

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. 9, No. 4

April 2008

MAY CAMP MEETING 85th REGULAR MEETING

All compatriots are reminded that the next regular meeting of the Major Thomas J. Key Camp #1920 will be on Thursday, May 1st, 2008. We will be meeting at Zarda's Barbecue located on the southwest corner of 87th Street and Quivira in Lenexa, Kansas. We will meet between 6:15 and 6:30 p.m. for dinner and start the official meeting at 7:00. Our program that evening is going to be very interesting and has a local connection. Most of us have heard of the infamous Order #11 issued by the Yankee General Thomas Ewing. It basically forced all the people living in the counties along the Missouri-Kansas border and south of the Missouri River (Bates, Cass, Jackson and Vernon Counties) to leave their homes so the homes could be burned. The premise was that they could no longer provide support to the Missouri guerrillas but it was really retaliation for Quantrill's Raid on Lawrence. Our speaker, Tom Raffiner, will tell us about how Order #11 specifically effected Cass County and its residents. This should be an eye opening presentation on one of the more heinous acts of Yankee brutality in Missouri. It will be an extremely interesting presentation that you definitely won't want to miss. 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	
2 nd Lieutenant Commander:	Roger Strout	
Adjutant:	C. Heath Roland	
Chaplain:	Reverend Thomas T. Ellis	
Historian & Scrapbook:	Loren Lundy	
Web Master:	John Weir	
Newsletter Editor:	James L. Speicher	
Media Coordinator	Lane Smith	
Cadet Member Coordinator	Lee Crutchfield	

Key Camp On The Web

Key Camp: www.majorkey1920ksscvc.org

SCV National: www.scv.org

New Member #67?

This space has remained vacant for a long time now. Hopefully, with recruiting events at the Mahaffie farm and at the Battle of Westport reenactments, we will be able to see several names here in next month's newsletter.

Mahaffie Reenactment

It was an awesome weekend once the sun came out Saturday around noon. The Key Camp had their display and recruiting table set up next to the Ice House. Once Gary Roland spread some hay in front of the booth the visitor were able to stay out of the mud that was a result of the rain Friday night. We had a lot of folks stop by and chat with us. We got some very good comments about the table but best of all we got seven new prospective members. I want to thank all the folks from the camp that came out to help man the table during the two days (Ed Duda, Tom Ellis, Carl Linck and his son Carl Jr., Jon Linn, Ron Lucas, Gary Roland, Heath Roland, Lane Smith (doing double duty by helping man the SUV table next to ours), Spike Speicher, Joe Strout, Roger Strout, and John Weir). It is the support from men like these that allows our camp to participate in so many activities and that is why we have the great reputation we do among SCV camps and the historical community in Kansas City. Way to go guys!!! You did an outstanding job.

Battle of Westport Reenactment

This reenactment will be on May 17, and 18, 2008. This will be the largest reenactment in Missouri/Kansas and it will be at the Jerry Smith Farm Park at Holmes Road and 135th Street. Again they are predicting thousands of spectators. We have the potential to recruit several new members at this event but it will take support from the camp members. The schedule will be similar to that of the Mahaffie event for both Saturday and Sunday. There will be a sign up sheet at the meeting that will break Saturday and Sunday into two-hour blocks. We really need help from everyone to ensure good coverage of the table. I am anticipating there will be a tremendous amount of interest in our group so please, if at all possible, sign up for a couple of two-hour blocks and help us out.

Important Elections at the SCV National Convention

The National Convention this year will be in Concord, North Carolina from July 16 through 19, 2008. This is an important convention because it is an election year and we will be voting on four very critical and important positions relative to the Key Camp: a new Commander-in-Chief of the SCV, a new Lieutenant Commander-in-Chief of the SCV, a new Army of Trans-Mississippi (ATM) Commander, and a new ATM Councilman. The Key Camp will have six votes at the convention. Gentlemen, we must have the right people in leadership positions within the SCV or our organization will fail. We need strong positive leadership at the national and department level. Here is how I feel those votes should be cast so that the positive forward movement of the SCV will continue-

Of the two people running for Commander-in-Chief (Chuck McMichael and Chuck Norred) I feel that the best is

Chuck McMichael. Chuck is our current ATM Department Councilman. He has held almost every leadership position with the SCV from Camp Commander to National Staff. He has done an outstanding job in all the positions he has held. I have known Chuck personally for well over ten years and I have a tremendous respect for the man. His integrity and honor are impeccable. He will continue the proper course that has been set for the SCV by Commander-in-Chief Chris Sullivan.

