

# TRAVELLER

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

Sons of Confederate Veterans, Germantown, TN

Duty, Honor, Integrity, Chivalry

DEO VINDICE!

July, 2017



## CAMP MEETING

July 10, 2017

Speaker: Mark Buchanan

Topic: "Confederate Political Issues"

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

Don't miss our next meeting!

## JUNETEENTH AND THE END OF SLAVERY

by Steve Byas

On June 19, 1865, Major General Gordon Granger led Union troops to Galveston, Texas, and announced the Civil War was over, and the slaves were now free. He read General Order Number Three: "The people of Texas are informed that in accordance with a Proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolutely equality of rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves, and the connection heretofore existing between them becomes that between employer and free laborer."

This understandably led to jubilation among many of those who had been held in slavery. Some, especially older slaves, simply remained as employees on the farms and plantations of former masters, while others, mostly younger people, took off to seek employment elsewhere. For many in the South in the aftermath of the War Between the States, whether former slave or other southerners, black or white, the harsh reality was that



almost all faced a grim economic future.

But at least they were free, and that was certainly something to celebrate.

Juneteenth, however, as a day to mark the "end" of slavery in the United States, has always been a puzzle. General Granger based his general order on a proclamation from President Abraham Lincoln who had been dead since the middle of April. The Emancipation Proclamation itself went into effect on January 1, 1863, *two and one-half years earlier*, and was of dubious constitutionality.

Lincoln's executive order, issued with a claim of authority as commander-in-chief of the armed forces of the United States, has contributed greatly to a misunderstanding of what the issue was over which the Civil War was fought, what ended slavery in the United

States, and what were the motivations of the soldiers who fought in the deadliest conflict in American history — claiming well over 600,000 lives.

It is commonly believed today, contrary to historical accuracy, that the North and South

simply lined up and fought a four-year war to settle the issue of slavery, with Union soldiers fighting a great crusade to end slavery and Confederate soldiers ready to die to "keep their slaves."

Slavery certainly was a major contributing cause to the secession of seven Southern states — Alabama, Georgia, Florida, South Carolina, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas — but to say that the war was fought to end slavery or to keep it (depending on one's side of the war) is just not true. Other factors contributed to the secession of these seven states — the tariff, which

largely benefitted the Northern states and was a largely a detriment of the states in the South, for one. Northern states had, more than once, threatened secession early in U.S. history, mostly due to resentment at the outsized influence of Virginia in the Union. At that time, no one said there should be a civil war to force New England states back into the Union, if they did secede.

Later, in the 1830s, when South Carolina announced it would refuse to collect the tariff, and President Andrew Jackson asked Congress for authority to use force to make sure it was collected, and war loomed, slavery was not even an issue at all.

In other words, secession was not a purely Southern threat, and slavery was not the only issue of dispute between North and South in the years before the Civil War.

But it was cited as an issue when South Carolina seceded on December 20, 1860, following the election of Abraham Lincoln as president. After several weeks of negotiations, during which time Lincoln said that he had no intention of doing anything about slavery in the states that had seceded, Fort Sumter, in the harbor of Charleston, South Carolina, was taken by the newly formed Confederate States.

Without getting sidetracked into discussing the entire Fort Sumter episode, President Lincoln's response was to call for 75,000 volunteers for the purpose of making sure federal laws (essentially the collection of the tariff, the main source of revenue for the U.S. government) were enforced in the seceded states. *Lincoln did not call for an invasion of the South to free the slaves.* Had he done so, he most likely would have touched off riots in the North. He certainly would not have had the overwhelming response of enlistments that he did have. Most Northern men who enlisted believed that the dissolution of the Union would be detrimental to the cause of liberty in America. They did *not* enlist in some crusade to free the slaves.

At the time of Lincoln's call for volunteers, *more slave states were still in the Union than out.* Had he intended to fight a war to end slavery in the entire country, he would have had to invade states that had remained in the Union. This powerfully demonstrates the absurdity of the notion that the war was fought "to end slavery."

