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.

Lt. General Stephen Dill Lee, UCV Commander General

In this edition of the Escort...

Reports from Division Officers

Brigade Commander Reports

News from Around the Division

Articles from Lee Millar, Bryan Green, & Barbara Parsons
Tennessee Division Compatriots,

I pray you all are doing well as we have gone from summer and into fall. It goes without saying that this past summer, and 2020 as a whole, has been one big roller coaster. But as Southerners always do, we have persevered and will press forward.

As you all know, we were unable to hold our 2020 Tennessee Division Reunion in Greeneville, TN due to restrictions in place because of Covid-19. The members of John Hunt Morgan, Camp 2053, who had worked tirelessly to make the weekend of August 21 and 22 a success, and put together a great Reunion at the General Morgan Inn. Sadly, three weeks before the Reunion word was received that we would need an alternative. Thank you to Tim Massey and all the members of Camp 2053, and we hope to hold our Reunion in Greeneville in the near future.

With the restrictions in Greeneville, TN, Cumberland Mtn. Rifles, Camp 386 in Tracy City volunteered to host the Reunion. There was excellent representation from across the state, and we were able to conduct much needed business, including elections. Thank you to everyone who made the effort to attend the Reunion.

Rather than starting by focusing on the negatives surrounding us, I wish to focus on the positives. First and foremost, the most positive aspect is we know that God is on our side, the side of right. He has seen fit to allow us to be born and/or live in the greatest place on Earth, our beloved Southland. We should not take this for granted, especially considering the atmosphere in many other parts of the country, and world. Not everyone has been blessed to live in the land of sweet tea and regardless cornbread, so don’t take it for granted.

The National Confederate Museum at Elms Springs in Columbia, TN is getting ever closer to opening. Having been blessed with a tour of the museum back in July, I was impressed by the facility and personally look forward to the grand opening. If able to do so, I encourage you to donate to the museum, and help make this a must for those who wish to hear, see and learn the whole truth of the War Between the States. Just two weeks ago the statue of our beloved President Jefferson Davis was set in place and will be dedicated on Saturday October 10, 2020 at 2:00 pm Central Time. Mark your calendar as this is an event you do not want to miss.

There are great things taking shape just a few miles away from Elm Springs in Chapel Hill, TN. As an addition to the already magnificent Forrest Boyhood Home, the planned Forrest Hall Events Center at the FBH is moving forward. Wouldn’t it be great to have a facility at the FBH to have the Forrest Homecoming rain or shine? The potential for the events center is endless to host weddings, reunions, mini concerts, dinners or even the Tennessee Division Reunion there. Any and all contributions are appreciated, especially if it is built with Lincoln fives and Grant fifties. Let’s see this thing through and make it a reality.

Two subjects that are on everyone’s minds are the Forrest Bust and our Tennessee SCV license plates. We know those who are against us want both of these gone.

- Forrest Bust: The movement to remove the bust through legal means has been stopped. Sadly, in July Governor Bill Lee took steps to surround the legal process and change the rules to fit his agenda. As you may have seen on news reports, the SCV filed suit to stop his actions, and thus stop the removal of the bust. This fight will continue to ensure the bust stays in the State Capitol. There are numerous members of the Tennessee legislature who oppose the removal of the bust and are on our side.

- SCV License Plates: Tennessee was blessed to be able to have a license plate with the SCV logo on it years ago. Since then, in addition to the automobile plate, we were able to have a motorcycle plate as well. The money generated has helped restore numerous historical items at the Tennessee State Museum, particularly original Confederate flags.

Continued —>
Also, through this revenue funding for many monuments, markers and other projects has been available. But even with all the good done by the revenue from our plate, it is always under attack. Each beginning of a new legislative session we are faced with a new round of bills to stop the availability of the plate. We have no reason to believe this coming year will be any different. If you do not currently have an SCV license plate on your automobile or motorcycle, please get one now.

There are many ways for us to fight back against these attacks. Although some avenues are beneficial in this fight, due to our current status with the government we cannot be involved, or even discuss these. However, our best approach is to be prepared to contact our state legislators when the time comes. Brigade Commanders will be contacting their camps with instructions on how and when to do this. In contacting our legislators concerning the Forrest Bust and SCV license plate be direct, brief to the point, and respectful.

Franklin and Clarksville have been contentious to say the least. In Clarksville a Confederate monument was removed and the sign honoring Confederate veterans, both done illegally absent a waiver from the THC. The good news is, after taking the necessary steps toward bringing this to the attention of the THC, this issue has been resolved. The monument is being put back in place and the proper signage back up. Thank you to Commander Gary Libano and TN Division JAG H. Edward Phillips for their hard work and dedication in this situation. However, the fight in Franklin continues with protests against the monuments, along with a movement to have the Confederate flag removed from the Williamson County seal. Through it all, our compatriots have been steadfast in the fight. SCV members, along with many non-members, have stepped up to contact those who are in places of influence in order to put a stop to this attempted eradication of Southern heritage. This fight is not over by a long shot, with more information on Franklin coming soon. As you know, in battle you do not let the enemy know your plans. But the fight is still going and will continue to be waged.

I have had the privilege to attend meetings and events camps have hosted or participated in. From East to West Tennessee and everywhere between, our compatriots are reenacting, doing living history, cleaning headstones and monuments, handing out recruiting material, flagging, and more. New camps are forming, and defunct camps are restarting. I had the honor of attending the 2020 Tennessee Mechanized Cavalry State Annual in Hohanwald, TN and ride on the route taken by the Army of Tennessee. In all these cases I can assure you that our ancestors are being honored and our Southern history and heritage is being shared.

The Tennessee Division is moving forward in the preservation of our Southern heritage, particularly that of the great state of Tennessee. We have what I view as the greatest Division in the Confederation. Our members are proud, passionate and steadfast in promoting Southern heritage and carrying on the good name of our ancestors. Let us all work together, put aside differences, and spread the good word of truth of our beloved Southland.

God bless each of you, God bless the South.

Respectfully, your servant in preserving Southern heritage.

