

THE TELEGRAPH KEY

THE OFFICIAL DISPATCH FOR THE
MAJOR THOMAS J. KEY CAMP #1920, SCV
AND
CAPTAIN WILLIAM GREGG CHAPTER #268, MOSB
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS

VOL. 8, No. 4

April 2007

MAY CAMP MEETING

75th Regular Meeting

All compatriots are reminded that the next regular meeting of the Major Thomas J. Key Camp #1920 will be on Thursday May 3rd, 2007. We will be meeting at Chen's Super Buffet located on the southeast corner of Shawnee Mission Parkway and Quivira in Shawnee, Kansas. We will meet between 6:15 and 6:30 p.m. for dinner and start the official meeting at 7:00. I am excited to announce that our speaker for the evening is our own Compatriot Tim Peterman. Tim's talk is about "DNA and Genealogy" while searching for your ancestor. At the recent Kansas Society Convention of the Sons of the American Revolution Tim gave this talk and it was extremely well received. Many of us are very involved in genealogy and this topic is the new upcoming trend in this kind of research. Tim's presentation will discuss how DNA plays a role in our research and what it can do for future generations trying to find their roots. Tim has done extensive research on his family and discovered that, like several of us, there are ancestors who fought in both Revolutionary Wars. I do believe you find Tim's talk both educational and fun. Don't miss this interesting meeting. Be sure to bring your wife or significant other, as they are ALWAYS welcome. Also don't forget to bring that prospective member along so he can meet us. Hope to see y'all there.

Editorial Byline and Stuff

"The Telegraph Key" is the newsletter for the Major Thomas J. Key Camp #1920 and the Captain William H. Gregg Chapter, MOS&B, of the Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCV). The SCV is a non-profit organization with a patriotic, historical and genealogical orientation and is not affiliated with any other organization. Opinions in this newsletter reflect the views of the writers and are not necessarily a statement of the views of the SCV, the Kansas Division, the Kansas Brigades, nor any other camp. Comments and articles are solicited.

Officers:

Key Camp

Gregg Chapter

Commander:	James L. Speicher	Scott Porter
1 st Lieutenant Commander:	Lee Crutchfield	
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Adjutant:	C. Heath Roland	
Chaplain:	Steven Crutchfield	
Historian & Scrapbook:	Loren Lundy	
Web Master:	John Weir	
Newsletter Editor:	James L. Speicher	
Event Coordinator	Gary Roland	

Key Camp On The Web

Key Camp: www.majorkey1920ksscvc.org

SCV National: www.scvc.org

New Member #64

I am proud to announce that at our April meeting we gained our 64th member. James D. Harris is a long time member of the SCV as evidenced by his five-digit membership number. I believe he came into the SCV in the 1970s. He hails from Spring Hill, Kansas and has been a member of Headquarters Camp for a long while. James was recently contacted and invited to join our ranks. He then received a copy of "The Telegraph Key" as a follow up. He got back with me and asked if he could attend the meeting in April and he was so impressed with us that he agreed to transfer to the Key Camp. His transfer should be official by the May meeting. His Confederate ancestor is Private Henry Claiborne Harris of Company K, 42nd Regiment of Alabama Infantry. Please take time at the next meeting to introduce yourselves and to welcome our newest member. Welcome aboard James.

Welcome New Member #65

That's right, two new members this month. Our second new member is also our new youngest member. Ethan Edward Duda turned 12 years old on April 12th, the same day our adjutant received his application in the mail. Good timing!!! Ethan joins his dad Ed and his older brother Mark as compatriots in the Key Camp. This is the second time we have been lucky enough to have a father/son/son team in the camp. Ethan joined under the same Confederate ancestor as the others - Captain Helton Rutherford Walker, Companies B and G, 48th Regiment Tennessee Infantry. We will induct Ethan at the May meeting. In the meantime please welcome Ethan to the camp at the next meeting. Welcome aboard Ethan!!

Welcome New Member #66

What great news - three new members this month. Our 66th member is Timothy B. Failes of Olathe. Tim is new to the SCV and has joined under his Confederate ancestor Rueben C. Fail. Tim's great grandfather was a private in Company E, 1st Battalion, North Carolina Junior Reserves. Hopefully Tim will be able to attend our May meeting so that we can meet him and, if headquarters processes his paperwork quickly, we can induct him that evening. Please take time to introduce yourselves to Tim at the next meeting and make him feel at home. Welcome aboard Tim.

NEWS RELEASE

KEY CAMP MEMBER HELPS MAKE LARGEST COCAINE SEIZURE IN HISTORY

Shawnee, KS... Matthew Myers, a member of the Major Thomas J. Key Camp #1920 of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, has helped make the streets of America safer.