Yet when Lincoln made his call, those slave states still in the Union were expected to produce volunteers to invade the Deep South. This quickly precipitated the secession of four more slave states — Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Arkansas — states that had previously rejected secession. They did not secede to protect slavery, but rather because of Lincoln's call for

an invasion of fellow states. Three other states — Maryland, Kentucky, and Missouri — all slave states, did not secede, but did eventually provide soldiers for both sides. Again, had the war been fought to "end slavery," one would think that they would have seceded, as well. Slavery was still legal in Delaware, but secession was never seriously considered there.

As the war dragged on, with Confederate troops winning more battles than they lost, it began to look as though the Confederate States of America would become an independent nation. By the fall of 1862, France and Great Britain were poised to recognize this as a fact. Lincoln was desperate to "save the Union," and took a desperate measure. He could have told the British that they should not recognize the independence of the Southern states because they had no right to secede from the Union, but the Brits would have probably just laughed, and said, "Serves you right," (considering what had happened in 1776).

Both the French and the British had abolished slavery a few decades earlier, and undoubtedly Lincoln could have kept both countries from recognizing Southern independence if he would have made the war about slavery, rather than the legality of secession. But had he done so, he might have faced desertions from the Union army. More importantly, this may have necessitated the invasion of four Union states where slavery was still legal.

Lincoln's solution was to "thread the needle." He would issue an executive order, ending slavery in states "still in rebellion" on January 1, 1863, as a "war measure," but leaving slavery untouched in those states still in the Union. Combined with the Union military success at Antietam in September 1862 in blocking General Robert E. Lee's invasion of Maryland, the British and the French decided to hold off on recognizing the South.

The reality is that Lincoln had no constitutional authority to end slavery anywhere, but his Emancipation Proclamation proposed to leave slavery untouched in areas that recognized his presidency, and end it where he had no troops to enforce it.

Despite the inherent contradictions of the Emancipation Proclamation, it has led many today to believe that the war was fought to end slavery, and slavery was ended by it.

It also has slandered the hundreds of thousands of Confederate soldiers who fought in the war, with many today damning their own ancestors as having fought to "keep their slaves." The reality is that only a tiny minority of Confederate soldiers even owned any slaves, and almost none were fighting to save the ugly institution.

So why did they fight? To stop an invading army, of course. Early in the war, some Union soldiers asked a captured Confederate soldier why he was fighting. He answered, "Because you are here." In other words, had there not been Union soldiers there to fight, there would have been no war.

This is not to address the issue of whether the war was justified by the Union side, but a blunt statement of fact. Confederate soldiers fought to defend their homeland from invasion. It is ludicrous to think that 15,000 men charged across the field at Gettysburg in "Pickett's Charge" thinking, "I am doing this to keep my slaves," when hardly any of them had any slaves.

If the Emancipation Proclamation did not end slavery, and the war was not fought to end slavery, what then did end slavery? The truth is, while the war was not fought to end slavery, it did indirectly result in its demise. Early in 1865, the Confederate Congress voted to accept the enlistment of slaves into the Confederate army, with a promise of emancipation. Once that was done, slavery was a mortally wounded institution.

The legal end of slavery was a result of the 13th Amendment to the Constitution, ratified on December 6, 1865. If any date were to be used to celebrate the end of slavery in America, that should be the date.

It is also instructive to addressing the question of whether the war was fought to end slavery. If that were the case, then why was the 13th Amendment even necessary? According to the school of thought that the war was fought to abolish slavery, then the issue had already been settled on the battlefields of the war.

As it was, the U.S. Senate (with the Confederate states not voting) passed an amendment to the Constitution in April of 1864 to abolish slavery. In the House of Representatives, the proposed amendment failed. Even with no Confederate states represented in Congress, an amendment to abolish slavery *failed* in the House.