The race for Lieutenant Commander-in-Chief also has two good individuals running (Michael Givens and Ed Butler). Of the two I feel our votes should go to Michael Givens, South Carolina Division Commander. I have known Michael for several years and he would do an outstanding job and we could count on him.

The third important position to be voted on is the Commander of the ATM Department. Of the two individuals running for the position (Todd Owens and Gary Ayers) I have to tell you that I feel that Todd Owens, the current Louisiana Division Commander, is our best bet. Again I feel our votes should go to Compatriot Owens.

A fourth and final position of importance is that of ATM Councilman. There are two good men running for the position (Paul Gramling and Kyle Sims) however, I feel we must support Paul Gramling in his bid for ATM Councilman. Paul knows the ATM inside and out. He served as the ATM Commander from 2000 to 2002, and I worked very closely with him during that time, as I was the Kansas Division Commander. Again I have known Paul personally for at least ten years if not longer and I can guarantee that he is the best man for the job.

The Key Camp does have a voice in our organization's future. That voice is our vote at the National Convention. The recommendations I have made are based, for the most part, on my experience in the SCV and

personal knowledge of the candidates running. We will discuss these recommendations at the May meeting.

Kansas Division Convention

The 2008 Kansas Division Convention will be held on June 21st this year. It is always the third Saturday of June but this year the location has changed. For the last five years it has been in Emporia, Kansas. However, this year it will be held at the Watkins Museum in Lawrence, Kansas. With it being that close to home I would urge all of you to attend. We should show up with the largest number of people from any camp in the state. There will be the business meeting, followed by lunch. There will be a guest speaker but I don't have that information yet. This convention has always been fun and this year will not be an exception. I will put out more information as it becomes available but for right now just mark your calendar and plan to attend.

Bushwhacker Days Parade

Every year the city of Nevada, Missouri celebrates Bushwhacker Days. We usually don't get involved as it is a bit of a drive south on the 71 Highway and it is an event that the Missouri Division camps usually attend. This year we have had a special invitation for the Key Camp to supply our uniformed Color Guard for the big parade. A friend of mine who runs the Bushwhacker Museum in Nevada is the Grand Marshall and she wants CONFEDERATE flags to abound. Our Color Guard will march directly behind the US Color Guard at the very front of the parade. So, I am looking for four volunteers with uniforms that would like to participate in the parade with me. We have three flag bearers and two riflemen in the Color Guard. The parade is Saturday June 14th and line up is 5:00 p.m. and step off is at 6:00. If we go down early there are shops and the museum to see as well as a small reenactment. If you are interested please let Commander Speicher know.

DVD Silent Auction

Compatriot Rob Hodge from Wide Awake Films donated four DVDs to the camp to use as a fund-raiser. The DVDs were "Franklin", "Spotsylvania Court House", "Bad Blood", and "Perryville". A silent auction was held on line and the bidding got hot and heavy. When the dust finally settled all four DVDs were sold and the camp made a profit of \$77.00. Thank you to all of you who participated in the auction and a special thank you to the winners for helping to support your camp and its treasury. Without that support we can't exist.

**The William H. Gregg Chapter #268
Military Order of the Stars and Bars**



In the Military Order of the Stars and Bars (MOSB), our main focus as descendants of Confederate officers and the civilian Confederate government is to emphasize faith in Christ, family and tradition, and to preserve Confederate history for posterity.

**CONFEDERATE HISTORY: REMEMBERING THE VICTORY AT
CHANCELLORSVILLE, 1-5 May 1863.**

**DO YOU KNOW WHO SAID THIS AFTER THE BATTLE OF
CHANCELLORSVILLE?**

“General Lee should have given the praise to God!”

See bottom of the page for the answer!

For MOSB membership: It is open to direct *or collateral* male descendants of Confederate commissioned officers and of any elected or appointed member of the Executive Branch of the Confederate Government. I invite you to join this organization of honor and service. If interested, please contact me or visit the MOSB website at <http://www.mosbihq.org/index.htm>

Deo Vindice!

**Scott A. Porter
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It was Confederate hero General Thomas Jonathan “Stonewall” Jackson (below photo) the day after Chancellorsville when General Lee commended him for the victory. General Jackson would ascend to heaven just days after the battle.



REMINDER!!

**THE NEXT MEETING OF THE
MAJOR THOMAS J. KEY CAMP #1920
WILL BE ON THURSDAY**

MAY 1st AT 6:30 P.M.

BRING A FRIEND/PROSPECTIVE MEMBER

The Telegraph Key

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