Joey Nolan, Commander
Tennessee Division
Sons of Confederate Veterans
Compatriots of The Tennessee Division SCV,

I pray that this issue of Forrest’s Escort finds each of you healthy and safe from the recent unpleasantness.

I want to begin by saying that although I regret not having our Annual Reunion at The John Hunt Morgan Inn back in April, I was delighted to see all my friends and Compatriots in Grundy County in late August.

I am humbled by the trust and respect that comes along with being elected to 1st Lieutenant Commander. My promise to each of you is that I will lead by example and work daily to preserve the good name of our Confederate ancestors. Additionally, I am going to fight on any battlefield necessary to smite the enemies of our Southern Heritage. Our enemies have become emboldened and persistent to the point of callously using deadly violence and cruel vandalism to promote their Marxist Agenda.

The DEC meeting held in Knoxville 9–26–20 in Knoxville was a success. At Commander Nolan’s request, I will remain the Division Membership Committee Chairman and 2nd Lieutenant Commander John Blankenship will chair the Division Monument Committee. Both committees are crucial to the Tennessee Division’s success. I will continue to vigorously recruit new members from Memphis to Mountain City. The ultimate goal concerning monuments is to have a complete list of all monuments concerning Southern Heritage with GPS Coordinates and current pictures concerning the condition of the monuments.

Also, The Tennessee Division CERT team was doubly funded from the original request per my suggestion and Memphis Brigade Commander Lee Millar’s motion that was passed unanimously. We will have trained CERT teams in each grand division of Tennessee to respond to vandalism to our sacred monuments. A big shout out to CERT leader Tom Meadows for a job well done!

I feel compelled to remind Everyone that our Tennessee Division License Plate is critical to our continued success. Buy A Tag Save A Flag has never been more important! Our Leftist Marxist enemies will try, once again, to make our license plate extinct but WE WILL PERSEVERE!

And yes, our beloved Forrest Bust is under attack, but I feel confident that, with the counsel of our attorney and a lot of hard work, WE WILL PERSEVERE!

Deo Vindice.
G. Frank Heathman
1st Lieutenant Commander, Tennessee Division, SCV
Greetings Compatriots,

First, I would like to say thank you for support during the recent election. I am honored to serve you in the office of 2nd Lt. Commander. It is very humbling to have such a role in the great Sons of Confederate Veterans organization.

Secondly, we have a lot of work to do. Our heritage is still and will remain under attack. We must not only continue the fight to defend our Confederate Heritage, but we must also remain on the offensive. We have lost some battles and we have won some as well. We must never give up, we must keep pressing forward. Continue the CHARGE.

I am in the process of compiling a database of our Confederate Monuments across the state of Tennessee. This database will be confidential and will not be published online. The database will be very useful to us as an organization to not only protect, but to also maintain our monuments. This database will include statues, plaques, signs, etc related to the Confederacy. I will be reaching out to Brigade Commanders and Camps to assist in the collecting of this information.

Also, the next Tennessee Division Reunion will be held April 16 and 17, 2021 in Humboldt, TN. My home camp, Col. R.M. Russell 209, will be hosting this reunion. Hotels are about 12–15 minutes south in Jackson. Please make plans to attend this event. You can find more information on the website: www.scv2021.com

If I can be of assistance to you, please feel free to reach out to me.

God Bless,

John A. Blankenship
2nd Lt. Commander, TN Division
SCV Life Member
SCV Mechanized Cavalry Member
Tennessee Division Reunion
April 16 & 17, 2021
Humboldt, Tennessee
Hosted by: Col. R.M. Russell Camp 209 (www.scv2021.com)

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Make checks payable and mail to:
Col. R.M. Russell Camp 209
210 N. 19th Avenue
Humboldt, TN 38343

Grand Total $__________

Host Hotel: Baymont by Wyndham Jackson, 465 Vann Drive, Jackson, TN. Call 877-361-2496 to reserve your room. Tell them you are reserving a room with the Sons of Confederate Veterans room block. Rooms are limited. You must reserve by April 1st to get the room discount. Two Night Total: $204.26. There are many other Jackson hotels to choose from as well.
James A. Birch
by Barbara B. Parsons, Past TN Division UDC President

In 1914-1915, the state of Tennessee sent out questionnaires to Tennessee Civil War Veterans. All completed forms were returned by 1922, and contain a wealth of information. The papers have been published in the five volume series, “The Tennessee Civil War Veterans Questionnaires.” In Volume #1, pages 317-319, the answers to the questionnaire of Lee T. Billingsley of Pikeville, Tennessee, are found. Question #45 asked, “Give the names of all the members of your Company you can remember.” Billingsley listed the men in Tullos Rangers, known as Company F 2nd Tenn. Cavalry. At the end of the long list he added: “Colored or Negro servants for the Company: George Tulloss, James A. Birch, James Ned, James Taylor, Bird Terry, George Close, and Samuel Gallimore.”

A native of Tennessee, James A. Birch was born October 15, 1842, and never married. He is listed in the U.S. Census records of Bledsoe County for 1850, 1860, 1870, and 1880. In 1850, James Birch lived with his mother, Mahaly Birch and sister, Sarah. In 1860, he was a farm worker boarding with J. C. Roberson. In 1870, and 1880, he is living with his mother, Malala, and Sarah J. Birch, his sister who had been crippled most of her life. One of the many letters requesting that James receive a Confederate Soldiers pension states that, “he was always a free born citizen, never a slave.” One way to confirm this is that the 1850 and 1860 US Census only list “free citizens” of each county.

He was enrolled in Confederate service as a company servant. On the night of October 8, 1861, Birch was severely wounded while he was trying to help get a wagon out of a creek where it had become mired down. The wagon turned over on him striking him on the right side of the head. He lost the sight in his right eye from this accident. He was given a ten day furlough. Though wounded and unwell, he returned to his command the day his furlough expired and remained with the army until the Battle of Fishing Creek, Kentucky, where Gen. Zollicoffer was killed.

