

THE TELEGRAPH KEY



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



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OCTOBER 2014

NOVEMBER CAMP MEETING THURSDAY 6 NOVEMBER 2014 157th REGULAR MEETING

All compatriots are reminded that the next regular meeting of the Major Thomas J. Key Camp #1920 will be on Thursday November 6th, 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 speaker for the evening will be from the Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area. The discussion will center on how the organization will use funds to preserve and protect historic sites inn the 16 counties along the Kansas and Missouri border, to include the Burnt District. I think you will find it interesting to learn what is being done and how it affects our future. This is also an important meeting because we will be announcing the results of the camp officer elections for 2015-2016. These are the folks that will take the Key Camp to new heights. So come on out for the November meeting and hear about. 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 MEMBERS

We have good news in the recruitment arena. There are two prospective members working on their applications. One is working on tracing his genealogy to, believe it or not, Stonewall Jackson. The other prospective member is in the process of completing his application. Chuck Middleton lives in Pennsylvania but wants to join our camp as his brother-in-law is "Hoss" Tucker. I met Chuck last week on my trip to Pennsylvania and he is a neat guy. He is a World War II veteran. More details on these gentlemen as they get closer to becoming compatriots.

Two Great Events

The Key Camp was involved in two fun events during October. First was a display and recruiting booth at the Shawnee Indian Mission on the weekend of October 11 and 12. It was a success and we had a lot of traffic through our area. My thanks to Compatriot Jim Thornton for getting everything set up since I had a commitment that morning. I also want to thank Jim "Hoss" Tucker and John Weir for their help on Saturday. On Sunday my thanks go to John Weir for helping me man the booth. We did talk to several interested people and gave out a lot of our recruiting business cards.



Our display set up at the Shawnee Indian Mission being manned by Compatriots Jim Thornton and Jim "Hoss" Tucker



Second Lieutenant Commander John Weir dazzles the audience with his extensive knowledge of Confederate equipment and weaponry at Mine Creek.

The second event was the 150th Commemoration of the Battle of Mine Creek. The Key Camp set up a living history camp site with three tents, camp boxes, and flags. With that, we had two tables of relics and weapons. The big attraction was the cannon firing demonstration by our camp sponsored reenactment group, the 3rd Battery Missouri Light Artillery, CSA. In addition to our display there were cavalry tactic displays, a WBTS Medical Tent, a World War I display that was really neat, and several other vendors. I was amazed at the public turnout for this. There had to be 500 people that attended. We entertained folks and answered questions from 10:00 a.m. until almost 4:00 p.m. We had a blast. I want to thank Eric and Carrie Martinez, Jacob Martinez, Mike Smith, Jim Thornton, and John Weir for supporting the camp. A special thank you

goes to John Weir for going down to Mine Creek the Saturday before the event and cleaning up the area around the Confederate monument, trimming the bushes, and putting down fresh red mulch. The monument looked splendid for all the folks that went down to see it. A state park ranger went down to see it and said he was very impressed with our monument. That is a great compliment coming from someone like that to make. Kudos for us. It is the ONLY Confederate monument in the state of Kansas.

Battle of Westport Commemoration

The 150th Anniversary of the Battle of Westport was the weekend of 24-26 October. Friday the 24th was school day and the Key Camp was ably represented by Adjutant Steve Crawford and Compatriot Mike Smith giving a presentation on WBTS weapons and equipment. Their audience was 200 home schooled high school students. I want to thank Steve and Mike for volunteering to take on this tasking and doing such a great job. It speaks well of the camp and will ensure future invitations to events where we can tell the true history of the war to the young folks in this country.

Up Coming Parade

On Saturday November 8th, 2014, the Key Camp will again participate in the Veterans Day Parade in Ottawa, Kansas. We have been in this parade for the last nine or ten years and we are always made to feel welcome. Our entry will consist of a Color Guard and the 3rd Battery's cannon on the trailer. It would be great to have large turnout of folks in uniform or civvies/camp shirts. Last year we fielded eleven camp members and three ladies. Again this year, we will rendezvous in the bank parking lot at 5th Street and Walnut. Please arrive around 8:30 a.m. so we can get the trailer decorated and assign positions for the parade. The

parade starts at 11:00 a.m. but if you arrive as late as 9:00 a.m. you will find many of the streets closed and you will have a hard time to get to our rally point. After the parade we will set the cannon up in Forrest Park and fire it for a demonstration. There will also be many equipment displays from other wars the U.S. has been involved in. It promises to be a fun time for all involved. There will be a sign-up sheet at the meeting so we can do some preliminary planning before the parade.

2015 Lee-Jackson Banquet

The gala event of the season is quickly approaching. It is the annual fund raising banquet for the Key Camp. We don't hold car washes or sell cookies. Instead we eat and have fun with a live auction. It will again be held at the Abdullah Temple on Metcalf. Mark your calendar now for Saturday 24 January 2015. In addition to dinner there will be an outstanding keynote speaker by the name of Ms. Cassy Gray. Cassy is the editor of the e-zine titled "The Stainless Banner", which is dedicated to honoring members of the Confederate military. She is a well known speaker in the SCV as she has addressed numerous camps throughout the confederation. Her presentation is on "The Relationship and Friendship of Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson". This should prove to be one of our best speakers ever and we are fortunate to have been able to book her for our banquet. The auction this year has numerous items original to the WBTS including a dug nipple wrench, a group of dug unfired musket caps, an 1812 document signed by British general, and much, much more. This is one event you do not want to miss. More details to follow but just to be safe, go ahead and mark your calendar now!!

REMINDER!

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

WILL BE ON THURSDAY

NOVEMBER 7th AT 7:00 P.M.

BRING A FRIEND/PROSPECTIVE MEMBER

The Telegraph Key

Major Thomas J. Key Camp #1920

Sons of Confederate Veterans

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