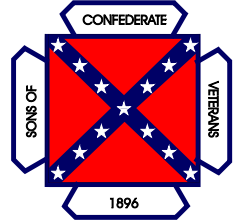


THE TELEGRAPH KEY



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



VOL. 15, No. 6

JUNE 2014

JULY CAMP MEETING THURSDAY 3 JULY 2014 153rd REGULAR MEETING

All compatriots are reminded that the next regular meeting of the Major Thomas J. Key Camp #1920 will be on Thursday July 3rd, 2014. We will be meeting at Zarda's Barbecue located on the southwest corner of 87th Street and Quivira in Lenexa, Kansas. We will meet at 6:00 p.m. for dinner and start the official meeting at 7:00. Our guest speaker for the evening is Mr. Terry Elliott. Terry has written a book titled "The History of the Rebel Yell", and his topic will be the same. He will have copies of his book available for sale at \$16.00 each. He also has a CD about the Rebel Yell that sounds very interesting. He will be playing some excerpts from the CD during his presentation. Copies of his CD will also be available for \$10.00 each. Our ancestors were well known for their signature Rebel Yell that put the fear of God in many Union soldiers. Come to this meeting and learn why the yell was so awesome. Bring your wife or significant other, as they are always welcome. 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

Good news gentlemen!! We have member 65 ready to join. At the last meeting I introduced Jeffery Brown as a guest and prospective member. Since that time he has submitted his documentation and is completing his application. Jeff will be our 65th member. He is from Wellsville, which is south on I-35 before you get to Ottawa. Jeff's Confederate ancestor was Private Eli P. Parnell, a member of Company A (The Davidson Guards), 21st Regiment North Carolina Infantry. He enlisted in August, 1862. He was killed in May, 1863 at the Battle of Chancellorsville, Virginia. He was 28 years old and left a wife and two children. We will be inducting Jeff at either the July or August meeting.

2014 National Reunion Charleston, South Carolina

Latest update: The Key Camp will be well represented in Charleston. So far John and Susan Weir, John and Susan Bolton, Dan and Susan Peterson, Spike and Kaki Speicher, Carl and Linda Linck, Tim Peterman, Paul Allen, Lee Crutchfield, Jim Tucker, Merle Leech, and Jack Poynter are scheduled to attend. Join the Key Camp Contingent in Charleston in 2014. We'd love to see you and there is still time to register.

Kansas Division Convention

The 2014 Kansas Division Convention was held on Friday and Saturday June 20 and 21. It was held in Emporia, KS



Left to right: Dan Peterson, John Bolton, Jim Thornton, Spike Speicher, Carl Linck, Paul Allen. Missing are Larry and Donna Brooks

The Key Camp was well represented as you can see from the picture above. Larry and Donna Brooks, Paul Allen and Spike Speicher attended the Friday night festivities. The movie for the evening was Shirley Temple in "The Littlest Rebel". Joining us on Saturday were John Bolton, Dan Peterson, Jim Thornton, and Carl Linck. The business session on Saturday was productive. The proposed amendment to the Kansas Division Constitution was approved. The amendment described the duties of the Brigade Commanders in the Division. The other high point was each camp's presentation on what they had done since the last convention. Our speaker was Kellee Green Blake. She is retired director of the Mid-Atlantic States National Archives. Her topic was "Great Dash and Skill: The Adventures of Confederate Raider Thaddeus Fitzhugh, Virginian and Kansan". Not only was she an awesome speaker, but her topic was extremely interesting.

Fitzhugh worked in the Laird Shipyard in Birkenhead, England and helped build the C.S.S. Alabama and then crewed with her for a year. He later became Captain of the 5th Virginia Cavalry and even later was in the Confederate Secret Service. What a tale!! After the war he moved to Texas and finally to Kansas City, Missouri. He is buried in Oakwood Cemetery. The audience was just riveted the entire time she spoke. If she was local (she is from Philadelphia) she would have been a great speaker for the Lee-Jackson Banquet.

The convention was not without a glitch. The hotel where we have been meeting for ten years confirmed our reservations as of February but by June they had lost the reservation. There were lost room reservations and services ordered were not completed. As a result, we will not be using that facility next year. A local member in Emporia will be checking other venues for our 2015 convention. We are going to stay in Emporia as it is pretty much centrally located for most of the camps in the division. Details will follow.

Camden Point Remembrance

Before our next meeting we have the Memorial event remembering the Battle of Camden Point that was fought on 13 July 1864. It will take place on Saturday 28 June in Camden Point, Missouri at 12:00 p.m. at the Pleasant Grove Cemetery. It will involve a ceremony at the cemetery followed by a static display in the park. The Key Camp will have the regular relic and weapons display. We will participate in the parade in town at 5:00 p.m. The cannon of the 3rd Battery will be there for firing demonstrations. We need volunteers and this is a great time to come out. We need guys in the ceremony at the cemetery, man the displays, and walk or ride in the parade. Uniforms are not required. If you have a uniform it would be an ideal time to wear it. It is a short event and camp members should arrive between 11:00 a.m. and noon so we can assign duties. The parade through town should be over about 6:00. It makes for a wonderful and fun Saturday. I sincerely hope that many of you will turn out for this event and support your camp.

Key Camp Family Picnic

Mark your calendar!! The annual Key Camp Family Picnic will be held on Saturday 16 August. We will be at Shelter #10 in Shawnee Mission Park. This is the shelter we had for the first several picnics. It has a large play structure for the kids adjacent to the shelter and latrines very close by. It is well shaded with mature trees so even if the temperature is high, our comfort level is good. The camp will supply the brats, burgers and hot dogs, condiments, plates, utensils, and drinks. The cost to participate is free but each family is requested to bring a dish to share such as salads, desserts, fruit, etc. This is always a fun time and gives everyone a chance to talk while not in a "meeting mode." Please plan to attend.

REMINDER!

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

WILL BE ON THURSDAY

JULY 3rd 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