

THE TELEGRAPH KEY

THE OFFICIAL DISPATCH FOR THE
MAJOR THOMAS J. KEY CAMP #1920, SCV
AND THE
CAPTAIN WILLIAM GREGG CHAPTER #268, MOSB
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS

VOL. 9, No. 7

July 2008

AUGUST CAMP MEETING 88th REGULAR MEETING

All compatriots are reminded that the next regular meeting of the Major Thomas J. Key Camp #1920 will be on Thursday, August 7th, 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.

The Civil War saw a phenomenal use of horses for all manner of military service. Not only did the cavalry use horses extensively, the field artillery and Quartermaster corps were also large users. Understanding the capabilities of horses is a "must" for military historians and serious students of the Civil War. Steele Camp Commander Ed Kennedy's presentation titled "Horses of the Civil War" will inform the non-horse student about the capabilities, shortcomings, and advantages of cavalry horses in particular. How horses were fought is essential for the true understanding of how thousands of soldiers carried out their duties during the war. He will discuss horse equipment as well as casualties. This will certainly be a talk you don'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	
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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 Members #71 & 72

Gentlemen, I am extremely proud to announce that we have gained two new members in the last two weeks. How awesome!! The first is John Michael Cecil (he goes by Mike or Michael) from Stilwell, Kansas. Some of you met him at the July meeting where he was introduced but he was not inducted as his paperwork had just been sent to HQ. Mike gives us our first Confederate ancestor from a Maryland unit. He is Private David Hammett, Company D, 2nd Maryland Infantry. Mike, we are honored to have you in our ranks. Welcome aboard!

Our second new member is John Phillip Poynter (he goes by Jack) from Overland Park, Kansas. Again some of you met him briefly at the July meeting when he stopped by the meeting on his lunch (dinner) hour to turn in his paperwork. When he did I took the opportunity to introduce him to the attendees before he had to go back

to work. His ancestor is Private John Barrett Everett, Company I, 6th Georgia Infantry. Jack, again we are also very honored to have you in our ranks. Welcome aboard.

You don't want to miss the August meeting as we will be inducting both of these Compatriots at that time.

Pleasant Grove Cemetery Update

Due to an extremely full schedule for the last month and a half, the cemetery had not been cut since May 17th, when Lane Smith mowed it. So on Saturday July 5 four members of the Key Camp undertook a daunting task. Compatriots Jim King, Carl Linck, Eric Martinez, and Spike Speicher mowed the cemetery. When we arrived we were met by grass and weeds that were knee to mid-thigh high. It took almost three hours but when they left the cemetery it was cut! It looked rather rough as there were clumps of cut grass and an uneven look as stuff was pushed over and cut by the mowers but would still pop back up with six or seven inches of stalk. So on Sunday July 13 Compatriots Eric Martinez, Lane Smith, Spike Speicher, and John Weir re-cut the cemetery to smooth out the previous mowing. It now looks as good as it ever has and every effort will be made to not let it go uncut for such a long period again.

"Protect Missouri" Flag Flies Over Confederate Graves

Sunday July 13, 1864 - the battle of Camden Point, Missouri. Six Confederate dead. November 1, 1871 - six Confederate dead buried in Pleasant Grove Cemetery. Confederate monument dedicated. Fast forward to July 13, 2008. It is the 144th anniversary of the battle. At 5:00 p.m. (the approximate time of the original battle) eight people gathered at the monument and

honored those six Confederates. Compatriots Carl Linck, Eric Martinez, Lane Smith, Spike Speicher, and John Weir, along with guests Joan Mainey, Carrie Martinez, and Cindy Speicher raised their glasses in salute to the brave soldiers who gave their lives on July 13, 1864. A replica (hand-made by Joan Mainey) of the "Protect Missouri" flag that the Yankees captured that day was raised on the flagpole. It was the flag made by the ladies of Camden Point and presented to the Confederates on July 13, 1864, and that those soldiers died under. (The original resides in Colorado.) It was so beautifully fitting to see it wave over their graves on an absolutely spectacular day.



Photo by Carrie Martinez

The "Protect Missouri" Flag flies over
the Confederate graves at Pleasant Grove
Cemetery July 13, 2008

Key Camp Family Picnic

The third annual Key Camp family picnic was held on Saturday July 12 at Shawnee Mission Park. Twenty-five members and guests had signed up to attend this year's picnic. But, as nature would have it, it was raining Saturday morning. In fact it was, at times, a torrential downpour. But that didn't stop our dedicated members nor did it dampen their spirits. Despite Mother Nature's attempts to disrupt the picnic, we had 27 folks attend. I want to thank Larry & Donna Brooks, Craig & Angie Freeman, Kim Huebert (McWilliam) and her four kids, Merle Leech, Loren & Sharon Lundy, Joan Mainey, Eric & Carrie Martinez, Jacob Martinez, Tim & Ray Peterman, Heath, Gary and Jason Roland, Spike & Cindy Speicher, John & Susan Weir, Gavin Weir, and Cameron Weir for braving the weather to attend. The burgers, dogs, and brats were well worth the trip out there. The side dishes provided by everyone made for a feast fit for a king. Even in bad weather our camp members can have a grand time and this is a prime example.

Two New SCV Life Members

The Key has the honor of having two new life members in our ranks. Chip Buckner and Carl Linck make our 8th and 9th Life Members joining Al Boggs, John Bolton, Tim Peterman, Keith Phillips, Mark Roupe, Spike Speicher, and Bob Webster. Congratulations gentlemen, you never have to pay National dues again.

113th Annual Reunion

The annual reunion of the Sons of Confederate Veterans took place from July 16 through July 19 in Concord, North Carolina. Commander Speicher attended the reunion and will have a full written report of the convention available at the August meeting.

Annual Live Fire Event

The Fifth Annual Major Thomas J. Key Camp Live Fire event will take place on Saturday August 9th from 8:00 until 10:00 a.m. It will be at the Parma Woods Missouri DNR Range in Parkville. Members will have the opportunity to fire a reproduction Civil War musket, pistol, and Henry Repeating Rifle. Also available this year there will be a Thompson/Center Hawken .50 caliber rifle. This is familiarization firing only and is designed to give you an idea of the types of weapons used by your Confederate ancestors during the war of 1861-65. There will be a sign-up sheet at the August meeting so we can get an idea of how much ammunition we will need.

THE WILLIAM H. GREGG CHAPTER (#268) OF THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE STARS AND BARS



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

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CONFEDERATE HISTORY: WHAT GREAT CONFEDERATE VICTORY OCCURRED IN MISSOURI ON 10 AUGUST 1861?

HINT: The Confederate units involved were Maj. Gen. Sterling Price's Missouri State Guard and McCulloch's Arkansas Brigade. The Federals were Brig. Gen. Nathaniel Lyon and his "Army of the West."



See next 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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ANSWER: It was the battle of **OAK HILLS (WILSON'S CREEK)**!



Battle at Wilson's Creek - Death of General Lyon.



**Sons of Confederate Veterans
Life Member Pin**

Errata: On the page 3 story about Camden Point, July 13, 1864 was actually a Wednesday, not a Sunday as written. The editor apologizes for that error.

REMINDER!!

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

WILL BE ON THURSDAY

AUGUST 7th 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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