James escaped the Federal soldiers about the last of January, 1862, and along with a number of his company made their way back to their homes in Tennessee. Soon after arriving home he was taken sick with camp fever, and was confined to his bed for many weeks. He was totally unfit for service and was given a discharge by Dr. Edwin T. Tallaferro, surgeon of the 26th Tennessee infantry, and later, Speaker of the Tennessee House of Representatives 1877-1879. Dr. Tallaferro reported that the skin on James Birch’s back and hips had worn through the sores of which remain on his body today.

James lost his health and eyesight in the Confederate service. Unable to return to the army, James still found a way to help the families of Bledsoe County. He was charged with safekeeping large amounts of corn and stock for those who were off serving in the Confederate army, and after the end of the war he returned everything to those who had entrusted their valuables to him. Among the descriptions on supporting documents, James is described as being, “distinguished citizen, honest, respected, having confidence of all good citizens, truthful, intelligent, industrious, honest and thoroughly reliable.” Some of those giving supporting statements for James Birch’s pension application were, James S. Ferguson, James L. Rigsby, Will S, Loyd, W. D. Spears, Dr. D. B. Hall, A. T. King, and Dr. J. B. Smith. All except Mr. Spears are among the best citizens of Bledsoe County; Mr. Spears is a well-known lawyer of Jasper, Tennessee. Physician’s statement from Dr. R. A. Sloan of Hamilton County is also included.

James Birch was approved for Confederate Soldier's Application for Pension #1092. This is a soldier’s pension, not a Colored Man’s Confederate Pension as they were not given in Tennessee until 1921, fourteen years after James Birch died. On April 14, 1907, James A. Birch died. He is buried in the Humble Cemetery, Lees Station, Bledsoe County, Tennessee. If you have further information please contact TN Black Confederate Project at ehpbbp@citlink.net

Editors Note:
I included this profile of James Birch in the Ancestors section, even though he is not the ancestor of the author or one of our members. Mr. Birch was never married with no children, so his legacy of service can only be carried on by those of us today. He may not be a blood ancestor of mine, but he deserves the same respect and for that I will hold his memory as dearly as my own Confederate kin.
About 8 or so years ago, I got a hold of a photocopy of a photocopy of a photocopy of a story in the East Tennessee Historical Society Journal titled; “Who Held Aloft This Old Banner: The Flag of the ‘Mountain Rifles from Grainger’”. In the summer of 2014, I had the opportunity to attend a seminar at the Historical Society and had that copy with me. I made some inquiries and in late August 2014, I received a clean copy of the article. I will make this a Readers’ Digest version of the article.

On August 29, 1861, what was to become Company K, 37th Tennessee Infantry, CSA was formed by James K. McAnally, who was elected Captain. The Company received their orders to report for duty and the County residents gathered at Noe’s Ferry along the Holston River to bid farewell to family and friends. The Company adopted the name “Mountain Rifles”. Just before shoving off to war, the Ladies of the County presented the men of the Mountain Rifles a flag. Chelsey Jarnigan, who was elected Lieutenant, accepted the flag on behalf of the men. The first engagement was at the Battle of Mill Springs, KY but had arrive too late and thus provided cover for Confederate forces that were reorganizing, then it was sent to Shiloh, but once again, arrive too late. Company K found itself in different places for battle and fought gallantly at Murfreesboro where there were so many casualties that it was merged with the 15th Infantry just before the Chattanooga campaign. The 37th/15th will see many more battles during the remainder of the War to be finally merged with other units to make up the 4th Consolidated Infantry at the end of the War. The men of what was left of Company K, 37th Tennessee Infantry surrendered along with the rest of the Army of Tennessee in Greensboro, NC, on May 1, 1865, and then started that long walk back to Grainger County taking about 2 weeks of travel.

Now that the brief history of the unit was given, what about their beautiful flag that the ladies presented to them? The flag itself disappeared from the Company during the war at an unknown time.

A soldier from Ohio sold the flag to Mr. W.M. Heath of Philadelphia in 1869 claiming it was captured by the Army of the Tennessee or Army of the Cumberland. Mr. Heath kept the flag for 7 years before selling it to a collector, which in turn put an ad in the Philadelphia Record in 1911. A Mr. Richard D Steuart of Baltimore bought the flag and placed it in his collection of Civil War artifacts. In 1948, Mr. Steuart donated his vast collection of Confederate artifacts, including the Grainger Mountain Rifles flag to the Virginia Historical Society (VHS). Time went by and the history of the flag was lost to those holding it. In 1979, the VHS had a detailed study of its history. The documentation of the study also fell between the cracks at the VHS. 15 years later, the documentation of the study and history was found and eventually made its way to the East Tennessee Historical Society (ETHS). In 2003, apparently all the pieces of the puzzle were put together and a group of the ETHS who went to the VHS and the 2 groups got together and put closure to the flag’s history. The flag can be seen at the VHS by appointment. The flag was made of woolen material and originally had gold fringe. The flag was an eleven star First National. In the center of the blue canton, the phrase, “Our Right is Our Might”. On the center horizontal bar, the phrase, “Mountain Rifles from Grainger”. A picture of the flag appeared in a 1911 Philadelphia Record article. The flag was being held by two ladies and it appears that the flag is 4 foot by 6 foot. Below is a picture of the flag which is currently held by the VHS.
The War Between the States touched almost every place in Tennessee, and towns like Collierville, located on the historic Memphis-Charleston railroad line in Shelby County, have their own Civil War stories to tell.

In the fall of 1863 Confederate forces had won a great victory at the Battle of Chickamauga in northern Georgia and had now bottled up the Union Army of the Cumberland in Chattanooga. The North began rushing reinforcements there and the Memphis & Charleston RR was needed as a vital east-west link.

Conflict came to the doorsteps of Collierville residents as Confederate cavalry operations responded to disrupt these Union supply lines and communications. On October 11, 1863, 3000 Confederate troopers of General N. B. Forrest’s cavalry, under the command of Brig. Gen. James R. Chalmers, swooped down on the small Union garrison protecting Collierville. The Confederates chased the Federals into their fortifications, captured wagons of supplies, and tore up the tracks east of Collierville.