At this point, Lincoln offered federal jobs and other inducements, and finally after weeks of arm-twisting, finally obtained passage in the House on January 31, 1865. Again, if the war was fought to end slavery, why was an amendment to the Constitution even necessary?

Interestingly, 10 states where slavery had been legal — including eight formerly Confederate states — voted to ratify the 13th Amendment, without which the proposed amendment would have failed. The Union state Delaware, where slavery was legal until the ratification of the 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment, refused on February 8, 1865 to ratify it (although they finally did go ahead and ratify — *in 1901!*).

Other states initially rejecting the 13th Amendment

included New Jersey, Kentucky, and Mississippi.

Regardless of why slavery is no longer legal, we can celebrate that slavery no longer exists in America. But we should also reject the multitudes of myths about its demise, myths created and perpetuated to advance certain agendas, rather than to present an historically accurate picture.

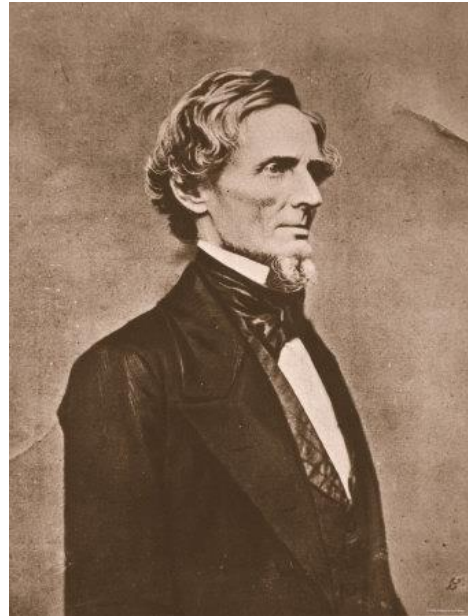
Happy Juneteenth!

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## DID YOU KNOW?

by Beecher Smith

### JEFFERSON DAVIS' MEMPHIS CONNECTION



Most of us know about Jefferson Davis' distinguished career as a soldier, U. S. Senator, Secretary of War, and President of the Confederate States of America. He has been honored with a statue in downtown Memphis, which certain factions are trying vigorously to have removed.

Davis' first wife was Sarah Knox Taylor, daughter of General (and future President of the United States) Zachary Taylor, who forbid their marriage. A young lieutenant and West Point graduate serving in the Indian Wars at the time, he took a leave of absence and eloped with her. They settled in Louisiana, but shortly thereafter she contracted malaria and died. Grief stricken, Davis returned to his native Mississippi and resumed the practice of farming. In 1845 he married Varina Banks Howell. She bore him six children, only three of whom lived to adulthood. His daughter Margaret married and was the only one bore him grandchildren.

When the Mexican War broke out, at his own expense he raised a regiment of riflemen and returned to the

Army, serving again under General Taylor. Davis fought bravely in several battles and led the infantry charge at the [Battle of Buena Vista](#), during which he was shot in the foot. In recognition of Davis's bravery and initiative, Taylor is reputed to have said, "My daughter, sir, was a better judge of men than I was." On May 17, President Polk offered Davis a federal commission as a [brigadier general](#) and command of a [brigade](#) of militia. Davis declined the appointment, arguing that the [Constitution](#) gives the power of appointing militia officers to the states, not the federal government.

One of the brightest lights in Davis' life was his third child and only son to reach adulthood, Jefferson Finnis Davis, Jr., born January 16, 1857. Too young to serve in the army, young Davis pursued a formal education, graduating from the University of Virginia at Charlottesville. As an underclassman he pledged and was duly initiated into the Kappa Sigma Fraternity.



**The Davis Children**

After receiving his baccalaureate degree, he moved to Memphis, Tennessee, where his family already seemed to have connections, and went into the life insurance profession. Sadly, at that time Memphis was plagued with a series of Yellow Fever epidemics which decimated its population. During the Epidemic of 1878, which killed approximately 20,000 people in the Mississippi Valley, Jefferson Davis, Jr. died at the age 21 on October 16, 1878.

