

THE TELEGRAPH KEY

THE OFFICIAL DISPATCH FOR THE
MAJOR THOMAS J. KEY CAMP #1920
KANSAS DIVISION, SCV
JOHNSON COUNTY, KANSAS

VOL. 12, No. 4

APRIL 2011

MAY CAMP MEETING 118TH Regular Meeting

All compatriots are reminded that the next regular meeting of the Major Thomas J. Key Camp #1920 will be on Thursday May 5th, 2011. 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. We have an excellent program for this meeting. Our speaker will be Ms. Alicia Scott and the topic of her presentation will be "The Sultana". The Sultana was a riverboat steamer that, in April 1865, was taking Union soldiers from Andersonville Prison back home. The boat was grossly overloaded with soldiers and blew up on the Mississippi River near Memphis becoming the worst maritime disaster in the United States. Ms. Scott's ancestor was on the Sultana and survived the explosion. She will share with us the story of the boat and her ancestor in a riveting presentation. You don't want to miss this one. Be sure to bring your wife or significant other as they are always welcome. Also don't forget to bring that prospective recruit. See y'all there!!!

Editorial Byline and Stuff

"The Telegraph Key" is the newsletter for the Major Thomas J. Key Camp #1920 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

Commander:	James L. Speicher
1 st Lieutenant Commander:	Lee Crutchfield
2 nd Lieutenant Commander:	John Weir
Adjutant:	C. Heath Roland
Chaplain:	Carl Linck
Communications Officer:	Steve Crawford
Historian & Scrapbook:	Dan Peterson
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 MEMBERS #73 and #74

I am pleased to announce that the Key Camp has grown by two. Are newest members are Ben Crain and Vinnie Lalumondier. Many of us know Ben Crain as he has been a guest speaker at our January 2001 and August 2005 meetings. Both times he spoke to us about Civil War Carbines and on both occasions brought in various carbines from his personal collection. Last February we saw Ben at the Leavenworth Militaria Show recruiting event and he said he had decided to become a member of the camp. We will be inducting Ben at the May meeting. His Confederate ancestor is Private John B. Matlock, Company G, 1st Missouri Cavalry, CSA.

Member #74 is Vincent Lalumondier, Vinnie for short. I think most everyone knows Vinnie because he comes to a lot of meetings with his dad Scott, a long time member of the camp. Following in his daddy's footsteps, Vinnie joined under Private Isreal Larose, 3rd Battery Missouri Light Artillery, CSA. Ironically that is the unit our camp sponsored reenactment unit portrays. Please join me in welcoming Ben and Vinnie into our ranks. Welcome aboard gentlemen!!! We are proud to have you with us.

Mine Creek Spring Workday

Opps!!! It turns out that the battlefield opening for the Mine Creek Battlefield that was scheduled for April 6 was postponed. The opening was delayed until April 27, which of course was after our scheduled outing. As a result we had to cancel our workday since the site was not open. We will discuss and re-schedule at the May meeting. We had 15 folks signed up, which would have been an awesome turnout. It may be for the better however, due to the excessive rain prior to the 23rd. Thanks to everyone who signed up. You guys are great.

KCMCC Liberty Memorial Display

On Saturday 16 April the Kansas City Military Collectors Club (KCMCC) held its 7th annual military display at the Liberty Memorial. There were 35 tables of private collections on display. Commander Speicher had two tables for his display of WBTS weapons, relics and memorabilia. Visitors numbered in the hundreds and a couple of SCV applications were handed out. Camp members John McCain and Mike Smith stopped by to visit and both enjoyed the entire event.

New Key Camp Member Wins at Shoot

Newly inducted member Kevin Makel brought great honor upon himself and the Key Camp when, just two days after his induction into the camp, he participated in the Jesse James Pistol Shootout on 9 April. Held at the James Farm site, the event drew about 40 participants. Compatriot Makel won the honor of 2nd Place in the Cartridge Category. Way to go Kevin!!!



Just some of the competitors at the James Farm Shootout. Compatriot Kevin Makel is 7th from the left in black shirt and brown hat and saddle bag over his shoulder.

When asked about what weapon he used in the competition he stated "it's a Colt single action clone, .38 special." Congratulations Kevin.

Sesquicentennial Events

As we begin the 150th Anniversary of the War for Southern Independence there is a lot going on right in our own backyard. We all know that Missouri had the third largest number of battles of any state, beaten only by Virginia and Tennessee. But did you know that over half the battles and over half the casualties in 1861 occurred in Missouri? In hopes of gaining tourist dollars, Missouri has planned four major reenactments for this summer. The events include a battle on both days, walk through camp sites, many vendors, food stands, music, and uniformed soldiers.

The first will be the reenactment of the Battle of Carthage, originally fought on July 5, 1861, almost three weeks before the Battle of First Manassas in Virginia. Taking place on Saturday and Sunday May 14 and 15, the Saturday event will highlight the street fighting that took place in the original battle. Reenactors will fight through downtown Carthage. On Sunday will be a reenactors only battle. Carthage is about 140 miles south of Kansas City on Highway 71.

