

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. 7, No. 8

August 2006

SEPTEMBER CAMP MEETING

68th Regular Meeting

All compatriots are reminded that the next regular meeting of the Major Thomas J. Key Camp #1920 will be on Thursday September 7th, 2006. 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. We will be hearing a very unique story at this meeting. Our speaker, Mr. Jim Beckner, will give an interesting presentation entitled "Missouri Guerillas in the Army of Northern Virginia". That's right - in the Army of Northern Virginia fighting under General Robert E. Lee. How did that happen? Come to the September meeting and find the answer. It is really extremely interesting. September is also our annual awards meeting. The awards are being presented to recognize those members who have made significant contributions in support of the camp and our activities during the last year. The awards to be presented are both national awards and camp awards. Be sure and attend the meeting to recognize those members and to welcome Compatriot Beckner on this visit to our camp. Don't miss this exciting 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.

<u>Officers:</u>	<u>Key Camp</u>	<u>Gregg Chapter</u>
Commander:	James L. Speicher	C. Heath Roland
1 st Lieutenant Commander:	Lee Crutchfield	
2 nd Lieutenant Commander:	Roger Strout.	
Adjutant:	C. Heath Roland	C. Heath Roland
Chaplain:	Steven Crutchfield	
Historian & Scrapbook:	Loren Lundy	
Web Masters:	Steven Crutchfield	
Newsletter Editor:	James L. Speicher	
Event Coordinator	Gary Roland	

SCV On The Web

SCV National: www.scv.org
SCV Battleflag Site: www.battleflag.org
Key Camp: www.home.earthlink.net/~keycamp

New Member #66

At the August meeting we gained our 66th member in the person of Scott Lulamondier. Scott actually came to us through our reenactment unit, the 3rd Battery Missouri Light Artillery. Scott visited with the men of the battery at the Mahaffie reenactment and then subsequently joined. He came to the August meeting and turned in his paperwork to join the camp. What is really neat is that his Confederate ancestor, Private Isreal LaRose, served in the original 3rd Battery Missouri Light Artillery. How neat is that to be in the reactivated unit that your ancestor actually served in? That's awesome. Anyway, Scott will be a fine addition to both the Key Camp and the 3rd Missouri and we are proud to have him. Please introduce yourselves to Scott at the next meeting. Welcome aboard, Scott!

Monument Maintenance Fund Established

At the August meeting Compatriot Bill Morgan suggested that a special fund be established to be used for maintaining the Confederate monument at Mine Creek Battlefield. This is due to the recent vandalism incident to the monument that occurred in July. One compatriot has already donated \$100 to this fund. Anyone who would like to donate to this fund, please contact Adjutant Roland or Commander Speicher.

DeSoto Days Festival Parade

***** (See Page 7 for Update) *****

This will be our fourth year participating in this parade. This year's parade will be on Saturday September 2nd. We will meet at the DeSoto High School parking lot at 8:00 a.m. At 8:00 we will start to decorate the float and rehearse the Color Guard. We need as many folks as possible to participate, guys and gals. If you have a uniform, or for the ladies a period dress, this will be a good opportunity to wear it. But we need everyone, gays and gals, whether you have a uniform, dress, or not. Uniforms are optional - they are not required for any camp events and that includes parades, recruiting tables, meetings, tours, etc. In the past the DeSoto parade has been a graded parade. Two years ago our float won the \$300 first place prize. Let's try for it again. There will be room on the float for anyone who would prefer not to walk and for any of the ladies. The high school is located on the northwest corner of Highway 10 and the Lexington Road exit. Take Highway 10 west from I-435 (Kansas side) toward Lawrence. The second DeSoto exit is Lexington Road. You can see the high school from Highway 10. DeSoto is about half way between Kansas City and Lawrence. We need a really strong turnout so please plan to come. The parade starts at 9:30 and it will be fun. See ya there.

Mine Creek Moonlight Tour

Dr. John Spencer, President of the Mine Creek Battlefield Foundation, has invited us to participate in the Mine Creek Moonlight Tour that will take place on Saturday October 21. This is the MCBF big fund raising event that they conduct about once every three years. We participated in the Tour three years ago and had a blast. We had about 28 people that time. The Tour consists of eight or ten stations scattered around the battlefield. At each station there is a vignette that has to do with some event during the battle. One station might be captured Confederate soldiers talking to their guards, one station might be a burial detail, another station may be a medical scenario, etc. People buy tickets for the tour and are placed in groups of about ten or twelve. Guides lead the groups around from station to station. Each time a group arrives at a station, the participants at the station go through their scenario. It really is fun and educational. Based on our experience three years ago we will arrive at the Visitor Center around 5:00 p.m. and we will get our station assignments and briefings. We will then have time to check out the station and set up any props we need. I would also recommend a rehearsal or two. Once it gets dark, around 8:00, the tours begin. If memory serves me correctly we were done by about 9:30 or 10:00 last time. Dr. Spencer did say that he may need some of us to galvanize and play Yankees because he doesn't have enough Yankee support. He can supply some blue uniforms for those willing to galvanize. Ladies are welcome to participate in the scenarios. There will be more details available at the September meeting along with a sign-up sheet. This is a fun event so please plan to participate. We are doing this in lieu of our fall workday, which was originally scheduled for October 21. I would really like to have a strong turnout from the camp to show our support for Dr. Spencer and the MCBF. Please mark your calendar and plan to participate.

