

THE TELEGRAPH KEY



THE OFFICIAL DISPATCH FOR THE
MAJOR THOMAS J. KEY CAMP #1920
KANSAS DIVISION, SCV
JOHNSON COUNTY, KANSAS



VOL. 14, No. 6

JUNE 2013

JULY CAMP MEETING 142nd Regular Meeting JULY 11th (second Thursday)

All compatriots are reminded that the next regular meeting of the Major Thomas J. Key Camp #1920 will be on Thursday July 11^h, 2013. Because our regular meeting date fell on July 4th, we have delayed our meeting until July 11!! 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 6:00 and 6:30 p.m. for dinner and start the official meeting at 7:00. Our speaker for the evening is Compatriot Lane Smith. Our National Convention this year is being held in Vicksburg, Mississippi and Compatriot Smith will be discussing the battle for Vicksburg. He will explain the importance of that city to the Confederacy and how Union General Grant was able to capture the city. It makes for a very interesting story that you will not want to miss, especially if you will be attending the convention. It will be a very enjoyable evening and I am sure you will find it extremely interesting. As with all of our meetings, be sure to bring your wife or significant other (but not both at the same time), as they are always welcome. Also, don't forget to bring that prospective recruit. See y'all there!!!

Editorial Byline and Stuff

"The Telegraph Key" is the newsletter for the Major Thomas J. Key Camp #1920 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

Commander:	James L. Speicher
1 st Lieutenant Commander:	Lee Crutchfield
2 nd Lieutenant Commander:	John Weir
Adjutant:	Steven Crawford
Chaplain:	Carl Linck
Communications Officer:	Steven Crawford
Historian & Scrapbook:	Dan Peterson
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 #65

And who will it be?

Dues Are Due!

That's right folks. The SCV fiscal year runs from September 1 to July 31. That means that SCV, division, and camp dues are due in July. We will be handing out dues invoices at the July meeting to save postage costs. Those not attending the meeting will receive their invoices by mail. For regular members the dues are \$45.00 (National = \$30; Division = \$5.00; Camp = \$10). Invoices will be broken down for all Life, Associate, and Fellowship members. Please pay your dues quickly as it will make the job of Adjutant Crawford and me much easier.

Gardner Civil War Expo

What a great time we had in Gardner on Saturday June 8th at the Gardner Historical Museum. The Key Camp had its usual awesome display of relics and weapons, which drew many, many spectators. The 3rd Battery Missouri Light Artillery, CSA, had their cannon and limber there as well. This was a big event in Gardner and there were hundreds of spectators. Compatriot Vinny Lalumondier did an excellent job as rifleman demonstrator as we told the folks how the muskets were fired. While the battery could not fire the cannon, (it was a residential area and the concussion from firing it would have broken house and car windows) the crew demonstrated how the cannon was loaded and fired while just popping the primer. The crowd loved it and we saw people taking loads of pictures. I want to thank all the Key Camp members who came out to support the camp for this event: Scott Lalumondier, Vinny Lalumondier, Eric Martinez and Carrie, Carl Linck, Jacob Martinez, Jacob Mirocke, Lane Smith, Cade Smith, Spike Speicher, and Jim Thornton. The coordinator for the event was Charlie Troutner, Director of the Gardner Historical Museum, and he said that we "made the event a great success." Possibly there will be a repeat next year.

Kansas Division Convention

The Division 2013 Convention was held at the Best Western Hotel in Emporia on June 21 and 22. The Key Camp was well represented and actually had the most representatives of any Kansas camp. Friday night was the showing of the movie "The Outlaw Josie Wales" with Clint Eastwood (got it right that time Hoss). It was a great movie and Key Camp members Paul Allen, Larry Brooks and wife Donna, Tim Peterman, and Spike Speicher enjoyed it. Then on Saturday Key Camp reinforcements Steve Crawford, Dennis Garstang, Merle Leech, Carl Linck, Gary Minsey, Dan Peterson, and Hoss Tucker arrived to boost our numbers to 12 attendees.



Seated left to right: Chaplain Carl Linck, Donna Brooks, Larry Brooks, Paul Allen.

Middle row l to r: Dan Peterson and Hoss Tucker.

