



MILITARY ORDER of the STARS & BARS

1861



1865

The Confederate States of America

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Officer's Call

Sesquicentennial Series Article #10 General John Bell Hood: A Contrast in Command (By Dr. Sam Gambrell, Jr., Adjutant, Gorgas Chapter #299)

Since many books and articles have been written about battles that General Hood was engaged in, in this article I will focus on General Hood, the man, rather than dwell very much on what he did during the War Between the States.

John Bell Hood was born in Owensville, KY on June 29, 1831, the third child of Dr. John W. Hood, MD, and Theodosia French. Dr. Hood wanted John Bell to follow in his footsteps and become a medical doctor. However, John Bell had other ideas and chose a military career. With an appointment by his uncle, Congressman Richard French, he entered West Point and graduated in 1853 an undistinguished 44th out of 52 students. Hood had a rebellious nature and was often given demerits for his behavior. Colonel Robert E. Lee was the Superintendent of West Point at that time and once disciplined Hood for being absent without authority. Hood's lack of intellectual ability later haunted him during the closing conflicts of the Civil War. Prior to the Civil War, he served in frontier Texas with a cavalry unit commanded by Robert E. Lee. Lee became a mentor for the young Hood, a relationship which would be reestablished later during the Civil War when the two fought together in the Army of Northern Virginia. As an Indian fighter, Hood established a reputation as a brave, fierce soldier and, in 1857, was wounded on Devil's River in a fight with the Comanches when an arrow pinned his left hand to his saddle. He broke the shaft off the arrowhead, pulled out the shaft by the feathers, and continued fighting. His wound left him partially incapacitated for the next two years.

Hood was serving along the Rio Grande when the Civil War broke out. He resigned from the Army on April 16, 1861 as a 1st Lieutenant and then linked himself with the Texas troops where he was commissioned at the same rank in the Confederate Army. Early in the war Hood, along with Richard Anderson, caught the eye of General Lee who stated in 1861 that they were, quote, "capital officers who are improving too and will make good Corps Commanders, if necessary". Sent to Yorktown on the Virginia Peninsula where he commanded Magruder's cavalry force, Hood was promoted rapidly to Captain and then to Colonel on September 30th and was promoted to Brigadier General in March of 1862. He commanded the Texas Brigade in General Lee's Army of Northern Virginia, a brigade which he had personally drilled and instructed to high efficiency. He was noted for "conspicuous gallantry" in the skirmish at Eltham's Landing on May 7th. At Gaines' Mill, he led the charge by the Texans that broke the Army of the Potomac's strong line, the most brilliant achievement of the entire Seven Days Battles. This action won them the reputation as the fiercest combat troops in Lee's army.

After his performance on the Virginia Peninsula, Hood was given command of a division which included the Texas Brigade. His command spearheaded the crushing attack of General Longstreet's wing in August of 1862 at Second Manassas which nearly destroyed General John Pope's Federal Army. After this battle, Hood became embroiled with fellow Brigadier George "Shanks" Evans over a dispute about captured Yankee ambulances. Longstreet, Hood's Corps commander, sided with Evans' orders to have Hood arrested and made to leave the army. Lee wisely intervened and let Hood ride at the rear of the Texans' column during the early movement in the Maryland Campaign. As the Yankee army threatened Lee's forces at South Mountain, Lee brought Hood up from the back of his column and offered him his command again if he would offer a simple statement of regret.

(Continued on Page 4)



MOS&B International
P O Box 1700
White House, TN 37188-1700
Headquarters@mosbihq.org



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The MOS&B *Officer's Call*, a leader among heritage magazines, is published monthly by the Military Order of the Stars and Bars.

The members of the MOS&B are descendants of the Confederate Officer Corps and elected government officials. We are dedicated to the preservation and education of the memory of our ancestors and the traditional values of our Southern Heritage.

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Commander General's Message First Year Accomplishments

As you receive this issue of the Officer's Call, this administration will have turned over the first year of operations on May 1st. It has been an extremely exciting and uniquely significant year as we launched several new committees and initiatives at the beginning of the Sesquicentennial.

Let me assure you that our three legged stool (**securing our financial strength, improving membership recruiting and retention, and expanding our national footprint with other heritage organizations**) is upright and balanced.