Needless to say his father was shattered by the son's untimely death.

After a respectable period of mourning, delegates from the Kappa Sigma Fraternity approached Jefferson Davis and invited him to become the one and only ever honorary initiate of their fraternity in honor of his service and of his late son. Davis happily accepted.

If you ever go to Beauvoir Mansion, the last home of Jefferson Davis, you will see proudly on display the Star and Crescent, official pin and badge of the Kappa Sigma Fraternity worn by Jefferson Davis, on proudly display there in a glass case.

### References:

Kappa Sigma Fraternity, *Bononia Docet*. Charlottesville: Kappa Sigma, 1966.

Wikipedia Encyclopedia, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jefferson\\_Davis#Second\\_marriage\\_and\\_family](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jefferson_Davis#Second_marriage_and_family)

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## REFIGHTING THE "CIVIL" WAR

### By Bill Bonner, chairman, Bonner & Partners

Public life is always a hoot...

People of sound mind and reasonable judgment in their personal lives take on characters full of unwarranted confidence and intolerant insistence in public.

The couple whose son has a "drug problem" wants the government to start a nationwide treatment program.

The guy who can't get his town sanitation department to pick up the trash in front of his house wants to clean up a government on the other side of the world.

The woman who is not sure she will need an umbrella is convinced the planet is warming up.

It's always easier to solve someone else's problem than your own. That's one of the great advantages of living overseas: Public life is full of other people's problems.



## Old Stones

Imagine if a group of Americans proposed to abolish the First Amendment, take away your favorite monuments, or introduce devil worship at your church.

You would be outraged.

But when similar outrages happen in a foreign language... they are mostly amusing and puzzling.

The show is a comedy, not a tragedy. As our friend Nassim Taleb puts it, we have no "skin in the game."

Overseas, we lack the cues, the context, and the emotional connections to take them seriously.

We read the headlines; we shake our heads and smile. The local myths and mysteries have no power over us.

So it was that when a group of leftist demonstrators marched through Salta, Argentina recently, we didn't know what to make of it.

"What was that all about?" we asked.

Meanwhile, scuffles broke out in New Orleans. On one side were demonstrators eager to pull down the statues of war heroes Robert E. Lee, Jefferson Davis, and P.G.T. Beauregard. On the other side, demonstrators were there to protect them.

From ABC News:

Multiple people were arrested on Sunday as hundreds of protesters clashed over the fate of Confederate monuments in New Orleans, police said.

Three protesters were arrested and charged with disturbing the peace on Sunday afternoon near Lee Circle in New Orleans after a fight broke out at a Confederate monuments demonstration, according to the New Orleans Police Department...

More than 700 people attended demonstrations on Sunday on both sides of the city's plans to remove three remaining Confederate monuments.

Then, vandals defaced the monument to P.G.T. Beauregard, draping a sign on it that said: "This is historical violence, we say no."

We're not sure what that was supposed to mean. But we know where our sympathies lie: with the stones.

## War of Liberation

Confederate General Robert E. Lee was one of the greatest soldiers in American history. Compared to him, the gilded generals now frequenting the White House – Mattis, McMaster, Kelly – are little more than paper pushers.

But let's look at P.G.T. Beauregard, the hero of the First Battle of Bull Run.

Born on a sugar plantation in St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana, little Pierre Gustave Toutant Beauregard didn't speak English until his parents sent him to New York to learn it.

Then, he got an appointment to West Point and began his military career thereafter. He served his country in the Mexican-American War... and then served as superintendent at West Point.

But when Louisiana declared independence, what was he to do? Defend the homeland? Or fight against it?

We begin by correcting a common misunderstanding. Many people call it the "Civil War," which is not only oxymoronic but also incorrect.

A civil war is a fight between two or more factions for the control of the government. The war that took place between 1861 and 1865 was nothing of the sort.

