

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. 2

February 2008

MARCH CAMP MEETING 83RD REGULAR MEETING

All compatriots are reminded that the next regular meeting of the Major Thomas J. Key Camp #1920 will be on Thursday, March 6th, 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. We have been able to secure another great speaker for our meeting. Our speaker for March is Daryl Sellmeyer. Daryl is the author of the book "JO Shelby's Iron Brigade", a recently published work of great interest. One of Mr. Sellmeyer's ancestors rode with JO Shelby. Daryl will give his presentation on the history of Shelby's unit and on JO Shelby himself. I think you will find Daryl's presentation to be very enlightening and historically accurate. This presentation is about a local Confederate hero from Waverly, Missouri. His unit fought right here in our backyard. His exploits are what great military leaders are all about. 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:	Steven Crutchfield	
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.scvc.org

New Member #67

If you noticed, in this portion of the January 2008 newsletter the heading read "New Member #66 and 68". In that newsletter I indicated that we were welcoming two new members to the camp. The first (#66) was Mike Adams and the second (#68) was Joshua Strout. To a trained eye that omission of #67 would have indicated that I had something up my sleeve in the way of a surprise. If you, by chance, were in attendance at the Lee-Jackson Banquet on January 28th you would have discovered that I did in deed have a surprise. That surprise was member #67. Our guest speaker at the banquet was none other than the famous Robert Lee Hodge. At the conclusion of his presentation I had the honor of announcing that Rob has transferred his SCV membership to the Major Thomas J. Key Camp. He was presented with his membership card and his new membership certificate indicating he was now a member

of our camp. Rob is one of the nicest guys I know. He has not let fame go to his head. As you all probably know by now his picture is on the cover of the book "Confederates in the Attic". He is on the cover of the current issue (March 2008) of "America's Civil War" magazine and there is an interested article that Rob wrote in that same issue. He is also one of the owners of Wide Awake Films, the company that makes all the neat DVDs about the WBTS. Rob is very busy to say the least but he has joined our camp and we hope that his schedule will allow him to partake of some of our meetings and other activities. So please, when you see or meet Rob, introduce yourselves and make him feel right at home. Welcome aboard Rob. We are honored to have you in our ranks.

Camp Officer Elections

The Key Camp Constitution calls for election of officers every two years. The current officers have all agreed to run for re-election. If the proposed amendment concerning election of officers passes it will change the method of voting for the officers. However, since the vote for officers for 2008-2009 was to have been conducted at the December 2007 meeting and, where as the current officers have agreed to remain in place beyond their designated tenure due to the delay of the election, and, where as the passage of the new proposed amendment would delay the election at least 30 more days, the election of officers at the March 2008 meeting will be conducted under the current method as stated in the Key Camp Constitution.

2008 Lee-Jackson Banquet

The Seventh Annual Banquet is history. And what a great history it was. With 80 people in attendance it was one of the biggest banquets we have ever had. The weather was perfect, the food was perfect, and the audience was perfect. Everyone I believe, had a wonderful time. Our speaker was outstanding. Our auction was extremely successful and some folks got some awesome deals. Now that the spreadsheet for the banquet is completed I am proud to announce that the camp was able to put over \$700 into our account. I want to offer my most sincere thanks to everyone that attended and made this banquet our most successful fund-raiser yet. I also want to add a special thank you to the folks that came out early and helped set up the room and to those who stayed behind to help clean up. Your assistance was invaluable and very much appreciated. We couldn't do it without your help. Rest assured that plans for the Eighth Annual Lee-Jackson Banquet are in the works.

A Special Thank You

During the banquet Compatriot Merle Leech requested to make a presentation. This was something unexpected and not on the agenda but being the flexible individual I am I yielded the floor to Merle. Merle picked up a cardboard box that looked like a violin case and started toward me. I was thinking "Does Merle have a submachine gun in that case and did I do something to make him mad at me?" That thought perished as Merle stated talking about my connection with the Confederate submarine H. L. Hunley. He then gave me the box to open. Inside was a beautiful large scale model of that submarine. It was absolutely awesome. It was so detailed and accurate. I made a few comments about why I am so passionately involved with the Hunley and thanked Merle profusely. Understanding that Merle was the messenger representing many people that contributed, I would like to take this opportunity to again publicly thank each and every one of you who might have been involved, for that stupendous gift. It really hit the spot for something that really means a lot to me. So to all of you - THANK YOU!

Military Display at Liberty Memorial

The Kansas City Military Collectors Club (KCMCC), of which Scott Porter and myself are members, will be hosting a one-day military display at the Liberty Memorial. It will be from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. on Saturday March 1st. Admittance is free since the display is set up in the foyer area. If you want to go into the museum itself you would have to pay the normal entry fee. The display will cover mostly the two World Wars with some other stuff mixed in. I will have a Civil War display along with a few World War I items. If you aren't doing anything that Saturday stop on by and say hello.

Spring Work Day at Mine Creek

Our Spring 2008 workday at the Mine Creek Battlefield is tentatively set for Saturday March 15. I say tentative as I am waiting for word from Dr. Spencer that the date is okay with him. We will meet there at 10:00 a.m. and work on whatever projects he deems necessary. Part of the group will be detached to give our Confederate monument area a spring-cleaning. I should have confirmation of the date at the March 6 meeting and will also have a sign-up sheet.

Mahaffie Reenactment

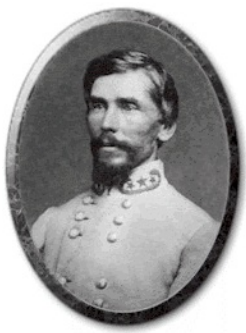
The Mahaffie reenactment is set for April 18, 19, and 20. Again this year we will have our display and recruiting table set up. This is a big event for us as it draws folks from all over the KC metro area and that is where our membership comes from. This has always been a profitable event for us. We will plan to set up the area on Saturday morning around 8:30 or so. We will man the table until about 5:00 p.m. We will follow the same schedule Sunday but will probably close down a bit earlier. We will need as many people as possible to man the tables. There will be sign up sheets for both days at the March meeting. I'm looking for two-hour commitments at the minimum. Please, if at all possible, try to sign up and help at this event. This would be the perfect opportunity to wear our new camp shirts. Please volunteer a few hours. Thanks.


Battle of Westport Reenactment

This reenactment will be on May 16, 17, and 18, 2008. It will be at the Jerry Smith Farm Park at Holmes Road and 135th Street. It is projected to be one of the biggest reenactments of the year and it is in our backyard. Between this and Mahaffie we have the potential to recruit several new members but it will take support from the camp members. It will be similar to the Mahaffie schedule for Saturday and Sunday. We have some reaction time on this one so it will be discussed in more detail at the April and May meetings. Go ahead and mark your calendars now though.

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.



The William H. Gregg Chapter (#  of
the
Military Order of the Stars and

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: DID YOU KNOW...

General Patrick R. Cleburne's birthday is 16 March?
Happy 180th General!

"Life has always been a small matter with me when duty points the way," wrote Patrick R. Cleburne to his brother on the eve of war in 1861. Newly elected Captain of a company of militia called the Yell Rifles raised in Phillips County, Arkansas, his words would become synonymous with his conduct over the next four years.

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!

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REMINDER!!

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

MARCH 6th 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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