

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. 3

March 2007

APRIL CAMP MEETING 74th Regular Meeting

All compatriots are reminded that the next regular meeting of the Major Thomas J. Key Camp #1920 will be on Thursday April 5th, 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. Once again we have a really top-notch speaker for your enjoyment. Mr. Lee Ward will be giving one of the most interesting presentations I think we have ever had. The title of his talk, complete with PowerPoint slides, is "Embalming in the Civil War". This is not a gory or gross presentation but rather an in depth look at a scientific procedure that was just coming into its own. With the massive casualties inflicted and the rampant diseases that took so many lives, embalming was a challenge. Mr. Ward's presentation will show us how they accomplished it and what trends it set that may still be in practice today. I promise this will be an extremely informative talk on a topic few of us know anything about. 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.

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	
Chaplain:	Steven Crutchfield	
Historian & Scrapbook:	Loren Lundy	
Web Master:	John Weir	
Newsletter Editor:	James L. Speicher	
Event Coordinator	Gary Roland	

Key Camp On The Web

Key Camp: www.majorkey1920ksscvc.org
SCV National: www.scvc.org

New Member #64

Still no takers.

Mahaffie Recruiting Event

Our first big recruiting event is coming up very quickly. It is the Civil War reenactment at the Mahaffie House and Stagecoach Stop State Historic Site in Olathe. The dates are Saturday and Sunday April 21 and 22, 2007. We will be set up both days. This year's event will be the biggest yet in the way of participating reenactors and visitors. We have always set up a top-notch display area and recruiting table and this year should be no different. We have gotten a number of new members from this event. The major problem is having enough men to man the tables. We get a tremendous number of people coming through our display and talking with us. We need to have enough folks out there to answer everyone's questions. Please sign up to help man the tables, even if you can only come out for an hour or two. There will be a sign up sheet circulated at the April meeting so PLEASE help out. If you've never done this before, it's easy. Come out and listen to the rest of us and then jump in. If there is a question you can't answer someone will be with you that can. You'd be surprised how much fun we have. So look forward to the event. Since it is a reenactment our own 3rd Battery Missouri Light Artillery, CSA, will be there firing their cannon. Be sure and stop by the camp area and check out their campsite. There is always coffee brewing.

Kansas Division Elections

Everyone should have received an election ballot in the mail. The election of division officers will take place at the Kansas Division Convention in Emporia, Kansas on Saturday June 16, 2007. This is a VERY important election. In the January edition of the division newsletter there was a call for candidates. Only three people were nominated (volunteered to run), one each running for Commander, Lieutenant Commander, and Border Brigade (that's us) Commander. I know all three of these men and I strongly endorse them. Please complete your ballot and send it to Adjutant Heath Roland NO LATER THAN APRIL 17, 2007 or give it to him at the April 5 meeting. Now listen closely - your vote is very crucial. There is a certain element within this division that has been responsible for much discontent, turmoil, and downright hostility within the division. It is the same element that "attacked" our division commander simply because he attempted to run the division in a responsible manner that they disagreed with. That element is going to mount a write-in campaign at the convention to get "their people" into the leadership of our division. We do not want that to happen so your vote, whether you attend the convention or not, is crucial. Every member of the division gets a vote. You don't have to attend the convention to be able to vote. And please don't assume that since they are all running unopposed your vote won't matter. That is exactly what "those people" are counting on. Please exercise that right and get your ballot turned in. We need everyone's vote to keep our division going in the right direction. We need your vote!!

ATM Meeting

Commander Chuck Norred, Army of the Trans-Mississippi, has called an official ATM meeting to be held on Saturday 14 April 2007 in Osceola, Missouri. It will begin at 8:00 a.m. Attendance by all compatriots of the ATM is encouraged. The meeting will be held the same day as the Colonel Coffee Camp's Confederate Heritage Dinner. After the meeting there will be a bus tour that will go to one of the caves used by the James and Youngers as a hide out. The tour will then proceed to the site where Pinkerton agents killed John Younger. Lunch will be in Roscoe close to where the gunfight occurred in which John Younger was killed. The bus will return to the meeting site where you can head home or stick around for the Confederate Heritage Dinner. The cost of the bus tour, including lunch, is only \$15.00 per person. Reservations for the tour and lunch should be sent to Gary Ayres, 3615 South 70th Road, Humansville, Missouri 65674. If you would like to attend the dinner you can obtain all the details by contacting Compatriot Ayers at garyayres@centurytel.net. The dinner speaker is the well-known Southern author Donnie Kennedy (no relation to Ed Kennedy).

