



Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Cheatham Camp # 72



THE CHEATHAM NEWS

<http://tennessee-scv.org/camp72>

APRIL 2018

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Dates to Remember:

* Apr 8, 186 - Battle of Ft. Pulaski .

* Apr , 186 - Ft. Sumter surrenders.

* Apr 13, 1862 - CSA passes Conscription Act.

* Apr 15, 186 - Battle of Fts. Jackson and St. Philip.

* Apr 25, 1862 - Battle of New Orleans.

*Apr 29, 1862 - Battle of Corinth.

**Be sure to attend
the April Camp 72
meeting at 6:00
P.M. on Apr. 24th
at the Oak.**

April 20-21, 2018 - Tennessee Division 2018 Reunion. Henry Horton State Park Lodge. Hosted by Camp #297. Questions: (256)565-6304.

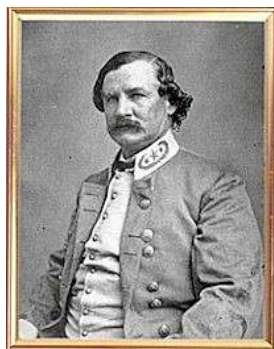
April 24, 2018 - Monthly member meeting. Oak Restaurant. Manchester, TN. 6:00 P.M. dinner, 7:00 P.M. meeting and program. The April program is our compatriot Richard Dix speaking on "Youth of the War."

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Benjamin F. Cheatham

Major General, CSA

Born Oct. 20, 1820

Died Sept. 4, 1886

Commander's Comments...

Compatriots:

Well, with winter behind us and some really nice spring days interspersed into the remaining cold one, we can all look ahead to a more active part of the year.

Soon it will be time to till our vegetable gardens, plant out annuals and otherwise enjoy the benefits of living in a relatively benign climate. Another plus is the plethora of holidays, large and small, that approach us. Some of them, such as Mother's Day, seem to sneak up on us. Many of our compatriots, such as I, are old enough to no longer have the joy of sitting down to a Mother's Day feast with the lady who did so much for us in the past. Take some time to look back on your formative years and remember who kept you straight when you needed it and tanned your hide when you really needed that.

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MISCELLANEOUS

COMMANDER'S COMMENTS (cont. from p. 1)

In honor of our mothers and our spouses, I will personally cook a family recipe and serve it at our annual picnic next month. As you taste Duckman's Gumbo, take a second or two and silently thank those ladies who worked so hard to assure our success in this world.

The SCV calendar is starting to fill in with 2018 events. Plan ahead to participate in as many of them as you can.

The Tennessee Division Reunion will occur from April 19 - 21, and it is only a little over an hour's drive away. Give it a try.

The SCV National Reunion will be in July in Franklin, also a short drive from Manchester.

At our monthly meeting on April 24, we will be soliciting nominations for the remaining positions in Camp 72. The elections will be held at the 26 June meeting. Please come to the April meeting prepared to nominate candidates.

I look forward to seeing you at the April meeting on the 24th.

Jay

CIVIL WAR ODDITIES by Jay Schroeder

To avoid the draft, Civil War recruits devised some ingenious schemes to fool the examining

physicians. One of the more frequent frauds involved pretending one had a hernia. It was easy for a doctor to spot a recruit wearing a truss upside down or backwards, but the technique of blowing air through small punctures in the scrotum was harder to detect.

Self-inflicted mutilations were in some cases used to escape the draft. Fingers and toes were intentionally cut off and when it was discovered that the army required good teeth as a prerequisite for induction, there suddenly appeared an uncommon number of draftees without theirs. The Army put great emphasis on the quality of teeth because a soldier had to bite off the end of his paper cartridge in order to fire his weapon. Also, the basic food ration known as hardtack was difficult to chew without good molars.

Physicians documented cases of men who tried to create disqualifying symptoms by artificial means. Chronic eye diseases were often due to the presence of sand or cayenne pepper underneath the eyelids. Skin diseases were created by applying hot lye or sulfuric acid to an area of the body. Tightly binding an arm or leg for several hours would produce simulated varicose veins. Applying croton oil or cayenne pepper to the anus produced hemorrhoids.

A draftee once appeared before an examining physician with a specimen of his urine which, on analysis, seemed to indicate that the man was dying of Bright's disease. He

was requested to provide another specimen in the presence of the doctor, and it was then that he confessed his deception. The urine he had submitted was really that of a dying friend.

Several examining physicians reported being offered bribes. One draftee attempted to bribe an examining doctor with "favours from [his] female friends." Dr. William W. Mayo, father of the brothers who founded the Mayo Clinic, was dismissed from the Federal service because of a scandal involving a bribe.