Instead, it was a war of national liberation. The Southern states seceded from the Union – a right announced in the founding document of the U.S., the Declaration of Independence.

Thereafter, they never sought any control or even influence over the remaining United States of America.

Government is always a way for the few to exploit the many. The Southerners wanted no more than to be ripped off and bossed around by their own people.

## Flattering Narrative

But it's been a long time since the war.

Facts degrade like carbon isotopes. Real knowledge declines by the square of the time gone by and the magnitude of the event in question.

In its place, a simplified myth provides a soothing explanation, leaving those who believe it dumber than they were had they known nothing at all.

So the stage was set when Donald J. Trump came on the scene.

From the *New York Times*:

"People don't realize, you know, the Civil War, if you think about it, why?" he told his interviewer...

Mr. Trump followed up on the comment in a tweet on Monday night, arguing that [Andrew] Jackson saw the Civil War coming and would have prevented it had he not died 16 years earlier.

Why?

Almost immediately, the great and the good rose to the challenge, denouncing Mr. Trump for daring to challenge the flattering narrative.

In their minds, the "Civil War" had but one cause. Even Chelsea Clinton let her Twitter fans know what it was immediately: "slavery."

This made the war unavoidable, just, and heroic. Whipping the South, at great cost, made sense because it wiped that stain from the national escutcheon.

That is the only politically acceptable narrative for the "Civil War" today.

### **Mission to Protect**

But the poor little Creole!

It was much more complicated for P.G.T. Beauregard. He was trained as a soldier. His mission was to protect his country... as commanded by his civilian superiors.

Louisiana declared independence in January 1861. The Confederate States of America then offered to make him a brigadier general. What was he to say?

"No, thanks... I'll stick with the Yankees."

Judged by today's sentiments, he might have refused service, citing slavery (a classic win-lose deal – slave owners won while slaves lost) as a deal breaker.

He might have led a demonstration, seated on the grass in front of the state house playing guitars and singing Kumbaya. He could have asked for gluten-free wafers in church, too.

But this was the 1860s, and his homeland was about to be invaded by a foreign army.

In the event, Beauregard cast his lot with his fellow Southerners. And when Lincoln sent his army into Virginia, he was ready for them.

The Yankees attacked at Bull Run, Virginia, in July 1861. Beauregard, in command of the Confederate Army there, counterattacked and drove them back to their barracks in Washington, D.C.

Some military scholars believe Beauregard should have followed up with a move against the capital. He might have captured the White House and Congress... and brought the war to an early close.

Had he done so, who knows what would have happened?

Perhaps the nation would have been spared nearly 1 million deaths. Maybe slavery could have been ended in an orderly, nonviolent way.

And maybe Lincoln's statues would now be hoisted up and carried away.

Regards,

Bill Bonner

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Go to our website:

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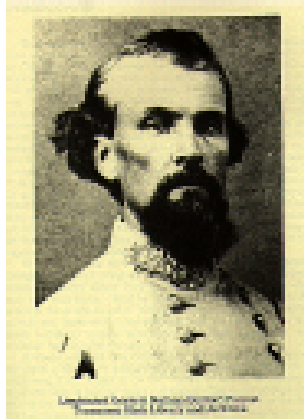
Or visit our Facebook pages at:

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

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

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

113th Annual



# Gen'l N.B. Forrest Birthday Celebration

196th Anniversary

**Sunday, July 9th, 2017**

**2:00 p.m.**

**Forrest Park, Memphis**

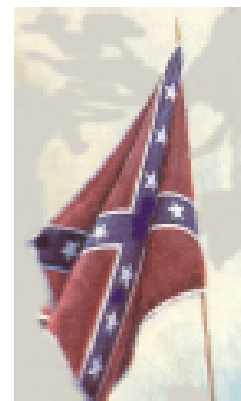
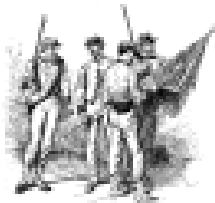
(Union Ave. @ Manassas St.)

