



TRAVELLER

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

Sons of Confederate Veterans, Germantown,
TN Duty, Honor, Integrity, Chivalry
DEO VINDICE!

June, 2017



CAMPMEETING

June 12, 2017

Speaker: Bridget Smith

**Topic: "Where Elephants Fought" the Murder of
General Earl Van Dorn"**

**7:00 p.m. at the at the Germantown
Regional History and Genealogy Center**

Don't miss our next meeting!

DID YOU KNOW?

by Beecher Smith

THE MYSTERIOUS LIFE AND DEATH OF ARCH DOBBINS



CSA Brevet Brigadier Gen. Arch Dobbins

In my previous column I reported on the skirmish at Ashley's Mills, Arkansas, as seen through the eyes of the Confederate field commander, Arch Dobbins. The facts and circumstances were so fascinating I had to learn more about him, which this column will now share with you.

Arch Dobbins was born to David and Catherine Gilchrist Dobbins on their farm known as Sandy Hook near Mount Pleasant, Tennessee. On February 3, 1850, at the age of

twenty-three, Arch Dobbins married Mary Patience Dawson, who was eighteen. Her family considered their background and education to be several steps above the Dobbins clan. According to family stories, the couple eloped without the best wishes of the Dawsons. At the time he married her, Dobbins had nothing, while her family owned or controlled about a fourth of Maury County, Tennessee.

Arch Dobbins and his bride lived with his parents on their farm for the rest of 1850. After this date, Dobbins left Tennessee and settled on land that his grandfather Gilchrist had title to in Phillips County, Arkansas. The land, which had passed to various Gilchrist relatives, had not been settled. Dobbins began buying the land from these relatives. By 1853, he had ownership of a portion of Horseshoe Island, Arkansas, situated on the Mississippi river near Friars Point, Mississippi, and south of Helena, Arkansas. He built his home on the island and named the place Horseshoe Island Plantation. In 1860, the sheriff of Phillips county listed Dobbins' taxable property at \$95,205.00, so his agricultural venture must have been profitable.

In 1861, the long-standing issues between the South and North passed the point of compromise, and Arkansas found it necessary to secede from the Union. In 1862, Helena, seat of Phillips County, was occupied by General Curtis and his Union army. Dobbins sent his family back to Mount Pleasant, Tennessee, then he crossed the Mississippi river to join General Hindman's regiment, in Beauregard's Army of Tennessee, at Corinth, Mississippi.

When Hindman was appointed to take over the military command of Arkansas, he brought Dobbins with him to Little Rock as a colonel on his general staff. Following his service on Hindman's staff, Dobbins was given command of a brigade of cavalry that became known as "Dobbins Cavalry" or more formally the 1st Arkansas Cavalry. Dobbins returned with his cavalry to Phillips County which became his base of operations.

Dobbins' Cavalry is difficult to research because not only was it a loosely organized regiment, but most of the typical paperwork generated by a regiment in the field is missing from the record. Only a handful of muster rolls, and almost no quartermaster or commissary reports, are known to exist. Dobbins' brigade was assigned to a division commanded by Gen. Lucius M. Walker and fought in major engagements, raids, and skirmishes

throughout eastern and northeastern Arkansas.

After Walker was killed in a duel with fellow general John S. Marmaduke, Dobbins assumed command of Walker's division. When Marmaduke became Dobbins superior, Dobbins refused to serve under him in protest of the killing of Walker. Marmaduke ordered Dobbins arrest and court martial. On November 23, 1863 it was announced that Dobbins had been dismissed from the army. Despite the verdict, Dobbins never officially surrendered his command and continued to operate his brigade out of the Helena area. 1864 dispatches from Confederate Gen. Joe Shelby to his commanders in northeast Arkansas included Col. Dobbins.

As the war was nearing the end, Dobbins was promoted to general on the field, but this promotion was never entered in the official records, due in part to the turmoil of the confederate army and government in its last days. Dobbins' Cavalry surrendered and was paroled at Wittsburg, Arkansas on May 25, 1865, but Dobbins himself fled to Texas where he planned to cross into Mexico and send his slaves to Cuba. However, Dobbins did not reach his slaves or Mexico and signed his parole at Galveston on July 13, 1865.

In 1867 Dobbins left the United States and started a plantation 30 miles from Santarém, Brazil. In one of his letters Dobbins mentioned that he was only about six miles from an American colony in Brazil. This may have been the Lost Colony of the Confederacy.

In 1869 Dobbins wrote for his wife to join him in Brazil but as she made plans to travel to South America, the letters stopped coming. Dobbins was never heard from again. Years later it was reported that the general had been killed in an Indian uprising which swept the area of his plantation in about 1869.

A Confederate style VA headstone stands as a cenotaph to Archibald Dobbins in the Confederate Cemetery in Helena, Arkansas.

Commander's Corner

How is family heritage maintained?



Heritage like most all other important entities begins at home. Many in the South have Scottish ancestry. The Scots' successful efforts to retain their distinctiveness in the United Kingdom offer lessons for all Americans. The Scots endured war, occupation, political and cultural repression yet retained their identity. The same Scottish tartans which were once

prohibited are now a respected component of Scottish regiments of the British Army.

What positive steps can be taken to retain family heritage?

