

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. 9, No. 5

May 2008

JUNE CAMP MEETING 86th REGULAR MEETING

All compatriots are reminded that the next regular meeting of the Major Thomas J. Key Camp #1920 will be on Thursday, June 5th, 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. Our program that evening is going to be very interesting as it is about Sul Ross' 6th Texas Cavalry. I know several of our members have ancestors that served in Texas units so this would be special interest to them. Our speaker is local author Steve Kirk from Leawood and he just very recently had his book on the 6th Texas Cavalry published. I believe it was Mr. Kirk's great-grandfather (possible 2nd great grandfather) was a member of the 6th Texas, which means Mr. Kirk is eligible for membership in the SCV. Hummmm! I would imagine that he will have a few copies available at the meeting for those of you who like to collect author autographed books. I have a copy and have found it very interesting, especially the roster of the unit members. It will be an extremely interesting presentation that you definitely won'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	
Chaplain:	Reverend Thomas T. Ellis	
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.scv.org

New Member #67, 68, 69 and 70!!!!

Our 67th member has entered the ranks of the finest camp in the Confederation and he is an old friend that many of you already know. Dr. Robert T. "Bob" Littlejohn has become an Associate member of the camp at the May meeting. Bob is a member of the Major General J. O. Shelby Camp #191 in Warrensburg, Missouri. However, since Bob lives in Prairie Village he has attended a number of our meetings as well as several Lee-Jackson Banquets. His Confederate ancestor is Private William H. Littlejohn, Company F, 5th Missouri Cavalry, which means he rode with General Shelby. That is why Bob remains a member of the Shelby Camp. Plus he owns a large farm up near Warrensburg. So please welcome Bob at the next meeting. Welcome aboard Dr. Littlejohn.

Following right behind Dr. Littlejohn is Larry W. McCrary. Larry told me he was going through some things

of his mother's and discovered her UDC membership certificate. He then went on the Internet and found that the SCV had a camp right here in Kansas City. He called me and we talked for a long while. Within a week his paperwork was heading for IHQ. Larry is a retired school principal and his ancestor is Private James Posie Padgett, Company D, 32nd Alabama Infantry. Larry, welcome aboard as our 68th member. We are honored to have you in our ranks.

As if two were not enough I received a request from long time SCV member John McCoin. John was a member of the Colonels Lewis and Harrison Camp #1854 in Topeka for a number of years before deciding to transfer to the Key Camp. John's ancestor is Private David Reed Nichols, Company B, 45th Virginia Infantry. I want to welcome John to the camp as our 69th member. Welcome aboard John. We are honored to have you also.

AND as if three were not enough we picked up member #70 when Leonard Slaughter joined the camp. He and Dr. Littlejohn are good friends and members of the Shelby Camp #191 in Warrensburg. However, Leonard indicated he would join our camp as regular member since he lives in the Kansas City area. Thus he becomes member #70!!!! Leonard's ancestor is Private Miles Eppler, Company D, 12th Texas Cavalry. Leonard we are honored to also have you in our ranks. Welcome aboard.

Pleasant Grove Cemetery

2008 marks the start of the 9th year that the Key Camp has taken care of the cemetery in Camden Point, Missouri. This is the cemetery that has the second oldest Confederate monument west of Mississippi River. It also contains the graves of six Confederate soldiers who were killed in the Battle of Camden Point on July 13, 1864. It is hallowed ground. The first mowing of the season took place on Saturday May 3rd and there was a great show of support as nine guys showed up to work. The following Key Camp members participated: Lee Crutchfield, Jim King, Eric Martinez and his two sons Jacob and Aaron, Scott Porter, Spike Speicher, and John Weir. Commander Ed Kennedy of the Brigadier General William Steele Camp #1857 also showed up to help. Special thanks to Jim King and Scott Porter for their efforts in bringing out their riding mowers. Those really make the job go fast. When the task was done the cemetery really looked nice. My thanks goes to all nine of the guys who helped. Stay tuned for further opportunities to assist at the cemetery.