The Public is invited.  
(Bring your own lawn chairs)

**Guest Speaker: John R. Scales**  
Brig Gen'l (ret) US Army Special Forces

*“Campaigns of N B Forrest”*

Flag Parade  
Opening Ceremonies  
Proclamations  
music  
Guest Speaker  
21-gun Musket Salute  
Wreath-laying



Sponsored by the General N.B. Forrest Camp 215  
Sons of Confederate Veterans, Memphis

For more information, contact: Alan Doyle, Forrest Camp Commander, 901-454-7139

Co-sponsored by the Gen. N. B. Forrest Historical Society



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 Gallows Avenue, Memphis, TN 38122

Guest Speaker

Dr. Kim Bernard Holien, Retired US Army Historian,

Author of *The Battle at Ball's Bluff*

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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 Shron 3021 Poplar Grove Lane, Germantown, TN 38139. Lois Ann must receive your check no later than July 10, 2017,

no exceptions.

Name/Name \_\_\_\_\_

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Email [LCM7935@aol.com](mailto:LCM7935@aol.com) if you have any questions





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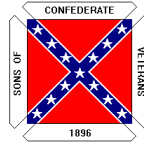
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# SCVMemphis2017



Sons of Confederate Veterans

## 122<sup>nd</sup> Annual Reunion

Lee Millar  
Chairman

Alan Doyle  
Commander

Alan Doyle  
Communications

[www.SCVMemphis2017.org](http://www.SCVMemphis2017.org)

email: [scvmem2017@yahoo.com](mailto:scvmem2017@yahoo.com)

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](http://www.SCVMemphis2017.org)

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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](http://www.citizenstosaveourparks.org)

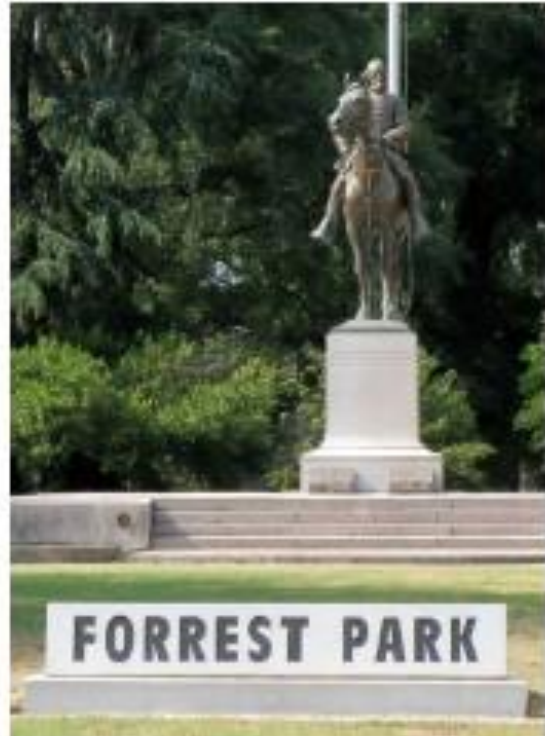
Please donate to our cause:      Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_      check number \_\_\_\_\_

**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.

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Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Contribute through PayPal at our ally at : [www.citizenstosaveourparks.org](http://www.citizenstosaveourparks.org)

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

### Forrest Park Defense Fund

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COLLECTOR'S

# FORREST COMMEMORATIVE COIN

Solid bronze

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

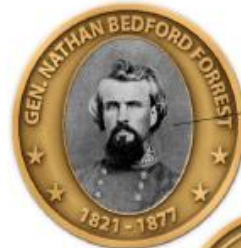
Contact: Harry Adams, Forrest Camp 215

[harryadamscsa@gmail.com](mailto: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

**Next Camp Meeting \*\* July 10, 2017**  
**Germantown Regional History and Genealogy Center, 7779 Old Poplar Pike, Germantown, TN**