Confederate Memorial Day

This year Confederate Memorial Day in Kansas will be celebrated on Saturday April 28. The actual day for Kansas compatriots is April 26, the date that General Joseph E. Johnston surrendered the last Confederate army of any significance. In the past we have set up a living history camp, civil war display, and recruiting table at the Mine Creek Battlefield. While in theory this is a good idea it has not panned out well. We have gotten very little visitor traffic any of the years we have been there. I think about ten people were the most we have had. Last year's event was rained out. I'm looking for ideas on other options we can do to celebrate the day as well as perhaps do some recruiting. It could be a campsite at a more lucrative site, a memorial service someplace, or just about anything we want it to be. I am open to suggestions so if you have an idea please bring it to my attention so the camp can decide what to do. We WILL do something we just need to figure out what.

Spring Workday at Mine Creek

Saturday March 24 was our Spring Workday at Mine Creek Battlefield. The weather was perfect and the work was plentiful. Lee Crutchfield, Jim King, Gary Roland and Dr. Spencer (president of the Mine Creek Battlefield Foundation) all worked on our monument. It looks extremely good with new mulch, a couple of new boxwood plants and a large cleared area behind the monument. The rest of group (David Boone, Craig Freeman, Sam Price, Heath Roland, Spike Speicher, John Weir, and his son Cameron) were responsible for taking out eleven trees. What a job. One tree was so big that my arms wouldn't fit around it. It was a job well done. Angie Freeman did a super job of providing the crews with lunch and, with the help of Kim McWilliam and the four

kids, we had a stupendous lunch. My thanks to all of you that came out and worked or provided food. You are great.

Border War Forum

At the Border War Forum folks are presenting a series of talks concerning various aspects of the War of Northern Aggression. The next scheduled presentation will be on Thursday April 26th at the Homestead Country Club, 6510 Mission Road, Prairie Village, Kansas. The evening begins at 6:00 p.m. with dinner served at 6:30 and the presentation follows. Our dear friend Jean Warren, from James Country Mercantile in Liberty, will be giving the presentation and it should be very interesting. The title of her presentation is "Women of the Border War". If you are interested the cost, which includes dinner, is \$23.00 per person. The checks should be made payable to "Monnett Fund" and should be sent to Betty Ergovich, 23414 West 54th Street, Shawnee, Kansas 66226-2709.

New Boone Addition

Compatriot David Boone has advised me that his family has increased by one. Catherine gave birth to Jackson Morgan Boone (good Southern name!!!) at 1:16 in the afternoon of Wednesday February 28. Jack was seven pounds even and eighteen and a quarter inches long. Except for a lack of sleep David is doing fine. Mother and baby are outstanding. Congratulations to the Boone clan.

The Captain 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 officers and the civilian Confederate government is to emphasize faith in Christ, family and tradition, and to preserve Confederate history for posterity.

CONFEDERATE HISTORY: DID YOU KNOW... In January of 1864 the Constitutional Convention in Arkansas passed an anti-slavery measure? You don't hear this in schools, but it is true. It was also at a time when Sterling Price and Jo Shelby controlled most of Arkansas. So I ask you, fellow compatriots, if the "cause" in the War for Southern Independence was about slavery, then why did our Southern ancestors in Arkansas pass this measure?

FYI, I have just a few more copies of the Missouri Historical Review containing the story about the action at Camden Point (Bashi-Bazouks and Rebels Too) for \$5.

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!

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REMINDER!!

**THE NEXT MEETING OF THE
MAJOR THOMAS J. KEY CAMP #1920
WILL BE ON THURSDAY
APRIL 5th 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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Shawnee, Kansas 66216-5527