

# THE TELEGRAPH KEY

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THE OFFICIAL DISPATCH FOR THE  
MAJOR THOMAS J. KEY CAMP #1920, SCV  
AND  
CAPTAIN WILLIAM GREGG CHAPTER #268, MOSB  
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS

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VOL. 8, No. 10

October 2007

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## NOVEMBER CAMP MEETING 81<sup>st</sup> Regular Meeting

All compatriots are reminded that the next regular meeting of the Major Thomas J. Key Camp #1920 will be on Thursday November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007. Please note that we will be meeting at Zarda's Barbecue located on the southwest corner of 87<sup>th</sup> 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. We are very fortunate to have as our speaker Mr. Charles Goslin. How many of you have seen the new Pioneer Crossing Park on Shawnee Mission Parkway across from Yarborough's Restaurant? Or how many of you have seen the unique sculpture on the front of Good Sheppard Catholic Church on 75<sup>th</sup> Street? Both of those plus many more sculptures all over the Kansas City area are the work of Charles Goslin. He is a sculptor, an accomplished artist, and a member of the Sons of the American Revolution, which is where I first met Charles. Listen as he tells how he develops the ideas for his historical sculptures and then turns them into beautiful and meaningful works of art that bring history to life. This promises to be a very fascinating presentation that you 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 <sup>st</sup> Lieutenant Commander:	Lee Crutchfield	
2 <sup>nd</sup> 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	
Media Coordinator	Lane Smith	
Cadet Member Coordinator		

### Key Camp On The Web

Key Camp: [www.majorkey1920ksscvc.org](http://www.majorkey1920ksscvc.org)

SCV National: [www.scv.org](http://www.scv.org)

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## New Member #68

It is a distinct honor to announce that the Major Thomas J. Key Camp #1920 has its new 68<sup>th</sup> member. That's right! Our newest member is Ronald G. Lucas. Ron met us a few years back at the Mahaffie event and has sent in his application. His membership is based on his great, great grandfather who was Private William Cunningham Bellamy. Private Bellamy served in Company D of the 64<sup>th</sup> Virginia Infantry. It is hoped that his paperwork will arrive from SCV International Headquarters in time to induct him at the November 1<sup>st</sup> meeting. Ron should be in attendance at the November meeting so please introduce yourselves and make him feel at home. Ron, it is an honor to have you in our ranks and I hope your relationship with the SCV and the Major Thomas J. Key Camp will be long and fruitful for everyone. Welcome aboard Ron.

## **Ottawa Veterans Day parade**

The annual Ottawa Veterans Day Parade will be held on Saturday November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2007. This is an awesome parade and we have participated for the last three or four years. The folks in Ottawa have always treated us really nice and it is always a pleasure to be there. After the parade there are military displays in the park. We will have the cannon from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Missouri out there and may set up a display table and recruiting table. The parade starts at 10:45 a.m. We will meet in the bank parking lot on the corner of 5<sup>th</sup> Street and East Walnut (one block west of Main) at 9:00 a.m. We need as many folks as possible for this parade. If you have a uniform please wear it. If you are wearing our new camp shirts please wear khaki trousers. Or just wear nice civilian attire. I would like to have a Color Guard, our Camp Flag, and our recruiting banner followed by the truck and float. If you don't want to walk several people can ride on the float itself. This is a great parade so please come on out for it. The sign up sheet will be at the November meeting.

## **Leavenworth Veterans Day Parade**

This year the Leavenworth Veterans Day parade falls on Monday the 12<sup>th</sup> of November. I realize that makes it impossible for many of you to attend because you have to work. But for those of us that get Federal holidays off, don't have class that day, or are retired or just not working then please come on out. We will have a float using Commander Walthall's truck, trailer, and cannon. Our float will be limited in scope based on the number of folks who can make it out. It makes no difference if you wear a uniform, a camp shirt, or just nice civilian attire - we need you!! I would like to get enough to have a Color Guard so if you can make it we can really use you. There will be a sign-up sheet at the November meeting for those who can attend.