In contrast to those attempting to escape army service, there were men who did all they could to enlist by disguising their ages or illnesses.

A physician's examination of an underweight recruit revealed the soles of his shoes to be made of lead. Ice packs applied to a hernia for a day or two before a physical would cause the hernias to recede.

In order to appear younger, old men would dye their hair, shave their beards and camouflage their false teeth by staining them with tobacco juice. Young boys of thirteen or fourteen would write the number 18 on a piece of paper and place it in the soles of their shoes. They would then appear before the recruiting officer to be sworn in, and in good conscience raise the right hand and swear that they were "over eighteen."

SOURCE: Leavitt, Stan, *The Crackerbarrel Papers*, pp. 103-104.



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Duckman's Gumbo

- 1 chicken (4.5 -5 lb)
- 1 onion, cut in quarts
- 1 carrot
- 1 t. salt
- 1 bay leaf
- 1 lb smoked sausage (Andouille or kielbase)
- 1 duck breast
- 1 c. vegetable oil
- 3/4 c. flour
- 2 c. onions, chopped
- 2 c. green bell pepper, chopped
- 1 ½ - 2 T. Tony Chachere's Creole seasoning
- 1 (15oz) can diced tomatoes
- 1 (14.5 oz) can ro-tel tomatoes
- 1 (1 lb.) pkg. frozen okra
- 1 t. gumbo file'

1. Cover chicken in 4 quarts water; add onion, carrot, salt and bay leaf. Cook until meat comes off bone. Pull meat from bones and set aside. Reserve the broth for later use. Do this the day before you start to make the gumbo.

2. Slice sausage into rings and set aside. Cut duck breast into small cubes. Set aside.

3. To make the roux: In an iron skillet; heat oil over medium high heat until just before it starts to smoke: add flour. With a long handled whisk, whisk constantly until it is a caramel color. Watch carefully; it burns easily. Add onions and bell pepper cook for about 5 minutes. Add chicken and sausage and duck. Add about 4 cups of the reserved chicken broth to mixture. Season with Tony Chachere's Creole Seasoning. Simmer about 1 1/2 hour. Add tomatoes and okra. Simmer 1 hour. Add file' and stir well.

4. Serve over rice.

Serves 8-10

Note: Add broth as needed



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A LOOK AHEAD

DATE	TIME	EVENT
22 MAY 18	6:00 P.M.	Annual Camp #72 Picnic. Beech Grove Confederate Cemetery and Park. Arrive NLT 6:00 P.M. Please bring a covered dish if you can. We will have a guest speaker from Chattanooga, an artillerist by the name of Harry Uffalussy. Henry is an expert re-enactor, specializing in guns - cannon - he knows all about every gun from the late unpleasantness, the War for Confederate Independence, and has fired many. He will tell us about the Hoover's Gap battle and the weapons used.
26 JUN 18	6:00 P.M.	Dinner and meeting at Oak Restaurant, Manchester. Dinner at 6:00 P.M., business meeting and program at 7:00 P.M. The June program is not yet finalized.
18-21 JUL 18		SCV 2018 National Reunion. Cool Springs Marriot Hotel. Franklin, TN. See National website for details.
24 JUL 18	6:00 P.M.	Dinner and meeting at Oak Restaurant, Manchester. Dinner at 6:00 P.M., business meeting and program at 7:00 P.M. The July program is not yet finalized.

Starnes Brigade SCV Camp meeting dates & places

- #72 – Cheatham Camp 4th Tuesday at Oak Restaurant, Manchester at 7:00 p.m. (6:00 p.m. dinner).
- #152 – John Massey Camp 2nd Thursday at Fayetteville Municipal Auditorium at 7:00 p.m.
- #155 – J.B. Cowan 2nd Tuesday at the Gondola Restaurant, Hwy. 55, Tullahoma at 7:00 p.m.
- #297 – Marshall Rangers 2nd Saturday at the Marshall County Museum in Lewisburg at 2:00 p.m.
- #386 – Cumberland Mountain Rifles 3rd Tuesday, Old County Building in Tracy City at 6:30 p.m.
- #1411 – A.P. Stewart 4th Tuesday, Western Sirloin in Decherd at 6:00 p.m.
- #1615 – McMinnville 3rd Tuesday, Magness Memorial Library at 7:00 p.m.
- #2094 – Capt Abner S. Boone 1st Sunday Old House Hqtrs Hwy 231 N. Fayetteville in Belleville at 1:00 p.m.

When you can, please visit your brothers' camp meetings. They will be glad to see you.