Suddenly, in what proved to be a stroke of luck for the Union army, a supply train carrying Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman and his headquarters staff and escort regiment --an estimated 260 men--pulled into the Collierville depot. Chalmers had been unaware that Sherman’s unscheduled train from Memphis was coming--in fact Sherman was headed east to review his troops at Corinth, Mississippi, before they moved to Chattanooga to help the besieged Army of the Cumberland.

Gen. Sherman quickly sent his troops from the train to push back the Confederate assault while he ordered local commander Col. D. C. Anthony to refuse General Chalmers’s demand for surrender. Soon the Confederates were close enough to fire volleys into the depot, General Sherman’s train, and Fort Collierville, and Sherman ordered the burning of nearby buildings that potentially sheltered enemy fire. The Confederates captured the rear of the train and set fire to a portion of it and even captured Sherman’s favorite horse, Dolly, but they never gained control. Union commanders ordered reinforcements to rush to the town. When Chalmers learned of 5000 approaching Federal reinforcements from Germantown, he withdrew his troops, to fight another day.

Losses on both sides totaled over 200. The Federal dead were buried and later removed to the National Cemetery in Memphis. One unknown Confederate soldier and 58 other Confederates are buried in the town’s Magnolia Cemetery.

Despite the damage, General Sherman was back on track, headed to Corinth, in a day. But the encounter at the Collierville depot taught the Union general that dependence on this railroad was unwise. He reported to General Grant that the Federal advance in the Deep South should never be dependent on the railroad and should depend instead on whatever could be taken from the countryside.

Sherman’s burning of the town was also the beginning of his scorched-earth policy towards the South: that he must deprive the South of its comfort and resources wherever possible. These lessons that Sherman learned at this battle became part of his basic strategy in later campaigns of 1864. Collierville was the beginning in the “March to the Sea”.

SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLE AND PICTURES ON THE LESSER KNOWN BATTLES, SKIRMISHES, AND RAIDS TO THE EDITOR TODAY FOR FUTURE PUBLICATION!
HELP OTHERS LEARN OUR IMPORTANT HISTORY!!
Mountain Brigade Commander Steve Troxler

N.B. Forrest Camp #3
Meeting Location: To Be Announced
Date: Oct. 27, 2020 @ 6:30 pm
Commander: James Skipper jpskipper@epbfi.com
Adjunct: Doc Ashley scv-n-b-forrest-camp3@googlegroups.com

Memphis Brigade Commander Lee Millar

N.B. Forrest Camp #3
Meeting Location: To Be Announced
Date: Oct. 27, 2020 @ 6:30 pm
Commander: James Skipper jpskipper@epbfi.com
Adjunct: Doc Ashley scv-n-b-forrest-camp3@googlegroups.com

All of our camps have resumed their monthly meetings now, and with no reports of any illnesses. Our big news is that the Forrest Camp 215 has re-erected the Jefferson Davis Monument at the Confederate Museum at Elm Springs. This was one of the monuments taken down by the City of Memphis. Through our persistent and unyielding efforts, we have saved the monument, and now it is proudly standing tall over the Southland again. Thanks especially to camp member Lee Millar and our attorney SCV member Edward Phillips and others for our successful campaign. The grand re-unveiling is scheduled for Sat, Oct 10, at the CS Museum.

The Division Camp-of-the-Year DeWitt-Smith-Jobe 1637 (Bartlett) recently hosted CiC Larry McCluney as their guest speaker. Commander McCluney’s talk was on the current ‘State of the Confederacy’. The Lee Camp 1640 (Germantown) has a field trip to the Parker’s Crossroads Battlefield coming up this month. The Collierville Wigfall Greys 1560 are engaged in a new fight with the BLM’s over the Confederate monument in the Town Square. Successful so far in fending off any move to remove it. The Simonton-Wilcox camp will participate in the Covington Town Fair coming up with a recruiting booth. The scheduled Heritage Day was morphed into a fair to sidestep issues with protestors. The James Chalmers Camp 1312 (Bartlett) is working on their next CW Show for March 2021. The Brigade is off to a running start in this renewed activity in spite of the continuing Chinese virus. Wear your Confederate mask for a while longer.
Sam Watkins’ Brigade Commander Matt Singleton

Sam Watkins Camp 29, Columbia, Tn. Meets at historic Elm Springs in Columbia, Tennessee every 3rd Tuesday @7pm. The Camp Officers are Commander Kenneth Lovett (mrsbk1@yahoo.com), and Adjutant Jason Boshers (jasonboshers@charter.net). The Samuel R. Watkins Camp #29 has been growing. We are up to 55 members and continue to grow. The camp has been blessed to have such great speakers as newly-elected Tennessee Division Commander Joey Nolan who spoke on being Southern. Dennis Stubblefield who spoke on his camps namesake Thomas Benton Smith. Cathy Wood who gave an update on what is going on in Pulaski with Sam Davis.

The camp has recently sponsored a Civil War Trails Marker that is in Rose Hill Cemetery. Rose Hill Cemetery has a very nice Confederate Section. The camp just voted to place a Southern Cross of Honor and have a service for the last Confederate to die in Maury County and you can look for that to take place in a few months. The camp has supported the Nathaniel Cheairs Camp in their Cemetery Walk and the Athenaeum during a recent Ghost Tour.

Major Nathaniel Cheairs Camp 2138, Spring Hill, Tn. This Camp meets every 2nd Tuesday in the Annex Building behind Rippavilla in Spring Hill, TN. The Camp Officers are Commander Barrett Severance (barrett.severance9@gmail.com) and Adjutant William Pomeroy (wpomeroy1@gmail.com) The Nathan Cheairs Camp has been busy. They’ve been maintaining the Historic Spring Hill Cemetery. They sponsored the re-charter of The Antionette Polk Chapter 20 of the OCR. They set up a both to raise funds for their cemetery, and in September they teamed up with the Franklin Civil War roundtable and The Antionette Polk Chapter 20 of the OCR, with the support of Sam Watkins Camp to put on the 1st annual Historic Spring Hill Cemetery Tour, which helped raise funds for the continued upkeep of the cemetery. The camp also added new members and continue to work with Rippavilla the home of the Camp’s namesake.

