

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. 7, No. 10

October 2006

NOVEMBER CAMP MEETING 70th Regular Meeting

All compatriots are reminded that the next regular meeting of the Major Thomas J. Key Camp #1920 will be on Thursday November 2nd, 2006. 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. We are very fortunate to have Mr. Richard Stewart as our guest speaker this month. Mr. Stewart is the historian for the historic Elmwood Cemetery located on Truman Road in Kansas City, Missouri. There are a large number of very interesting people buried in Elmwood Cemetery and as the historian for the cemetery, Mr. Stewart is familiar with all of them. There are a number of brilliant photos that Mr. Stewart will use to tell us about the War Between the States soldiers buried in Elmwood Cemetery, some with very ornate headstones. While most of them are Yankees it is still very interesting to see. Elmwood is one of our local cemeteries and it is worthwhile to be aware of just who is buried where. You never know when that nugget of information will be useful. 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.

<u>Officers:</u>	<u>Key Camp</u>	<u>Gregg Chapter</u>
Commander:	James L. Speicher	C. Heath Roland
1 st Lieutenant Commander:	Lee Crutchfield	
2 nd Lieutenant Commander:	Roger Strout.	
Adjutant:	C. Heath Roland	C. Heath Roland
Chaplain:	Steven Crutchfield	
Historian & Scrapbook:	Loren Lundy	
Web Master:	Steven Crutchfield	
Newsletter Editor:	James L. Speicher	
Event Coordinator	Gary Roland	

SCV On The Web

SCV National: www.scv.org

SCV Battleflag Site: www.battleflag.org

Key Camp: www.home.earthlink.net/~keycamp

New Member #

Wornall House Battle of Westport Event

On Saturday October 28th the Wornall House will be having their Battle of Westport commemoration. To celebrate that event the staff at the Wornall House has requested that the Key Camp set up a living history camp in the front yard of the house. The Wornall House is advertising the event so there should be a good turnout of spectators. The plan is to set up the living history campsite with seven or eight tents, have the 3rd Missouri's cannon on display (can't fire it in a residential area because of the potential for broken windows), and have musket firing demonstrations. We need folks in uniform for the living history camp. We need ladies in period attire to be visiting the camp. We need folks in civilian attire to man the recruiting table and historic display. Basically we need everyone we can get. This is only a one-day event and it will go from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. If you have never been to one of these events this would be a good one for you to attend. The Wornall House itself will be open in case you have never been through that museum. So please come and help make this last event of the year a good one.

Leavenworth Veterans Day Parade

This great event is coming up quickly. This is one of the largest Veterans Day Parades in the entire country and we are registered to participate. This will be our sixth appearance in this parade and we need a really strong turnout. We will have a float with the cannon on it, a three flag uniformed Color Guard, our camp flag, and anything else we can come up with. All are welcome. We will have at least two or three compatriots from the BG William Steele Camp marching with us. We will also invite any other camps to come help if they would like to. Steele Camp member Kurtis Kisker will be playing TAPS again this year in

Confederate uniform on the reviewing stand. It's great! If you have a uniform this would be a great opportunity to wear it. We will meet at the parking lot of the Criminal Justice Center, which is at Walnut and 2nd Street. That is directly behind the Court House on 4th Street where the parade forms. We will meet at that location between 8:30 and 9:00 a.m. so we have time to decorate the float. This is a long parade so there will be room on the float for those who would rather not walk. The parade draws thousands of spectators from the entire metropolitan area. This is our last event before we go into the winter doldrums so come on out and enjoy the parade. There will be additional details and a sign-up sheet at the meeting.

Kill Creek Farm Living History

On the 7th and 8th of October the Major Thomas J. Key Camp #1920 got our flag some well deserved publicity. Kill Creek Farm was one of the Johnson County farms that participated in the long Kaw Valley Farm Tour. That brought a lot of spectators to Kill Creek Farm where the Key Camp and the 3rd Missouri Light Artillery had a living history campsite, historical display, and recruiting table set up. We had a very good turnout for the event. Thank you to David Boone (and Mason), Lee Crutchfield, Steve Crutchfield, Craig Freeman (and Angie), Scott Lulamondier, Merle Leech, Jon Linn, Eric Martinez (and Carrie), Jacob Martinez, Heath Roland, Spike Speicher, Joe Strout, Josh Strout, and Roger Strout for your support of the event. We fired the cannon about 20 times, much to the delight of the spectators. The camp had ten tents set up making it our largest display yet. Roger and Josh Strout did an outstanding job of demonstrating how the muskets were fired. A fair number of us even spent the night Saturday night sleeping under the stars (in our tents). This will probably be an event we will do again next year.

Key Camp Loses Three Members

It is with much disappointment that I must announce that the Key Camp lost three members this year that did not renew by paying their dues. All three were Fellowship members. We have lost Phillip Headrick, Dennis Heinitz, and David Nickerson. It is an unfortunate reality in non-profit organizations like the SCV that members fade away due to lack of interest, school, health problems, or other reasons. Whatever their reasons were, we will miss them. We wish them God speed in all their endeavors. Deo Vindice.