Matt, commanding a small U.S. Navy detachment serving on the United States Coast Guard Cutter (USCGC) Hamilton, was involved in what Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff called "...the largest maritime cocaine seizure in our nations history, and I think what may certainly be among the top, if not the top, seizure ever in our nation's history." According to Secretary Chertoff, on March 17th the crew members of the USCGC Hamilton, along with crewmen of the USCGC Sherman, intercepted and boarded the Panamanian-flagged vessel "Gatun", about 20 miles off the coast of Panama. On board they found hidden over 42,000 pounds of cocaine. That's over 21 tons of cocaine with a street value of over \$300 million dollars.

The Major Thomas J. Key Camp #1920 is proud to have had a member play a role in that record setting seizure of illegal drugs. Congratulations to Compatriot Matt Myers, a direct descendant of General Wade Hampton, for a job well done. General Hampton would be proud. Deo Vindice.

Elmwood Cemetery

Sunday afternoon April 15th, from 2:00 until 4:30 p.m., historic Elmwood Cemetery held its first ever fundraiser. The Major Thomas J. Key Camp was invited to set up a living history campsite and display table. We received somewhat short notice and we really didn't know what to expect. As it turned out the event was much larger than we anticipated. The camp had a very small contingent that participated and I want to heartily thank Merle Leech, Carl Linck, Jon Linn, Heath Roland, John Weir and Gavin Weir. The crowd was estimated at 500 people and we met several prospective members. Now that we know what to expect, our participation next year will be enhanced. Again, I want to express my thanks to those six compatriots for their time and efforts in representing the camp at such a monumental event.

Confederate Memorial Day Service

****Note The Date Change****

****Sat. April 28 to Sun. April 29****

On Sunday April 29, 2007 we will celebrate of Confederate Memorial Day in Kansas. The Major Thomas J. Key Camp and the Brigadier General William Steele Camp will conduct a joint Memorial Service at the National Cemetery located on Fort Leavenworth. We will be honoring the seven Confederate soldiers buried in that cemetery that were wounded at the battle of Westport and subsequently died of their wounds. We will meet at the main flagpole in the cemetery and start the service at 1:00 p.m. The Color Guard will lead the procession to the Confederate graves and those present will place Confederate flags on the graves. After a short memorial grave side service we will move to the Headquarters building for a group picture to be submitted to Confederate Veteran magazine. From there, the group will proceed to Commander Kennedy's home for a hamburger cookout. Please plan to come and participate in this moving experience. This would be a great opportunity for those of you with uniforms to wear them. Let's have a really strong turn out to honor these Confederate soldiers who fell in combat. Deo Vindice!

Kansas Division Convention

The 9th Annual Kansas Division Reunion will be held on Saturday June 16th, 2007, at the Best Western Hotel in Emporia, Kansas, where it has been held for at least the last four years if not longer. This is an excellent time to meet and get to know other members our division. In addition to the business meeting there will be lunch, a speaker and several vendors. I have missed only one of the last eight conventions and you can believe that they are fun and productive. One of the highlights of the convention is when the camp

commanders give their reports. This gives us the opportunity to see what's happening with other camps' projects and events. There is a very high likelihood that our national SCV Commander, Chris Sullivan, will attend this year's convention. This would be an ideal time for you to meet and talk with Commander Sullivan. The Key Camp will be having a book sale at the convention with the unsold books from our sale. We still have nine or ten boxes of books plus the 40 volume hardbound set of Confederate Veteran magazine. I would like to have some help manning that table so if you'd like to assist please do. This will be an especially exciting convention and I would really like to see a strong turnout from the Key Camp. Page seven of this newsletter has the registration form for the convention. Please fill out the form and send it in so you can attend the 2007 Kansas Division Convention.

Old Shawnee Days

It is almost that time of year again. The first weekend of June (1-3 June 2007) is the annual festival in Old Shawnee Town. This has been historically one of our best recruiting events because it draws thousands of people from the very local area. Besides it is just plain fun. We have a very extensive display set up with a living history camp, weapons, relics, reproduction equipment and all our recruiting material.

We speak to hundreds of people each day. This is a BIG event. We need LOTS of support. That shouldn't be hard as it is right in our own yards, so to speak. We will be open Friday night, all day Saturday and all day Sunday. Our location is always in a nice shady spot, which makes it nice and cool. We need volunteers both with and without uniforms. So please mark you calendar now and plan to come and help, even if only for an hour or so. There will be a sign-up sheet at the May meeting. Thanks in advance for your help.

REMINDER!!

**THE NEXT MEETING OF THE
MAJOR THOMAS J. KEY CAMP #1920**

WILL BE ON THURSDAY

MAY 3rd AT 6:30 P.M.

BRING A FRIEND/PROSPECTIVE MEMBER

The Telegraph Key

Major Thomas J. Key Camp #1920

Sons of Confederate Veterans

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