Col George H. Nixon Camp 214 Lawrenceburg, TN. Camp officers are Commander Johnny Hartsfield haertsfield.johnny@yahoo.com Adjutant Robert Gobble rgobble1985@gmail.com The camp has had a total of 2 meetings this past quarter. July meeting consisted of voting and accepting new membership in the camp. Robert Gobble and Quincy Burleson were favorably voted and accepted as new members in the camp. Camp officers were also elected with the following individuals serving in their respective offices: Commander Johnny Hartsfield, 1st Lt. Commander Chris Foster, Adjutant Robert Gobble, Sgt. At. Arms Tim Foster, Color Sergeant Quincy Burleson. August meeting was opened, and certificates of membership presented to the following new members: Robert Gobble, Quincy Burleson, Brody Fisher and Tim Foster. Building cleanup was performed at the Porter’s Chapel Church Fellowship Hall where the camp meetings are held on 9-19-2020. No other events or meetings held.

General John C. Brown Camp 112, Pulaski Tn. The camp officers are Commander Tony Townsend no email contact and show no adjutant at this time.

Battle of Shiloh Camp 1458, Shiloh Tn. The camp meets at the Shiloh Methodist Church the 1st Thursday of every month at 6pm. The camp officers are Commander Larry Deberry larry@shilohtours.com Adjutant Stephen Reed shiloh51tn@gmail.com

Roderick warhorse Camp 2072 Spring Hill, Tn. Contact Camp Commander Roger Leonard fishing4u33@yahoo.com for meeting time and location.

Rawdon-Spears Camp 2113 Summertown, Tn. Camp officers are Commander Spike Spears scv2113@yahoo.com Adjutant William “Bear” Brewer scv2113@yahoo.com please contact one of them for meeting time and location. The Camp has had the most growth in the brigade. They are continuing to make progress on the Veterans memorial park in Summertown, Tn.

On October 3rd, the Brigade held a C.E.R.T training class at Historic Elm Springs. Tom Meadows came in and trained members of Camps 2138, 2113, & 214. The members learned proper stone cleaning and maintenance procedures. These men will take what they learned down to their respective camps. I encourage everyone to have one of these training days.

I am extremely honored to be the Commander of this Brigade; it is represented by fine southern men who live the charge given to us by Stephen D. Lee every day.

Pictures Continued on Next Page —>
On September 12th the Colonel Cyrus Sugg Camp had its first meeting since the beginning of the pandemic. We voted to continue to have monthly meetings unless conditions change for the worse.

On October 24th our camp, along with representatives from Camp 225 out of Clarksville, will conduct a clean-up project at the Sugg Family Cemetery outside of Adams. Kevin Suggs, descendant of Colonel Suggs and Camp member, will be in town from Michigan to take part.

Tim Henson is our new Camp Commander. Wilson Mckee is 1st Lieutenant and Walt Hannabass is Adjutant.
Starnes’ Brigade Commander Earl Wes Pullen

- Members of Camps 386 placed flags on the graves of Grundy County Confederate soldiers on Confederate Memorial Day. We have also located additional Confederate graves.

- Camp 386 placed a float in the Tracy City and Monteagle parades. Although there were a handful of spectators who did not like the flags, an overwhelming majority cheered, clapped, encouraged and showed support.

- In July there were two causes of concern for our monuments, flag and building in Tracy City. Both times members of Camp 386 and many concerned citizens stepped up to guard against potential vandalism, theft and/or violence. There was a strong presence of law enforcement on both occasions.

- Two members attended the SCV National Reunion in St. Augustine, FL to be sure the Camp was represented.

- We have had some great speakers at our meetings over the Summer. Ed Butler, Billy Walker and Tom Wood all provided informative and enjoyable programs.

- With restrictions due to Covid-19 in Greeneville, TN, with less than three weeks to do so, Camp 386 hosted the 2020 Tennessee Division Reunion in Tracy City, TN. We were honored to have members from across the state attend the Reunion, with State Representative Paul Sherrill visiting and speaking before those in attendance.

Cumberland Mtn. Rifles, Camp 386
Location: 51 Depot St. – Tracy City, TN
Meetings: 3rd Tuesday – 6:30 pm CT

Brigade Commanders
Submit your reports and pictures to the editor for publication in each edition of the Escort so that the Camps in your Brigade can be recognized!

Camp Commanders and Adjutants
Keep up with your Camp events and submit timely reports to your Brigade Commander for publication in each edition of the Escort!
Vaughn’s Brigade Commander Tim Massey

Camps of Vaughn’s Brigade have resumed meeting and although meeting places may have changed, the men of the Brigade are still working to “Forward the Colors and Keep the Charge”.

The Maj. James T. Huff Camp was setup over the past weekend at the Popcorn Sutton Festival. There was great turnout and a great opportunity to reach members of the public with the message of the SCV.

The Bradford-Rose Camp took part in the Hazzardfest 2020 at Bull’s Gap Speedway over the first weekend in October. There was a huge turnout and a lot of good publicity for the Bradford-Rose Camp and the SCV! The Camp is also planning on another Christmas Supper at Hale Springs Inn on December 19, 2020. More information will be released shortly.

The James Keeling Camp will be hosting East Hill Cemetery Ghost Walk on October 16 and 17 from 7–9 pm in Bristol, TN. Everyone is welcome to attend!

The Mosby Camp is collecting donations to have an auction to hopefully be held some time this month. Contact Commander Ed Hill or any other officer to help them out!

The Brigade was also honored with several Division Awards at the Reunion in Tracy City. Mike Beck from the Bradford-Rose Camp was honored with the TN Division Icon Award. The Bradford-Rose Camp also received Best Newsletter and Best Website Awards. R.J. Wilkerson of the Morgan Camp was honored with the Jefferson Davis Award and I was honored to receive the Edward Carmack Media Award.

The Brigade was also honored to take a lead in the Confederate Air Force Flyover at Bristol Motor Speedway and the parade of vehicles flying the Confederate flag that circled the Speedway and the parking lot.