Goodbye To The Morgans

More terrible news from the camp front. Two of our stalwart supporters, Bill and Carolyn Morgan, are leaving. That's right. On Saturday the 14th of October they packed up all their stuff and moved to Branson, Missouri. Bill has been our back-up photographer in case Loren Lundy couldn't make an event. Probably the most famous picture of the Confederate monument at Mine Creek was taken by Compatriot Morgan. It was on the day of the dedication and has all the Key Camp members flanking the monument. Bill and Carolyn have seldom missed a camp meeting and they will be greatly missed. They have become very close friends with many of us and the parting is very difficult. All I can say is if anyone wants to do a road trip to see Andy Williams --- I know where we can stay. If you look back through six years of Key Camp scrapbooks you will see their faces continually as a testament of their support. We wish both of you the best of everything in your new home and new city. Bill and Carolyn you may be out of sight but we will never forget your friendship and your smiling faces. We hope you will return often to Kansas City for visits and that you will strategically schedule them to fall on camp meeting dates. God bless each of you. Deo Vindice.

Mine Creek Fall Workday

The weather on Saturday October 14 was absolutely beautiful and made for a most enjoyable workday at Mine Creek Battlefield. At 10:00 a.m. Dr. John Spencer, the president of the Mine Creek Battlefield Foundation, provided coffee and donuts for Key Camp members Larry Brooks, Lee Crutchfield, Merle Leech, Loren Lundy, Dan Peterson, Gary Roland, Heath Roland, Lane Smith, Spike Speicher, and Bob Webster. Also in attendance representing the Key Camp was Kim McWilliam with Wyatt, Jerry, and their sister McKenzie. By about 1:30 p.m. our work was done. We mowed and cleared the half-mile long loop trail for the Moonlight Tour, cleaned all seven scenario sites, built five fire pits and one split rail fence. We pre-positioned firewood at each of the five fire pits. If I do say so myself it looked pretty darn nice. Once we were done Dr. Spencer offered a tour of the battlefield and his offer was taken up by Compatriots Brooks, Crutchfield, both Roland's, Speicher, and Webster. For most of us this was the first time we had actually taken a real tour of the new interpretive trail and it was pretty awesome. I learned a lot about the battle that I was unaware of. By the time we left the battlefield it was ready for the Moonlight Tour (see story below).

Mine Creek Moonlight Tour

In a most disastrous outcome, the Moonlight Tour for 2006 was rained out. It was a beautiful day Friday but the rain began early Saturday morning. The cemetery cutting for that day was the first victim, as it was cancelled at 7:30 a.m. The rain continued all day with no relief. Finally about 2:30 in the afternoon I received a call from Dr. Spencer. He stated the rain had not let up at Mine Creek and everything was soaked. The temperature was slated to drop to 35 degrees and he felt, for safety sake, it was best to cancel the tour.

Lee-Jackson Banquet

I am extremely pleased to announce that the Sixth Annual Lee-Jackson Banquet is scheduled for Saturday evening January 20th, the day after Robert E. Lee's 200th birthday. WOW! 200 years ago on January 19, 1807, the greatest military commander of the world, and the greatest American I know of, was born. It is also the day before General Thomas Jonathan "Stonewall" Jackson's 183rd birthday, having been born on January 21, 1824. What a perfect day to celebrate those two birthdays - a Lee-Jackson Banquet sandwiched right in between the two. This year's banquet will be held at the Grinter Place Banquet Hall, same place as last year. There are several reasons for this: 1. the cost is very affordable; 2. we can re-arrange the tables so we can seat more people since it was a bit tight last year; and 3. next year (2008) the facility at the Metafile Farm will be ready for us to use. The Executive Committee is still in the planning stages for the gala event but I can promise you this - the 2007 banquet will be the best one yet. Good food, great friends, an entertaining program, wonderful door prizes, superb auction items (shown by our own Key Camp's version of Vana White), and best of all the camaraderie of all the Key Camp members and guests. Invitations will be prepared and mailed out within a few weeks. But don't wait for those - mark your calendar now so you don't forget and book something other mundane event for the same evening. The Key Camp's Lee-Jackson Banquet has a reputation for being the best and this year will be no exception. I would make one appeal to the members of the camp. If you would like to donate any items as door prizes or auction items please feel free to do so. Simply contact Commander Speicher or Adjutant Roland and we will arrange to get the item(s) from you. All donations will be gladly accepted. Once again that date is Saturday evening January 20, 2007. See you there!!! Deo Vindice!

REMINDER!!

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

WILL BE ON THURSDAY

NOVEMBER 2nd AT 6:30 P.M.
BRING A FRIEND/PROSPECTIVE MEMBER

The Telegraph Key

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