Kansas Division Convention

Don't forget that the 2008 Kansas Division will be held on Saturday June 21st. This year it is being held in nearby Lawrence, Kansas, the same one that was burned by Quantrill. The keynote speaker will be Don Gilmore with his story on how the Border War was really fought, based on his outstanding book. Since the convention is being held so close to home, the Key Camp should have a fantastic turnout. Please plan to attend.

Bushwhacker Days Parade

Every year the city of Nevada, Missouri celebrates Bushwhacker Days. We usually don't get involved as it is a bit of a drive south on the 71 Highway and it is an event that the Missouri Division camps usually attend. This year we have had a special invitation for the Key Camp to supply our uniformed Color Guard for the big parade. A friend of mine who runs the Bushwhacker Museum in Nevada is the Grand Marshall and she wants CONFEDERATE flags to abound. Our Color Guard will march directly behind the US Color Guard at the very front of the parade. So, I am looking for four volunteers with uniforms that would like to participate in the parade with me. We have three flag bearers and two riflemen in the Color Guard. The parade is Saturday June 14th and line up is 5:00 p.m. and step off is at 6:00. If we go down early there are shops and the museum to see as well as a small reenactment. If you are interested please let Commander Speicher know.

New War Service Medal Lapel Pin

Based upon a member suggestion, the SCV General Headquarters has developed a War Service Medal (WSM) Lapel Pin, which is a miniature version of the medal. Both new WSM recipients, as well as any member who has previously received the award, may order the new lapel pin from the SCV Merchandising Section for a cost of \$10.00 plus the appropriate shipping and handling charge. The lapel pin is shown next to a full-sized War Service Medal.



Happy Birthday Confederate Veterans

Adjutant Heath Roland has done an outstanding job the last couple of years in compiling the Kansas Project Locate book that documents every Confederate soldier buried in Kansas. He has organized the book so that the soldiers are listed alphabetically by county for easy lookup. If you haven't seen this notebook you need to see it. He brought to my attention that there are actually 18 Confederates buried in Kansas City, Kansas. Since our camp is chartered in Kansas City, starting in this issue of "The Telegraph Key" we will recognize those men buried in KCK during their birth month.

Happy 173rd birthday to:

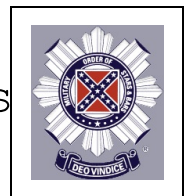
**Private Thomas Willis, Company E, 13th South Carolina Infantry, DOB 13 June 1835

**Coal Passer John Scanlan, CSS Arkansas (Ironclad Ram) DOB 15 June 1835

Memorial Day Weekend

The Key Camp had a busy Memorial Day weekend. On Sunday night the 3rd Battery Missouri Light Artillery (the camp's reenactment unit) was at Liberty Memorial. The Kansas City Symphony conducted their annual Memorial Day concert at Union Station and the men of the 3rd fired their 6-pounder field piece during the 1812 Overture. Monday morning several Key Camp members were at the ceremony at the World War I Museum, where camp member Scott Porter was the first speaker for the program honoring the only living American Doughboy from World War I. Attending these events were Compatriots John and Thomas Bolton, Roy Lafferty, Scott Lalumondier, Merle Leech, Eric and Jacob Martinez, Tim Peterman, Scott Porter, Heath Roland, and Spike Speicher. My thanks to all of you for your support.

The William H. Gregg Chapter (#268)
Of the Military Order of the Stars
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: REMEMBERING THE BIRTH OF PRESIDENT JEFFERSON DAVIS: 3 JUNE 1808



DO YOU KNOW WHAT GREAT CONFEDERATE VICTORY OCCURRED ON
PRESIDENT JEFFERSON DAVIS' BIRTHDAY IN 1864?

See bottom of the 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!

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ANSWER: It was the battle of COLD HARBOR!
REMINDER!!

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE
MAJOR THOMAS J. KEY CAMP #1920
WILL BE ON THURSDAY
JUNE 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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