Vaughn’s Brigade also has a new and improved website with contact information for all of our Camps and each Commander and Adjutant. Head on over to our website at http://vaughnsbrigadescv.weebly.com/ and check us out!

Planning is already under way for the Vaughn’s Brigade Supper in early 2021. We will be celebrating with a Longstreet-Morgan Supper to commemorate two Generals who had a lasting impact upon our portion of East Tennessee. More information will be released as details are finalized!
McLemore’s Brigade Commander Rick Revel

- Gen. Robert H. Hatton Camp #723
  Lebanon, TN
- Sam Davis Camp #1293
  Brentwood, TN
- Thomas Benton Smith Camp #2177
  Portland, TN. Meets 1st Tuesday of the month at Portland Library, 303 Portland Boulevard
  Portland, TN 37148 6:00 PM
- Pvt. Andrew Jackson Brown Camp #2293
  Cotton Town... Camp commander does not do computers.
- Joe Johnston Camp #28
  Nashville, TN. Meets 2nd Thursday of the month. Meeting place to be announced. Restaurant where
  meetings were held is closed because of Covid.
- Gen. William B. Bate Camp #34
  Gallatin, TN. Meeting 2nd Thursday each month @ Rosemont mansion, 810 South Water Avenue
  Gallatin, Tennessee 37066.
- Murfreesboro Camp #33
  Murfreesboro, TN. Meets at 10:00 a.m. the third Saturday of each month at the Sam Davis Home in
  Smyrna
- Col. Randal W. McGavock Camp #1713
  Hermitage, TN. Meets 1st Tuesday of the month at the Hermitage Cafeteria. Presently

~Two notifications were sent to the eight camps in the brigade to submit their updates on meeting locations, times and officers.
Five responded and three did not, with no reply from camps #2293, #1293 and #723, I need updated contact info. Covid-19
has disrupted camp meetings without a doubt, so that could be the reason for tardiness in responding to my emails. Beyond the
emails sent, I have no further contact info. ~

~My first visit as brigade commander will be to camp #1713 on October 6th at 6:30 PM~

Commander Stover needs all Camps of the Jeffrey Forrest Brigade to contact him immediately!!
Updated information is needed! Commander Stover’s contact information can be found in the
Brigade Commanders Contact section.

Sons of Confederate Veterans
#SCV
Most camps were shut down this spring/summer due to the Governor’s order, but a few did a little bit of stuff, or have things planned for this fall. Some of our camps plan to be at Elm Springs/Headquarters for the unveiling of the Jefferson Davis statue on 10 October.

*General George Gibbs Dibrell camp 875.
Emanuel England Commander.
Adjutant Emmet Bear.
Meets monthly, 1st Tuesday 6 pm at the White County Library.

*Wheeler-Long camp 709.
Vic Holmes Commander, email: gotomanvick@gmail.com
Meets monthly, 4th Thursday, 6pm at the Coke Ovens Museum.

*SCV Jim Davis camp 1425.
Ronnie Yeatch Commander, email: Rveatch13@hotmail.com
James Christian Adjutant, email: jachristian1970@gmail.com
Meets monthly 4th Saturday, time 9 am, no certain meeting location because of covid-19, Macon County TN.

*Savage–Goodner camp 1513.
Mike Corley Commander, email: mcorley@mtng.com
Adjutant: Kevin Bandy, email: kevinbandy68@gmail.com
Meets 2nd Thursday, 6:30 pm, at Dekalb County Complex/UT Extension Office 712 South Congress Blvd Smithville TN.

*Gainesboro Invincibles camp 1685.
Rich Garcia Commander, email: rlg1029@icloud.com
Ray Myers Adjutant, email: myerssupply@twlakes.net
Meets 3rd Thursday, 6 pm pre meeting supper, meeting starts 7 pm at “the Bridge Church” 110 W. Hull Ave. Gainesboro TN recently attended the Granville Fall Festival, a big recruitment opportunity for the SCV & OCR. Fixin to attend on 10 October Memorial service for OCR member Eleanor Battersby “Granny,” who crossed the river to rest in the shade of the trees just 6 weeks before her 104th birthday. She was very intelligent concerning “the War.” She read a lot.

*Sgt William A. Hamby camp 1750.
Greg Davis Commander, email: patch52748@yahoo
Meets 2nd Monday 6 pm, at Old Fashion Independent Baptist Church, 10th Street Crossville, TN.

*Dillard–Judd camp 1828
Mike Williams Commander, email mike@champferguson.com
Adjutant Clark Carlton, email: clarkcarlton@charter.net
Meets most months, 3rd Monday, 5:30 to eat, 7 pm meeting starts, at Golden Corral on Interstate Drive Cookeville TN. Usually has a great lineup of speakers throughout the year for meetings. Fixin to start planning out a Memorial service for a well known local man, who was killed at Ravin’s Cliff.

*Myers Zollicoffer camp 1990.
Jimmy Vincent Commander.
Mike Boswell Adjutant, email: scvcamp1990@gmail.com
Meet 3rd Thursday, 7 pm, at the Am Legion Quonset Hut, S. Church St., Livingston TN. They recently held a Memorial service for two Confederate veterans.

*Standing Stone/Captain Champ Ferguson camp 2014.
Greg Ray Commander, email: rgreg971@gmail.com
Meets 2nd Monday, 6 pm, at the Monterey Train Depot. On 24 October (10 am) the camp wishes to invite all to a Memorial service for a Confederate veteran, buried at Pine Ridge Cemetery.

*8th TN Cavalry CSA camp 2296.
Bryan Rodgers Adjutant, email: brodgers9829@gmail.com
Meets 3rd Sunday, 7 pm, at “the Man Cave,” at J.D. Burgess’ place.

*13th Tennessee Cavalry camp 2304.
Norman Angel Commander, email: charlesnangel39@yahoo.com
Adjutant CJ Angel, email: chuckchuckwolf@hotmail.com
Meets 2nd Thursday 6 pm at Bledsoe County Rescue Squad Pikeville TN.