## **Mine Creek Moonlight Tour**

On Saturday October 13<sup>th</sup> the Mine Creek Battlefield Foundation hosted its annual Moonlight Tour. While the weather in Kansas City was horrible (rain from 2:00 a.m. until almost noon with 3+ inches of rain) it hardly even rained at Mine Creek. As they said, "It was hardly enough to keep the dust down." In fact that night the field was dusty as the folks walked the tour route. The temperature was just a bit warmer than ideal but overall it was a great experience. Seven members of the camp participated in the tours by providing POWs and wounded soldiers. Compatriots Lee Crutchfield, Merle Leech, Jacob Mirocke, Spike Speicher, and the Strout Clan (Roger, Joey, and Betty) ably represented the Key Camp. Thirteen members had originally signed up but for various reasons they were unable to attend. This is a far cry from a few years ago when the Key Camp had 30 people turn out for the event. After the tours were completed the group was treated to a wonderful feast of cold cuts, salads, cakes, and beverages. This is a major fund-raiser for the Foundation and we are honored to be able to assist in the efforts to raise funds to purchase additional portions of the battlefield and to maintain those portions they already own.

## **1858 Christmas at Harris-Kearney House**

The Westport Historical Society have again requested out assistance. The final Harris-Kearney House event for the year is the 1858 dinner tour that several Key Camp members participated in last year. This event requires only civilian reenactors. That will be from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. on three nights: Wednesday November 14, Friday November 16, and Saturday November 17. If you are interested in attending any or all of the three nights of the dinner tour there will be a sign-up sheet at the November meeting.

## Help Wanted Ad

The Major Thomas J. Key Camp #1920 is looking for an enthusiastic, motivated, caring member to serve as the Cadet Member Coordinator for the camp. This position requires no educational credentials, no experience, entails no travel, and comes with no pay. However you will be reimbursed with the satisfaction of knowing that you are helping to shape the future membership of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. Very little time is required for this position. Duties entail providing Cadet Member Application Forms to prospective Cadet Members and/or sponsors, reviewing the forms for completeness, and submitting the forms to IHQ. At printing time of this newsletter the Key Camp has four Cadet Members. If you would be interested in serving your camp in the capacity of Cadet Member Coordinator please contact any member of the camp Executive Committee (Commander, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Commanders or Adjutant) and make your interest known. This posting will remain in effect until the position is filled. Please consider taking an active roll in forming the future of our great organization by enlisting young men over the age of one day and under the age of 12 years into the Cadet Member Program.

## 2008 Lee-Jackson Banquet

The Major Thomas J. Key Camp #1920 proudly announces that the Seventh Annual Lee-Jackson Banquet will be held on Saturday 26 January 2008. Last year we had 79 reservations. This year let's see how close we can get to 100 reservations!! We certainly have a great attraction this year, as our speaker is the world-renowned author, battlefield preservationist, and hard-core reenactor Robert Lee Hodge. This is a great opportunity to hear a very much in demand speaker. As Rob told me "I will make it worth their while." Not only do we have a great speaker lined up but we also have lots of other attractions. As you all know this is our one big fund raising event each year. We do this in lieu of car washes and bake sales. (I shutter when I visualize our members wearing Speedos and washing cars.) There will be door prizes. There will be good food. There will be the cash bar. And there will be our auction. We have some great items to be auctioned off so you won't want to miss that. Invitations and further details will be forthcoming but go ahead and mark your calendar now!! Saturday January 26, 2008. Be there or be square.

## **Membership Numbers**

The 2006 SCV membership year ran from August 1<sup>st</sup> 2006 to July 31<sup>st</sup> 2007. If dues are not paid by July 31<sup>st</sup> the member has a "grace period" until November 1<sup>st</sup>. At that time, if dues have not been paid, the member is taken off the SCV roster and the subscription to Confederate Veteran magazine is stopped. On November 1st our camp will take a big hit in membership losses. As of the end of the membership year we will lose five members. That's a tough loss for a camp our size. We lost one member that died. We had one member move out of state. Another member left for health reasons. The other two members I would classify as no longer interested and too busy to be a member. Bottom line is that we lost five members. If we are to remain a viable entity we can't afford to lose that many members. Our camp does a tremendous job of supporting War Between the States related events all around the Kansas City metropolitan area. We have an extremely good reputation with a large number of historical organizations. We receive many requests to help do this or help with this event. If we are going to continue to provide assistance to those events we need to keep our membership numbers up. That is why recruiting is so important. I know you are probably tired of hearing me stress membership but it is our lifeblood. The SCV, as an organization, has over 31,000 members. As of November 1<sup>st</sup> our camp will drop to 64 members. We really need to recruit.



# MISSOURI PARTISAN RANGERS

Fighting terrorism since 1861

(Members of the Major Thomas J. Key Camp at Fortescue, Missouri on Saturday 20 October 2007)

**REMINDER!!**

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

**WILL BE ON THURSDAY**

**NOVEMBER 1<sup>st</sup> AT 6:30 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*