

# THE TELEGRAPH KEY

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

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VOL. 9, No. 6

June 2008

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## JULY CAMP MEETING 86<sup>th</sup> REGULAR MEETING

All compatriots are reminded that the next regular meeting of the Major Thomas J. Key Camp #1920 will be on Thursday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2008. We will be meeting at Zarda's Barbecue located on the southwest corner of 87<sup>th</sup> 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. We are all captivated by stories about one of our most famous Missouri guerrillas, Jesse James. Our speaker, Mr. Harold Dellinger, is an expert on Jesse and has recently (last year) published his book Jesse James, The Best Writings on the Notorious Outlaw and His Gang". In this book Mr. Dellinger has collected 40 of the best articles and poems about Jesse James and compiled them into one volume. It is an easy to read interesting anthology on the life of Jesse James. I believe that our speaker will bring several copies of his book and will be happy to autograph it for you. Mr. Dellinger will also be happy to answer any nagging questions you may have about Jesse. 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

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### Key Camp On The Web

Key Camp: [www.majorkey1920ksscvc.org](http://www.majorkey1920ksscvc.org)

SCV National: [www.scvc.org](http://www.scvc.org)

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### New Member #71

Do ya'll remember our speaker from last month, Mr. Steve Kirk? He provided an interesting presentation on Sul Ross' 6<sup>th</sup> Texas Cavalry. We mentioned at the meeting that his great grandfather has served in that unit so we mentioned to him that he (Steve not his great grandfather) was eligible for membership in the SCV. I worked with Steve after the meeting and he stated he was very interested in joining the Key Camp. He is currently working on completing his application. Once that is received we will have our new 71<sup>st</sup> member. But we can still use more so keep recruiting. Our best tool to get new members is by word of mouth from other members. Talk to your family, friends and co-workers about who we are and what we do. You be surprised at the number of folks out there that would join if they knew we were here.

## Bushwhacker Days Parade

June 14<sup>th</sup> was Flag Day. It was also Bushwhacker Days in Nevada, Missouri. For the first time ever the Key Camp was invited to have our uniformed Color Guard in the parade. We looked awesome and got lots of attention and applause. I want to thank the Martinez clan (Eric, Carrie, Jacob and Aaron) for bringing the cannon down for the parade. I also want to thank Merle Leech, John Weir, and Spike Speicher for performing in the Color Guard. Moral support was given by Kris Amaro, Gavin and Cameron Weir, and Cindy Speicher. Nevada is a neat town and we got to see the Bushwhacker Museum, which I had never seen before. Man they have some awesome stuff to look at. All told it was a great time for all who attended.

## Key Camp Family Picnic

The third annual Key Camp family picnic is scheduled for Saturday July 12 at Shawnee Mission Park, the same location as last year. The shelter and large trees provide plenty of shade and the big play structure adjacent to the shelter is great for the little ones. Again this year the camp will provide burgers, brats, dogs, buns, condiments, and drinks. We ask each family whose last name begins with A thru G to bring a salad or dish to share; H thru R to bring chips or veggies, and S thru Z to bring a dessert. Maybe we can even get John Weir to bring out his ice cream maker for fresh ice cream. We will need a head count in order to buy the right amount of food. Last year we had over 50 people sign up to attend and about half that many showed up. As a result we over bought substantially, which was a direct loss to the camp treasury. There will be a sign up sheet at the July meeting so please sign up -- but if you do please attend so we don't get caught like we did last year. The picnic will start at 10:30 with chow being served at 11:30. We will shut down at 1:00 p.m. and start the clean-up as we only

have the shelter until 2:00. This is a fun event with no business meeting; just fun, family and friends getting together for a good lunch. Please plan to attend.

## 113<sup>th</sup> Annual SCV Reunion

The National Convention this year will be held in Concord, North Carolina and will run from Wednesday July 16 through Saturday July 19. This is, I believe, the 11<sup>th</sup> annual reunion I will have attended. I've only missed two since the 1995 convention. Besides all the important business that is conducted there are tours, concerts, vendors, banquets, a formal ball (that I have never attended), programs, memorials, and much more. They are just a hoot! Cindy and I will fly out on July 15 and after the convention we will spend a few days in South Carolina. We will fly back to KC on Wednesday the 23<sup>rd</sup>. I'll prepare a full written report on the convention that will be available at the August meeting. As near as I can tell there will only be two other Kansas Division members attending the convention and they are Commander Charlie Wilson and Kevin Ivey, both of the South Kansas Camp in Wichita. Next year the convention is in Hot Springs, Arkansas, so it is pretty close. In 2010 it will be in Anderson, South Carolina and in 2011 in Montgomery, Alabama. Since Hot Springs is within easy driving distance of KC perhaps we can get a large group together of Key Camp members and wives/significant others and make a great road trip. Think about it. Hot Springs in 2009!!!!

## Short Issue

Our daughter Katie has been in the hospital for a week and I have not had a chance to give the newsletter my full attention. Therefore this issue is a bit short and a little late and for that I sincerely apologize. Please keep Katie in your prayers.

REMINDER!!

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

WILL BE ON THURSDAY

MARCH 6<sup>th</sup> 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*