

# THE TELEGRAPH KEY

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

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### OCTOBER CAMP MEETING 112<sup>TH</sup> Regular Meeting

All compatriots are reminded that the next regular meeting of the Major Thomas J. Key Camp #1920 will be on Thursday October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2010. 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 have a bit of a different topic with our speaker this month. Mr. Tom McConnell will be our guest and he will be discussing "A Confederate Chaplain in the Civil War". This is one topic I don't think we have heard about before. With the religious revival that swept through both armies in 1862-63 it played a major role in Confederate units and may be one of the reasons those men were so willing and obedient that they would cross a one-mile wide field against an entrenched enemy under intense fire from artillery and muskets. Every unit down to company size had their own chaplains, official and otherwise. I believe this will be a very interesting topic that will be well presented and enjoyable. You don't want to miss this one. Be sure to bring your wife or significant other as they are always welcome. Also 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 <sup>st</sup> Lieutenant Commander:	Lee Crutchfield
2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Commander:	John Weir
Adjutant:	C. Heath Roland
Chaplain:	Carl Linck
Communications Officer:	Steve 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](http://www.majorkey1920ksscvc.org)

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

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## New Member #78/71

Still waiting? Not any longer. We have a new member to induct. He would have been our 78<sup>th</sup> member but since we appear to have lost 7 members for non-payment of dues he will be our new 71<sup>st</sup> member. He is James D. Thornton and he lives in Shawnee. His 3<sup>rd</sup> great grandfather was Joel Gilmore Wood and he served first as Captain of Company E. 8<sup>th</sup> Arkansas Battalion and also in Company A, Davies' Arkansas Battalion. Division genealogist Kevin Ivey did the research to confirm the Confederate ancestor for Mr. Thornton. Unfortunately his work schedule will prohibit him from attending in October. Please take time to introduce yourself to him at the October meeting and make him feel at home. Welcome aboard Compatriot James D. Thornton. Think he is related to "Coon" Thornton?

## Caution

Recently we had a situation that brought home a very important message. Many of us that go out and mow the Pleasant Grove Cemetery are "senior" citizens. We aren't as young as we once were and our bodies, as magnificent as they are, can't do all the stuff we used to be able to do. Recently one of our members who was mowing collapsed at the cemetery. Very, very fortunately there was a second member present to call for assistance. The Camden Point Volunteer Fire Department responded as did an ambulance. The member was transported to the hospital and was released a couple of hours later. He is okay. BUT...what if the other member had not been there? The results could have been very different, possibly even tragic. Hence forth no one is to go to the cemetery alone to mow or clean. Use the buddy system. There should ALWAYS be at least two people out there. We don't need to take that chance. Deo Vindice!

## New Communications Officer

Commander-in-Chief Michael Givens recently issued General Order #1. This order mandated that all camps are to have a camp specific e-mail that International Headquarters, Army Commanders, and Division Commanders can use to pass important information quickly to all camps. It also mandated that each camp have a Communications Officer to be responsible for operating the address and checking it daily for any correspondence. The Camp Executive Committee met and appointed Compatriot Steve Crawford as our Communications Officer. Steve has already established our e-mail as "scv1920@gmail.com". Access to the e-mail account will be limited to the Executive Committee and a few designated personnel. My thanks to Compatriot Crawford for accepting the challenge and for his quick work on establishing the e-mail account.

## Upcoming Parades

We have two parades coming up in the near future. The first is the Ottawa Veterans Day Parade. This will be on Saturday November 6<sup>th</sup>. We will plan to meet in Ottawa at 8:30 a.m. that morning. We will need lots of people. We are planning on a Color Guard and a float. Our float will be the cannon on the trailer. We need to decorate the trailer and rehearse the Color Guard. We need as many people as possible in uniform and as many as possible in khaki trousers and camp shirts. The parade is only about six or seven blocks long but anyone is welcome to ride on the float if you so desire. This has always been a fun parade and we have always been very well accepted. This will be our tenth year for this parade. There will be a sign up sheet at the September meeting so please plan to join us if at all possible.

The second parade is in Leavenworth on Thursday November 11<sup>th</sup>, the actual day of Veterans Day. This is one of the largest parades in the Midwest; it is big. It is also long. Unfortunately since it is on a week day it is hard to get volunteers. What we are planning to do is a joint Union and Confederate Color Guard. We did this last year and it worked well. Again this year we will plan to meet in Leavenworth around 8:30 a.m. for practice and fun. There will be a sign up sheet for this parade also. We really need guys for this one since so many members have to work that day.

Parades are a great way for us to get our flag in front of the public in a positive manner. It is good publicity for our camp and for the SCV. Our recruiting banner that we carry in the parades speaks of Southern heritage. This is getting our message out. That is why it is so important that we participate in these events. That is why it looks good to have a strong turnout at the parades we are in. Besides, they are great fun.

## Pleasant Grove Cemetery

Our eleventh year---that's right---our eleventh year of caring for the Confederate monument and graves, and hence a major portion of the entire cemetery, is coming to a close. This is a project that we should all be very proud of. This is the type of work that the SCV stands for. This is a perfect example of how we honor those Confederate soldiers. The six men executed after capture represent to us all of our ancestors. We may not be related to any of those six men but we are related, by blood, to our own Confederate soldier ancestors. As the season runs down I feel we will probably have two more mowing sessions. One will be before the end of September. I will send out an e-mail to inform everyone of the date. The other will be after our October meeting and we will set the date at that meeting. I want to thank everyone that has been to the cemetery this summer. There are too many too many to list but you know who you are and you have all earned my thanks and the thanks of the entire camp. Congratulations on a job well done.

## 2011 Lee-Jackson Banquet

The planning has begun, albeit in the early initial stages, for the 2011 iteration of the Lee-Jackson Banquet. This is to let you know that the date for the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Lee-Jackson Banquet will be Saturday January 15, 2011. This will be a special event as it is our tenth banquet. There will be special surprises, an awesome live auction, door prizes, and of course great food. Mark your calendars now so you will be sure to be available to attend. Block out that date and don't schedule anything else for that evening. Remember, this is our only fund raiser for the year. If we don't do well on this we start doing car washes (close your eyes and picture our members doing a car wash in Speedo swim suits) and bake sales.

REMINDER!!

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

WILL BE ON THURSDAY

OCTOBER 7<sup>th</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*