

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. 1

January 2007

FEBRUARY CAMP MEETING

72nd Regular Meeting

All compatriots are reminded that the next regular meeting of the Major Thomas J. Key Camp #1920 will be on Thursday February 1st, 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. As we start a new campaign season I think you will find that we have some outstanding speakers this year. To start off with, our February speaker is Commander Ed Kennedy of the Brigadier General William Steele Camp #1857 in Leavenworth, Kansas. Commander Kennedy is a long time friend of the Key Camp and has joined us on several occasions for events. He has a tremendously interesting talk on "Black Confederates" and their contribution to the Confederate Cause. These men are seldom given the credit they deserve because of political correctness. Yet their story is one of extreme dedication, heroism, and fidelity. This is one of the most interesting and enlightening presentations I've heard. 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.

| <u>Officers:</u> | <u>Key Camp</u> | <u>Gregg Chapter</u> |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Commander: | James L. Speicher | Scott Porter |
| 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 Master: | John Weir | |
| 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.majorkey1920ksscvc.org

New Member #64

This section intentionally left blank.

No new members.

Come on guys let's recruit!

Sixth Annual Lee-Jackson Banquet WOW!!!

Saturday January 20, 2007 will go down in camp history as the Sixth Annual Lee-Jackson Banquet. Unfortunately it will be remembered as the banquet that Mother Nature attempted to destroy. I say attempted because she was only partially successful. The afternoon of the banquet a winter storm moved into the Kansas City area. The snow began about 3:00 in the afternoon. By 5:00 the roads were getting bad. Prudence won out for many of the attendees as they rightly made the decision to stay home rather than attempting to drive on the bad roads. Their decisions were fully understood by everyone involved. Despite Mother Nature's game the banquet still went on, albeit a bit smaller than planned. Of the 78 reservations we had, 55 attended the banquet. As usual the food was excellent and the company even better. We had a great presentation by Don Gilmore who really put into perspective the atrocities committed by the Redlegs and Jayhawkers. He also sold about eight books, which he appreciated. The auction this year was stupendous. We had some really nice items that people got for very good prices. The big movers were the 1873 silver engraved pocket watch, the hand made quilt that Angie Freeman made, the limited edition print, and the Confederate officer's sword. Thanks to everyone who participated in the auction, even if you didn't win the items you bid on. It all goes to support the activities of the camp. I guess the bottom line is that, try as she did, Mother Nature could not keep us down or keep us from having a great time. A special thank you to all the guys that came out early to help set up. We could not have done it with out your help. Thank you to those that helped make the banquet so successful. If you were unable to attend the banquet have no fear. The 2008 Seventh Annual Lee-Jackson Banquet is already in the planning

stages. It will fall on Saturday January 19th, which is General Robert E. Lee's actual 201st birthday.

Compatriot John Weir is Awarded the Key's Battery Award

The Key's Battery Award is an award that recognizes the outstanding support given to the camp by one individual. The award encompasses one calendar year. Each year the Executive Committee of the camp votes on who the recipient of the award should be for that particular year and the winner is announced at the Annual Lee-Jackson Banquet. This year the award for outstanding support to the camp for calendar year 2006 went to Compatriot John Weir. John received the award plaque at this year's banquet. Congratulations to Compatriot Weir for a job well done and for all the support you have provided. You are a valued member of the camp and your efforts are appreciated. Past winners of this award are: for 2001 - Loren Lundy; for 2002 - Art Ziembinski; for 2003 - Roger Strout; for 2004 - Gary Roland; and for 2005 - Merle Leech. Plan to attend next year's Lee-Jackson Banquet to find out who will win the award for 2007.

Leavenworth Militaria Show

This will be our fourth or fifth year having a recruiting table at this show. This is a one-day event that draws a lot of people. It is at the Frontier Conference Center on Fort Leavenworth. It runs from 9:00 a.m. until about 3:00 p.m. and we have actually gotten several recruits from this show. This year we will have two tables instead of one because of our expanded display. There will be a DVD player on one end showing the SCV Recruiting DVD and at the other end a video player showing other SCV related material. Our usual display items and recruiting information will be in between the two technological inventions. I would like to have some help that day with manning the

display. Come out for the whole time or even just for an hour or two. There will be time for you to walk through the show and see the stuff for sale and on display. There is always neat stuff to see and buy if you are interested. There will be a sign up sheet at the February meeting. If you can help out even for an hour or so that would be really appreciated.

Tentative Date Set For Spring Workday at Mine Creek Battlefield

For the last six years the Major Thomas J. Key Camp has supported the Mine Creek Battlefield Foundation by contributing two workdays a year, one in the spring and one in the fall. We have worked closely with Dr. Spencer, president of the foundation, to help return the battlefield to its 1864 appearance. Over the years we have taken down countless hundreds of feet of chain link and barbed wire fencing. We have cut scads of trees and cleared brush from what seems like acres of land. There is still work to be done and our camp is continuing our support. In that vein we have tentatively scheduled our Spring 2007 workday for Saturday March 24. We meet at the Visitor Center at 10:00 a.m. and get our work assignments from Dr. Spencer. We then work until 3:00 or 4:00 in the afternoon. It is a rewarding day and a chance to get the winter cobwebs out of our muscles. Once I get confirmation from Dr. Spencer that the 24th is okay I will publish the firm date.

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



As the new commander for the Captain William Gregg Chapter of the Military Order of the Stars and Bars (MOS&B), I would like to provide a brief history and

purpose of the MOS&B. Currently we have 12 active members in our chapter, and 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. For this reason, one of the MOS&B emphases is to recognize the authors of publications that advance the true history of the War for Southern Independence. However, the MOS&B is involved in a myriad of historical and preservation projects. We in the Gregg Chapter are directly affiliated with the Key Camp, and offer our whole-hearted support to the projects and events as designated by Col. James Speicher. Just like the SCV, the MOS&B has its roots reaching back to original Confederate veterans. Formed on August 30, 1938, the first meeting of the *Order of the Stars and Bars* was convened in South Carolina with seventeen former Confederate Officers and forty-seven male descendants of Confederate Officers in attendance. The name of the Order was changed to *The Military Order of the Stars and Bars* in 1976 and the "Stars and Bars", the first National Flag of the Confederate States of America, was accepted as the symbol of the Order. Membership 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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Black Confederates

Come to the February meeting and learn about these "forgotten Confederates".



REMINDER!!

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

WILL BE ON THURSDAY

FEBRUARY 1st 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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