*Pvt William L. Steakley camp 2307.
Clarence Farmer Commander clarencefarmer1970@gmail.com
Meets 2nd Tuesday, 5:30, at Fall Creek Falls Community Center. Recent activity: Flagging & cleaning veteran’s grave markers.
I am happy to report that the C.E.R.T. program is gaining momentum across the division. For those that are not aware, the motto and driving force of our program is, "To preserve, protect and do no harm." We clean our monuments and headstones to eliminate the effects of mother nature or vandalism.

We have set up programs, some of which are Hands-On to train and educate our members on the no-harm technique. Many camps have sent representatives to our training sessions. The most recent was set up by the Sam Watkins Brigade. The class learned about general headstone maintenance and they had the honor, after being requested, to clean the base of the newly installed Jefferson Davis monument. We had members from four different camps attend. They will take the information they learned back to their camps to complete training. The General Hatton Camp in Lebanon Tennessee has been trained and is now expanding on that. They have cleaned the Confederate Monument in Cedar Grove Cemetery along with numerous graves. When the work is completed there, they intend to move out into the community to seek out and clean Confederate monuments and headstones in their area.

CERT also had the honor of being called to do a training and cleaning session of the Forrest Monuments in Chapel Hill. Camp members from Nathan Bedford Forrest #3 in Chattanooga, NBF Boyhood Home Camp Commander, and members from Murfreesboro Camp #33 attended the session. This was a high-profile session. Many people from town stopped by to ask who we were and what we were doing. After talking with the members there, some were even seeking membership in the SCV. We are growing fast and morale is high among those who have been trained. If you would like for me to come to your camp or to set up a Hands-On training session in your area, please contact me.

You're humble servant,
Tom Meadows
CERT coordinator
President of the TN Society Order of Confederate Rose presented a check for $1,300.00 to the TN Division toward the building of the Forrest Hall Events Center. The FHEC is to be built at the Forrest Boyhood Home in Chapel, TN. The money was raised by the OCR through the TN Mechanized Cavalry Annual on September 12, 2020.

Longstreet-Zollicoffer Camp 87, Sons of Confederate Veterans, welcomed new member Arnold G. Pesterfield Jr. into its ranks at its August meeting held at Confederate Memorial Hall (Bleak House) in Knoxville. Pictured L-R are Commander Earl Smith, new member Arnold G. Pesterfield Jr and Adjutant John Hitt.

John Hitt, Adjutant for Longstreet-Zollicoffer Camp 87, Sons of Confederate Veterans, was awarded The Jefferson Davis Award for his efforts in recruiting new members.

Published four times yearly
Send submissions to:
Joshua Cameron, Editor
joshuacameronscv@gmail.com

Submissions are encouraged! Camp photos, activities, news, and stories about your efforts to support our Charge are all welcome!

Deadlines
October 5th, 2020
December 7th, 2020
February 1st, 2021
June 7th, 2021
Longstreet-Zollicoffer Camp 87, Sons of Confederate Veterans, contributed $5,000 to Confederate Memorial Hall (Bleak House) at their August meeting held at Confederate Memorial Hall (Bleak House) in Knoxville. Accepting the contribution is Sherry Morgan with Chapter 89 United Daughters of the Confederacy. Pictured L-R are Commander Earl Smith, Sherry Morgan and Adjutant, John Hitt.

Two new members were sworn in at the Capt. Champ Ferguson-Standing Stone Camp 2014 September meeting at the Monterey Depot Museum. Newly inducted were Stacy Thompson and Donavon Clark. Pictured from left, Chaplain Stephen Parker, Thompson, Clark and Commander Greg Ray.

Past TN Division Commander Mike Beck was presented with the Sam Davis-DeWitt Smith Jobe Icon Award from TN Division Commander Joey Nolan.

Division Leadership with Rep. Sherrill at the Division Reunion in Tracy City.

Commander Patterson handing over the reigns of the Division to new Division Commander Nolan.
Rebecca Sardella, Captain WYC Hannum Chapter 1881 United Daughter of the Confederacy, was the keynote speaker at the August meeting of the Longstreet-Zollicoffer, Camp 87 Sons of Confederate Veterans. Mrs. Sardella spoke on Moses Jacob Ezekiel, the first Jewish Cadet at Virginia Military Institute.

Marrianne Sardella, with the Children of the Confederacy, attended the August meeting of the Longstreet-Zollicoffer Camp 87, Sons of Confederate Veterans held at Confederate Memorial Hall (Bleak House) in Knoxville.

Camp Commander Greg Libano with the newly restored Clarksville Confederate Soldiers Memorial. Thank you to Division Judge Advocate, H. Edward Phillips III.

Wes Pullen, Starnes Brigade Commander, and Sean Hill, Marshall County Rangers Camp Commander, present Rich Garcia with a replica of Terry’s Texas Rangers flag.

Lt. Commander Billy Walker of N. B. Forrest Camp #3 in Chattanooga presents photos of the newly completed roof on the pavilion in the Chattanooga Confederate Cemetery.
The Davis Statue was recently re-erected at Elm Springs and will shortly be re-dedicated outside the National Confederate Museum and SCV Headquarters, Columbia, TN. SCV Command-in-Chief Larry McCluney will host the grand unveiling ceremony.

The Davis statue once oversaw Confederate Park in Memphis until illegally taken down in December 2017. A protracted legal battle ensued, which was ultimately settled in our favor, and possession of the statue and monument were given to the N. B. Forrest Camp 215 SCV of Memphis.

Now, thanks to the continuing gallant and herculean efforts of the Forrest Camp 215, the Davis Statue and monument was saved from destruction and is now reconstructed and on display at Elm Springs, where President Davis once again leads us.

Re-construction work began in earnest on the Davis Monument during the summer of this year, when concrete and excavation contractors were engaged, as well as crane operators and monument specialists who assisted in reassembling this memorial. Because of the hard work of a dedicated cadre of professionals, a new sub-base and base were constructed and the pedestal reassembled from July through September this year.

