-- annual Civil War School Day, Freeman Park, 8-2
	5-6	Bartlett	-- reenactment, Battles of Bartlett, Freeman Park, 1pm
	8	Collierville	-- Wigfall Greys meeting, VFW, 347 Center St, 7pm
	10	Memphis	-- Forrest Camp meeting, Jason's Deli, Poplar @ Highland, 7pm
	11	Memphis	-- Veterans' Day
	14	Germantown	-- Lee Camp meeting, TnGen Center, 7pm
	16	Memphis	-- Gen'l Forrest Chapter UDC meeting/lunch, Chickasaw Cntry Club, 1100
	17	Memphis	-- Chalmers Camp meeting, 7pm
	24		-- Thanksgiving
<u>Dec.</u>	2	Collierville	-- Christmas parade, 6pm
	3	Columbia, TN	-- Athenaeum Confederate Christmas Ball
	6	Bartlett	-- Gayoso UDC, Grace Presbyterian Church, 7pm
	8	Memphis	-- Confederate Christmas party, Jason's Deli, Poplar @ Highland, 7pm
	12	Germantown	-- Lee Camp meeting, TnGen Center, 7pm
	13	Collierville	-- Wigfall Greys meeting, VFW, 347 Center St, 7pm
	15	Memphis	-- Chalmers Camp meeting, 7pm
	21	Memphis	-- Gen'l Forrest UDC Christmas luncheon, Chickasaw Cntry Club, 1100



SCVMemphis2017



Sons of Confederate Veterans

122nd Annual Reunion

Lee Millar
Chairman

Alan Doyle
Commander

Alan Doyle
Communications

www.SCVMemphis2017.org

email: scvmem2017@yahoo.com

facebook: ???

May 12, 2017

Committees

1. Registration _____
2. Communications _____
3. Website / Facebook _____
4. Hospitality Room _____
5. Program & Ancestor Program _____
6. Advertisements _____ everyone _____
7. Souvenir Badge (medal) _____
8. Liquor project _____
9. Debutantes _____
10. Vendors, SCV Stores & Displays _____
11. Color Guard & reenactors _____
12. Scrapbooks display & competition _____
13. Newsletter display & competition _____
14. Silent Auction _____
15. Opening Ceremony & Music _____
16. Sergeant at Arms & Security _____
17. SCV IHQ coord _____
18. Publicity _____
19. Hotel _____
20. Legal Dept/ Contracts _____
21. Luncheons _____
22. Concession Stands _____
23. Hall/Table decorations _____
24. Flags (& giant CS flag) _____
25. Memorial Srvc (Friday) _____
26. Guest Speakers _____
27. Tours _____
28. Transportation _____
29. Other _____

www.SCVMemphis2017.org

N. B. Forrest Camp 215, P.O. Box 11141, Memphis, TN. 38111

www.nbForrestCamp215.org

CITIZENS TO SAVE OUR PARKS

AND THE

SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

Help Save Our Parks



Fight City Hall ?

We ARE !!!

The Forrest Camp 215 and the CTSOP have filed suit against the Memphis City Council for their illegal attempt to change the names of our three Confederate parks. We have been joined by all area camps & many UDC members.

These parks, Forrest Park, Confederate Park, and Jefferson Davis Park, are our history, our Confederate heritage, and a lasting tribute to our Confederate ancestors. They must not be destroyed or taken away by mis-guided politicians.

Help us to save our historic parks: Forrest Park, Confederate Park, and Jefferson Davis Park.

Can you, or your group donate \$100, \$500 or \$1000 to the defense ?

I wish to join CTSOP. Please sign me up as a member. No membership fee.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Contribute through PayPal at : www.citizenstosaveourparks.org

Please donate to our cause: Amount \$ _____ check number _____

Parks Defense Fund

PO Box 241875, Memphis, TN 38124

SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

Help Save General Forrest



The Memphis City Council has passed a resolution to remove the Forrest Equestrian Statue from Forrest Park and to dig up the graves of General Forrest and his wife MaryAnn from beneath the statue.

The SCV and the Forrest family descendants must raise money to fight the city in this second attack on General Forrest. We need your help.

Help us to save the graves and monument of General Forrest

Can you, or your camp or Division donate \$100, \$500 or \$1000 to the defense ?

Please sign me up as a supporter. No membership fee.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Contribute through PayPal at our ally at : www.citizenstosaveourparks.org

Please donate to our cause: Amount \$ _____ check number _____

Forrest Park Defense Fund

PO Box 241875, Memphis, TN 38124

COLLECTOR'S

FORREST

COMMEMORATIVE COIN

Solid bronze

**\$ 10 each — All proceeds go to
Parks Defense Fund**

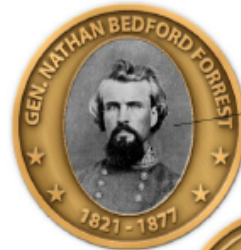
Contact: Harry Adams, Forrest Camp 215

harryadamscsa@gmail.com

\$10 each, plus \$1 each for shipping. Send your check to

Save the Parks

PO Box 241875, Memphis, TN 38124



Traveller is the monthly newsletter of:

The General Robert E. Lee Camp #1640
Sons of Confederate Veterans
and

The Mary Custis Lee Chapter,
Order of the Confederate Rose
P.O. Box 171251
Memphis, Tennessee 38187

Steve M. McIntyre, Editor

Camp Christmas Party December 12, 2016**
at the home of Melody & Arthur Oliver, 8863 Calkins Hill Cove, Germantown, TN 38139