1. Oral History and family history. Take the opportunities to participate in family reunions and return to family grave sites. When we return home, our family history is all around us.
2. Reading and being able to discuss the famous literary works by regional authors
3. Preserving the language and the music
4. Honoring of parents and ancestors
5. Learning the history of family members' regiments, ships and campaigns. History Professors understand and may present certain perspectives. History is more meaningful when family members understand that they actually had relatives who served this country from King's Mountain to Saigon. We need to learn about our own family members' accomplishments. We are not isolated individuals but part of a long family lineage.
6. Listen to what our relatives have been taught about their own history. Some of what has been taught is true and some is a portion of the story. Despite significant family efforts and trips to battlefields during childhood, there can be significant gaps in a relative's understanding and interpretation.
7. Avoid appearing condescending. We may incorrectly assume "that everyone knows that..." but the next generation has fresh eyes and different experiences. Listening, agreeing with common ground and responding are often much better received. We need to retain our humility. Many of us will freely admit that we know much more of our own family history today than we knew as a teen or young adult.
8. Remembering our family's religious faith. Families have a religious heritage to share. Faith was often a very important aspect of the lives of our ancestors. This is the most important heritage to remember, honor and follow.
9. Realize that relatives may have more impact than we may imagine. The roles of parents, uncles, aunts and grandparents in shaping core values are often underestimated. This impact can and does last for future generations.

Bradford Waters - Commander



***Sons of Confederate Veterans
“Historic Elm Springs”***

26 April 2017

The recent events in New Orleans have been heartbreaking and, honestly, completely insane. The current mayor, Mitch Landrieu, and the City Council have completely derailed and are destroying the history of the very city they were elected to protect. Ironically, in the early morning hours on Monday Mr. Landrieu, according to reports, had local firemen dismantle one of four monuments that he and other elected officials (not the citizens) alleged to be offensive to the citizens of New Orleans. The irony here is that Landrieu himself narrowly escaped house arrest for owing the firefighters pension fund over \$70 million dollars; yes, \$70 million dollars.

In 2015 word was received that the Mayor and his council started laying the groundwork for their plan, much like ISIS, to destroy monuments of our ancestors. With this information, the local Camp and Louisiana Division entered into litigation to stop this insanity. The National SCV entered into the litigation at a later date in an attempt to block the removal of historical monuments placed in the city. Thus far, after over thirty thousand dollars and countless hours of discussion and litigation, the fine men of Louisiana have basically been railroaded by Landrieu and his cronies over the years. What I personally find to be so ironic in all of this insanity is that for thirty two years the City was run by people of color who respected historical monuments, but now Mr. Landrieu chooses to create division among the people for some perceived political gain or notoriety. It is reported that Landrieu now has a list over one hundred streets and school names he wishes to change.

After much consultation with the Division Commander of Louisiana and members of my staff I am calling for a BOYCOTT of the City of New Orleans by the members of the Sons of Confederate Veterans and all right-minded people. Please visit Confederate Memorial Hall in this once fine Southern city but do not spend any of your hard earned dollars otherwise in the City. We must stand strong and let the historical terrorists and haters know who we are and what we stand for!

New Orleans is no different than any other large town in the Southeast, and tourism dollars are what they thrive upon. New Orleans’ busiest time of the year is Mardi

Gras, and the money raised every year is used to promote the Mayor and City Council’s agenda. While I encourage you to visit Louisiana and the countless towns and communities that host Mardi Gras festivals, please avoid New Orleans. Let our voices and dollars be heard!!!

Therefore, I call for a BOYCOTT of New Orleans, LA and highly encourage each of you to spread the word to friends and family. We need to show Mr. Landrieu and his cronies that we will not stand for his ISIS tactics and the absolute destruction of OUR history under the cloak of darkness with snipers on rooftops. We must collectively let the powers that be know that we will not allow OUR HISTORY and the world’s history to be destroyed or re-written by a few despicable people in power!

Deo Vindice,

Thos. V. Strain Jr.

75th Commander-in-Chief Sons of Confederate Veterans

JEFFERSON DAVIS’ REQUEST

“But never question or teach your children to desecrate the memory of the dead by admitting that their brothers were wrong in the effort to maintain the sovereignty, freedom and independence which was their inalienable birthright - remembering that the coming generation are the children of the heroic mothers whose devotion to our cause in its darkest hour sustained the strong and strengthened the weak. I cannot believe that the cause for which our sacrifices were made can ever be lost, but rather hope that those who now deny the justice of our asserted claims will learn from experience that the fathers built it wisely and the Constitution should be construed according to the commentaries of the men who made it.”

Jefferson Davis in a speech given to the Mississippi legislators on March 10, 1884

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United Daughters of the Confederacy®

General Forrest Chapter 1194

Cordially invites you to the

Forrest Luncheon and Silent Auction

Saturday, July 22, 2017, at 11:30 A.M.

Chickasaw Country Club, 3395 Falloway Avenue, Memphis, TN 38122

Guest Speaker

Dr. Kim Bernard Kolien, Retired US Army Historian,

Author of *The Battle at Ball's Bluff*

Please cut off the bottom portion and send with your check made out to General Forrest Chapter for \$27.00 for each meal. Please send both to Mrs. Lois Ann Thron 3021 Poplar Grove Lane, Seemontown, TN 38189. Lois Ann must receive your check no later than July 10, 2017,

no exceptions.

Name/Name _____

Street _____

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Email LCM7935@aol.com if you have any questions



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

T. Tarry Beasley II

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SCVMemphis2017



Sons of Confederate Veterans 122nd Annual Reunion

www.SCVMemphis2017.org

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Lee Millar
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Alan Doyle
Commander

Alan Doyle
Communications

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

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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



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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

**Next Camp Meeting ** June 12, 2017
Germantown Regional History and Genealogy Center, 7779 Old Poplar Pike, Germantown, TN**