Following Carthage will be the Battle of Booneville, Missouri on June 18 and 19. Booneville is located about 100 miles east of Kansas City off I-70. Next is the Battle of Wilson's Creek. This national event is expected to draw about 2,000 reenactors. It is located near Springfield, Missouri and will be held on August 13 and 14. The last major event will be the Battle of Lexington, Missouri, which is about 50 miles east of Kansas City and north of I-70. The dates for Lexington are September 17 and 18.

If you have never seen a reenactment, this summer is your perfect opportunity. Four major events all within easy striking distance of home. Rest assured that the

Key Camp will be aptly represented by our reenactment unit, the 3rd battery Missouri Light Artillery.

National Reunion

The Sons of Confederate Veterans 116th Annual Reunion will be held July 13 through 16, 2011, in Montgomery, Alabama. These reunions are great fun if you have never been to one. Montgomery is not that far away, only about ten hours or so. There are business meetings of course but also loads of vendors, concerts, an oratory contest, special meals, awards presented, reunion medals, speakers, hospitality suites, a debutant ball, and much, much more. The last couple of reunions the Key camp has been well represented. We set the record for camp attendance at Hot Springs, Arkansas in 2009 when we had 12 camp members and nine camp member guests. If you would like to attend the Montgomery reunion or to find out more about it go to the SCV website at www.scv.org. For future planning the 117th Reunion will be in Murfreesboro, Tennessee 11 through 14 July 2012. The 118th Reunion will be in Vicksburg, Mississippi 14 through 27 July. The 118th Reunion will be in Charleston, South Carolina with dates to be announced.

Kansas Division Convention

A little closer to home will be the Kansas Division Convention for 2011. It will be held at the Best Western (same as last few years) in Emporia, Kansas on June 17-18. This is an important event for the division. This year on Friday night will consist of an oratory contest and hospitality room. Our lunch time guest speaker will be General Robert E. Lee (portrayed by Norman R. Joy) which should be extremely interesting. The camp reports are always great fun to see what other camps are doing to honor "The Charge" of General Stephen Dill Lee. The deadline for registration is 31 May so don't delay. Fill out the registration form on the next page and send it in. I

sincerely hope that the Key Camp has an extraordinary turnout.

**13th Annual Kansas Division Convention
Sons of Confederate Veterans
June 17-18, 2011**

Best Western Motel
3021 W. Highway 50 Emporia, KS 66801
620-342-7587

REGISTRATION FORM:

(Required *)

*NAME _____ *TITLE/POSITION _____

*SCV CAMP NAME _____ *Number _____

*PERSONAL ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

*HOME PHONE (_____) _____ WORK PHONE (_____) _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____ CELL PHONE (_____) _____

SPOUSE NAME (For Badge) _____

GUEST NAME _____ GUEST NAME _____

COST FOR CONVENTION IS \$10.00 PER PERSON

Included in the Registration: Convention book, lunch, lots of camaraderie, and excellent presentation from our guest speaker Commanding General Robert Edward Lee CSA.

Friday Evening Entertainment: We will begin Friday evening at 6:30 with a DVD feature presentation of "*Song of the South*". Followed by our Oratory contest at 8:00. This year's Topic "*You, John Wilkes booth, have been captured and put on trial for the assination of Union President Abraham Lincoln. Plead your Case*".

Ancestor Memorials: Have your ancestors name listed in the convention booklet. Cost is \$10.00 and must be submitted no later than May 23, 2011. (Up to 16 names for \$10.00). Please include rank, Name, company, and unit on separate sheet of paper).

Registration: Qty. ___ x \$10.00 = \$ _____

Friday Evening Gala: Qty. ___ x \$ 5.00 = \$ _____

Ancestor Memorials: Qty. ___ x \$10.00 = \$ _____

Total: \$ _____

In honoring of the Sesquicentennial, our featured convention presenter will be. Commanding General Robert Edward Lee. (Norman R. Joy) brings General Lee to life because of his own years of military service and his historical research connection with the character of General Robert E. Lee. His portrayal tells the story with a believable realism. He promises to give an extraordinary presentation to the members of the Kansas Division. Lunch will be provided by the Motel

DEADLINE TO MAIL IN REGISTRATION FORMS

Is Monday May 31, 2011!!!

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

KANSAS DIVISION SCV

Kansas Division Adjutant

Paul Honaker

4109 SW 29th

Topeka Kansas 66614

REMINDER!!

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

WILL BE ON THURSDAY

MAY 5th AT 6:30 P.M.

BRING A FRIEND/PROSPECTIVE MEMBER

The Telegraph Key

Major Thomas J. Key Camp #1920

Sons of Confederate Veterans

7325 Oakview Street

Shawnee, Kansas 66216-5527