After the sub-base and central foundation with re-bar, next came moving the stone blocks, made of Tennessee Marble (which is actually a geologically-unique form of limestone), into place. These all had been stored at two sites and were trucked to Elm Springs. Now they were moved into place by our crew utilizing a heavy-duty 7-ton fork lift. Some of the blocks weighed 6000 pounds (3 tons), and the entire 2-level base was 26000 lbs. Next came the 3rd piece of 8100 lbs. It was slow work getting these into place and aligned. The next step was the main pedestal, at 11ft tall and weighing nearly 16000 lbs – about 8 tons. We had to call in the big crane for this one.

Rebel Ingenuity – The hoisting of the 8-ton pedestal for installation presented us with an engineering dilemma. Since the marble was so heavy, it required very heavy reinforced straps from the crane to gently put it into place. However, prior to it being set down we realized that we wouldn’t be able to get the straps out from underneath it without tilting it like we had the other stones. And we were afraid that if we propped it up on each side and then angled it to get the straps or any wood braces out that the pedestal was in danger of tipping over. And if it did we would have no way to catch it or stop it – it would likely be shattered, and crush the base marble too. After a few minutes’ strategy session among us we determined that ice was the answer. We made a hasty trip to the convenience store and purchased 4 large bags of ice. We then placed the ice on the corners of the monument base, lowered the pedestal down onto the ice bags, removed the straps, and then watched the ice melt and easily settle the pedestal into its place. Genius. The marble stone settled within a half inch of where it was supposed to be. We then used the tractor to carefully nudge it over to where it needed to be. Perfect.
The 4800-lb Topcap was next, but this too presented a few problems that delayed our work for two weeks. When the statue was cut off of this base the bronze support rods had been sawed off as well. We had to drill out the alignment holes in the marble, unbend two of the rods, and then likewise fabricate four stainless steel rods to attach to the statue base, and into the marble, so that even a hurricane couldn’t bring it down. We also added monument epoxy to these pieces. Davis will stand tall for the next 100 years, at least.

The Topcap was securely placed and then the crane added the coup de gras – the bronze 8’6”ft Jefferson Davis Statue itself. These final pieces of the pedestal and the actual statue of President Davis were placed on September 22, 2020. Total weight is 56000 lbs, or 28 tons; height is 20 feet.

**Thanks** -- Through the extensive work of dedicated members of Camp 215 (Lee Millar – who has been the point of the spear for the area SCV and project leader, Cdr Alan Doyle, Cdr Harry Adams, and Mike Cross) as well as the legal team lead by Edward Phillips (Charles G. Blackard III, Jonathan Pledger, and W. J. Bo Ladner III), and Past Commander-in-Chief Paul Gramling, AOT Commander Jason Boshers, Past Tennessee Division Commander James Patterson, Judge Advocate General Scott Hall, and the members of the General Executive Counsel, and the Tenn Division Executive Committee, the way was cleared for the Davis Monument to be re-erected at the SCV’s National Headquarters at Elm Springs.

We are tremendously grateful for the professional and highly-skilled engineering work of the crane and construction crew from Industrial Contractors: Michael Penrod (SCV member), Ricky Sims (SCV), Bradley Puckett, Todd Albright, Joe Hanes, Terry Ratliffe, Kerry Dickens, Dennis Cole, and Cody Huskins, Johnny and David Arnold and the crew of Arnold Concrete, and Bobby Prescott Trucking (SCV).

Additionally, we would be remiss if we did not give credit to the ladies of the United Daughters of the Confederacy in Tennessee, and their unyielding and dedicated State President Brenda Hall McDonald who oversaw the donation of funds to assist in reestablishing our monuments.

An interesting irony to this is that in the City of Memphis’ removing these monuments in 2017, and the SCV and Forrest Descendants getting them, it likely saved these works of art from either complete destruction or severe damage during the unrest and violence that has engulfed our nation since May.

And as Past CIC Paul Gramling is oft to say: “They take ‘em down – WE put them up.”

The President Jefferson Davis Monument is back up. It makes us proud to be Southerners.
Jefferson Davis Arises Anew at Elm Springs Confederate Museum

Lee Millar, Project Director, N.B. Forrest Camp #215

Adam Southern
SCV Executive Director
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* Denotes DEC Members
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<th>Position</th>
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<td>Monument Committee</td>
<td>John Blankenship</td>
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<td>Sergeant at Arms &amp; Aide de Camp- Racing Liaison</td>
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<td>Aide de Camp- Embroider</td>
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<td>Membership Committee</td>
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<td><strong>Mountain Brigade:</strong></td>
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Compatriots and Friends of the Tennessee Division,

I hope this newsletter finds you in good health! I don’t know about ya’ll, but the cooler days have sure raised my spirits as I believe I was beginning to wither from the oppressive heat and lack of rain here in my neck of the woods in East Tennessee. I know several Camps out there are now back to meeting on a regular monthly schedule and doing work to forward the Charge! If you are like me, being able to meet and see your SCV friends makes you feel better too!

I will be brief in my comments and just bring everyone up to date on some issues that where discussed at the DEC meeting in Knoxville that are relative to the Escort and Communications.

First, it was decided to limit photo publications from Camps to 5, with the option to submit more, but any amount over 5 will be published at the discretion of the Editor due to size limitations. This is an attempt to give every Camp fair representation in the Escort and encourage more submissions from Camps that may not be heard from on a regular basis. Please feel free to submit as many photos as you wish, but only 5 will be published, unless there is more room to add more.

Second, the DEC had its first in person and online meeting at the end of September. Those in person met at the Bleak House in Knoxville and we were joined online by fellow DEC members from both Middle and West Tennessee. For a first run, I believe it went pretty smoothly and going forward this will be an option the Division can use to get more members involved. Hopefully, as Past Commander Patterson pointed out, we can use Zoom online meetings to open up the DEC meetings to more members who may wish to attend, but can’t be there in person.

Lastly, there is a strong possibility that there will be another ‘special edition’ of the Escort for Christmas. After some discussion, it was decided to attempt a Christmas Edition to highlight the many events of the Camps in the Division and send out warm, Christmas greetings from the leadership to the members. So everyone make sure to submit your photos from Christmas events when the time comes!

Your Servant to the Cause,

Joshua Cameron

Editor

Email: joshuacameronscv@gmail.com