Live Fire Event a Big Bang!

The Major Thomas J. Key Camp Third Annual Live Fire Event took place at the Parma Woods Missouri Department of Conservation Range in Parkville, Missouri, on Saturday August 12. We had the range from 8:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. exclusively. Compatriots Lee, Crutchfield, George Hoffmann, Merle Leech, Carl Linck, Loren Lundy, Eric, Carrie and Jacob Martinez, Dan Peterson, Scott Porter, Gary, Heath and Jason Roland (and Jason's friend), Spike Speicher, Roger, Joey and Josh Strout, and John, Cameron and Gavin Weir plus two of their friends participated. That's 23 people for the event, which doubled our usual attendance from the first two years. Everyone had the opportunity to fire 58 caliber muskets (either a C.S. Richmond or a Remington Zouave), a Henry Repeating Rifle, and a 44 caliber pistol (either a Colt Army or a Rogers and Spencer). The session started with a familiarization class on each of the types of weapons. Loading techniques and safety were the key issues. Following the class we had three firing stations going that folks could rotate through to be able to fire the different weapons. While we had targets set up, this was strictly familiarization firing and no scores were kept. If ammunition expended is any indication of success, we were very successful having gone through about 100 rounds of musket and 100 rounds of Henry Rifle ammunition. I think we expended about 50 rounds of pistol ammunition. That is a lot of lead that we threw down range. From the comments I received, I think everyone that came out had a good time. I do want to thank Dan Peterson for his help on the Henry Rifle station, Scott Porter for his help on the pistol station, and Heath Roland for his help on the musket station. Their assistance made everything run smoothly, efficiently and allowed everyone to shoot as often as they wanted with very little wait. All things considered our third annual event was a resounding success. Our Fourth Annual is already being planned.

Thank You Note Received

I just received the following thank you note from the folks at the Wornall House that I wanted to pass on to those of you that were involved.

James:

(or do I have the right to call you Spike? :o))

Anyway, just a note to again say thank you to you and your crew for helping here @ the museum. We really couldn't survive without folks like you!

See you soon---

Paula Davidson

I would like to add my thanks to all of you that came out to help with our Wornall House workday back on July 29. Those helping were David Boone, Lee and Steve Crutchfield, Carl Linck, Eric, Carrie, Aaron and Jacob Martinez, Gary, Heath, and Jason Roland, Spike Speicher, and John, Cameron, and Gavin Weir. You guys are great.

Key Camp Has New Life Member

Compatriot Tim Peterman is the Key Camp's seventh, and newest, SCV Life Member. He joins ranks with such notable members as Al Boggs, John Bolton, Keith Phillips, Mark Roupe, Spike Speicher, and Bob Webster. Life membership in the SCV means never having to pay national dues again. Even if dues go up to \$1,000 a year, life members never have to pay dues again. There will never be a lapse in your subscription to "Confederate Veteran" magazine. You get to wear a really neat Life Membership lapel pin and the certificate looks awesome framed!! It's really a pretty good deal. If anyone out there would like to become the eighth Life Member of the Key Camp, contact Commander Speicher for details.

Major Update on the DeSoto Parade

This just in - The graded parade will be based on how your float meets the theme of the parade. The theme of this year's parade is "Lazy Days of Summer." If we are to compete for any of the prizes our float has to address that theme. Here is what we will do: First we will have an extremely large trailer built on a mobile home frame. On this trailer will be a large banner on each side that says "Lazy Days of Summer - Circa 1861." On the float we will have a tent set up with a camp scene of soldiers and civilians lounging around in the lazy days of summer. We need ladies dressed out to be visiting the soldiers. We need soldiers playing cards or checkers. We need little folks to sit on the back of the trailer with fishing poles like they are fishing in a stream. We will have our Color Guard in the lead but we need everyone else on the float. What do we need to make this happen? Soldiers and ladies - as many as possible. I can outfit three soldiers and one or two civilian gentlemen to be visiting the camp. We need three or four bamboo fishing poles with string (no hooks). We really need someone who knows how to drive a large truck with an even larger trailer behind it. We will be using Compatriot Walthall's truck and trailer but he will be out of town so he won't be able to drive it. Because we will be using that trailer we won't have the cannon as part of our float. This is not a tremendously large parade so if we can pull this off I really think we can be competitive and win some cash. I must stress that we really need people on the float. So if you can participate, please do so. We can outfit several of you if you don't have a uniform. If there are any other ideas out there on what we can put on the float, please let me know. This could really turn out to be a fantastic event and absolutely one of our best parades ever but in order to do that we need people, lots of people. By the way this is a rain or shine parade.

REMINDER!!

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

WILL BE ON THURSDAY

SEPTEMBER 7th 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*