Back row l to r: Spike Speicher, Gary Minsey, Dennis Garstang, Tim Peterman (peeking out from behind the flag), Merle Leech, Adjutant Steve Crawford.

Saturday all the camps gave their camp reports. I'm happy to say that all the Kansas camps are active and doing great work but I honestly feel that the Key Camp is the most active camp in the division. Of course, the big event was the election of a new Kansas Division Commander. Our commander for the next two years is Kevin Ivey. I have known Kevin for several years and I know he will do an excellent job. He has been, and still is, out division Project Locate leader. Kevin wrote a welcome message that appeared in the last issue of the Kansas Division newsletter that was forwarded last week to everyone. My thanks to all of the members who attended the convention.

Crawford Headstone Dedication

All I can say is WOW! What an event. First, a little background on the Crawford family that was honored. Jephthah and Elizabeth Crawford were married and had 13 children. They had a nice farm in Blue Springs, Missouri. January 29th, 1863 was one of the coldest days in history and there was 14 inches of snow on the ground. Their three oldest boys were all in the Confederate Army serving with General Sterling Price. On that cold winter day, Kansas Redlegs rode onto the Crawford farm and got everyone out of the house. Then in front of his wife and the other children, the Redlegs shot and killed an unarmed Jephthah. If that wasn't enough they then burned the house to the ground leaving Elizabeth and the children out in the cold. The next oldest son was Riley Crawford who was then 14 years old. Elizabeth took Riley to enlist in William Clark Quantrill's Partisan Rangers. Riley had the reputation of being one of the fieriest fighters in the unit until October 1864 when he was killed in Cooper County at the age of 16. I might add that one of the 13 children was a daughter who was one of the five women killed when the jail they were being held in collapsed. What a terrible experience the war was for Elizabeth. The ceremony on Saturday 29 June was at the



Left to right: Adjutant Steve Crawford, Paul Allen, Mike Smith, Commander Spike Speicher, Chaplain Carl Linck, Jacob Mirocke, and 2nd Lt Cmdr John Weir.

cemetery in Blue Springs where Jephthah and Elizabeth are buried. The members of the Key Camp formed the Color Guard and they did a wonderful job. The Honor Guard was formed by members of Elliott's Scouts, a Confederate reenactment group out of Independence with members in the Brigadier General John T. Hughes Camp #614. The ceremony began with a bagpiper leading the Color Guard and Honor Guard down the hill to a pavilion. At the pavilion were numerous speakers talking about the Crawford family. At the conclusion of the speakers, the Color Guard and Honor Guard led the spectators to the monuments, one for Jephthah and Elizabeth and the other for their son Riley. There the stones were unveiled and a salute was fired in their honor. Chaplain Linck provided one benediction while Chaplain Rudd of the Hughes Camp provided a second one

and blessed the headstones. It was, to say the least, a very moving ceremony and the members of the Key Camp were extremely honored to have been a significant part of the event. And yes, Adjutant Steve Crawford is related to Jephthah and Elizabeth.

118th National Reunion

Vicksburg, Mississippi here we come. The 118th Annual Reunion of the United Sons of Confederate Veterans/ Sons of Confederate Veterans have held annual reunions. The 2013 Reunion will be in historic Vicksburg from 18 to 20 July. I know several Key Camp members are registered to attend. These events are a tremendous amount of fun. There are, of course, the business meetings, but there are also tours, banquets, dances, bunches of neat vendors selling everything Confederate, and great camaraderie. One night all the Key Camp folks go out to dinner at some local establishment. This will be my 16th Reunion and I'm looking forward to it as much as I did my very first one. If you have never been to one, this is your chance. We do not get very many this close to home so go for it. I promise you will have a great time and will remember it for years to come.

Southern Legal Resource Center

At the June meeting a motion was made for the camp to spend \$200.00 to become a member of the Southern Legal Resource Center. The SLRC is a legal organization that handles court cases involving Confederate issues such as discrimination against those who wear Confederate symbols, have Confederate flag license plates, etc. The vote was unanimous and a check has been sent to the SLRC for the Key Camp to become a member. The SLRC does some outstanding work and I whole-heartedly support this decision. Thank you gentlemen.

REMINDER!

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

WILL BE ON THURSDAY

JULY 11th AT 7:00 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