1. Financial

Category	5/1/2010	4/12/2011	Difference
Total Assets	269,965	293,776	(+) 23,811
Checking	40,752	29,755	(-) 10,997
Life Member Savings	0	23,368	(+) 23,368

2. Membership

Category	5/1/2010	4/12/2011	Difference
New Members	86	100	(+) 14
Delinquent Dues	230	191	(-) 39
Life Members	535	598	(+) 63
Reported Deceased Members	1,672	1,846	(+) 174
Total Members	1,550	1,538	(-) 12

3. National Footprint - We have received invitations to attend events from the following organizations:

- A. United Daughters of the Confederacy (Chapter, State, and National)
- B. Military Order of the Loyal Legion United States (National)
- C. Sons of the Union Veterans (National)
- D. Sons of the American Revolution (Chapter, State, and National)
- E. Sons of the Revolution (Chapter, State, and National)
- F. Society of the Cincinnati (State, National)

The IRS **Form 990 for CY 2010** is almost completed and will be reviewed by the General Executive Council on April 16th. This document is being prepared internally and will save the Order approximately \$1,500 of professional accounting services. Treasurer General Jim Templin sends to the GEC our financial statements on a monthly basis (Balance Statement, Profit and Loss Statement, and Actual versus Budget.)

Communication to and with the membership has increased exponentially through various platforms. The **Officer's Call Magazine** is issued every month. We are communicating with many members on **genealogical research** and have through our Genealogist General worked diligently on improving our ancestor information and our **Collaterals project**. Our Webmaster General has provided us with a clean and attractive **new website** with an effective **merchandise store**. There are more improvements to be completed. The Adjutant General keeps our membership informed with the current events and notifications via the **listserv**. We are continually increasing the percent of our **digital records** and refinement to our membership files.

It is my fervent hope that you are pleased with the membership services that you are receiving. While we are not perfect, we are providing you with our best efforts to achieve exemplary service. It is an honor to serve you! Thank you for your confidence in me and your General Officers and Staff.

Gentlemen, the future of the Order is in **YOUR** hands!

Max Lee Waldrop, Jr.
Commander General

(From Page 1 - General John Bell Hood: A Contrast in Command)

Hood flatly refused and Lee, undaunted, announced that Hood's arrest was suspended while fighting was to be done and then he put the charismatic Hood back at the head of his division. (No reference to or comment on Hood's arrest was ever again made by Lee or Longstreet). A few days later at the height of the bloody fighting in the Cornfield at Sharpsburg, Hood's men were thrown in to stop the Confederate left from being crushed. After the battle, Hood wrote, quote, "it was here that I witnessed the most terrible clash of arms, by far, that has occurred during the war". After suffering heavy losses in and near the Cornfield with nearly two-thirds of his men having been killed and wounded, Hood's men held and the army survived. As the bloodiest day of the war came to an end General Lee asked Hood, quote, "Great God, General, where is your splendid division?" Hood replied, quote, "They are lying upon the field where you sent them, sir." After Sharpsburg, Hood's combat record was unequaled by any in the army and, upon the recommendation of General Jackson, Hood was promoted to Major General in October of 1862.

I'll offer here some general observations about Hood. He was not a talented administrator. He was inclined to be careless and inspections of his Texas Brigade in 1862 revealed a dirty camp, arms in bad order, and only a third of his men decently clad. However, Hood had a taste for battle, and there he shone as a great leader of men. In the book, "Hood's Texas Brigade", by J. B. Polley, is the statement calling Hood, quote, "a splendid soldier peculiarly suited to command of his reckless, daring, and indomitable Texans with whom he was a special favorite. Commander and men alike never knew when they were beaten, or when they must be". A member of Lee's staff who had experienced many battles approached Hood with an order from Lee in the middle of heavy fighting. He stated, quote, "The fierce light in Hood's eyes I can never forget". Later, Union Major Generals James McPherson and John Schofield, who were Hood's classmates at West Point, summed Hood up thusly, quote, "Though not deemed much of a scholar, or of great mental capacity, he was undoubtedly a brave, determined, and rash man". At the time of Gettysburg, it was the universal opinion in the Confederacy that, of any division commander in the army, the most likely to have a brilliant future was Hood. Besides General Robert E. Lee, at the time of Gettysburg, there was no greater celebrity than Major General John Bell Hood. Called "Sam" by his intimates, the Kentuckian was still a bachelor at thirty-two, six feet two inches tall and lanky, with a booming, rich voice and a particularly grave face. The Civil War diarist in Richmond, Mary Chesnut, said, quote, "When he came with his sad face, the face of an old crusader who believed in his cause, his cross, and his crown, we were not prepared for that type as a beau ideal of wild Texans. He is tall, thin, shy, with sparkling blue eyes, light hair, and a tawny beard, a vast amount of it covering the lower part of his face. He wears an appearance of awkward strength. Someone said that his great reserve of manner he carried only to the society of ladies".

Hood's exploits at Gettysburg and thereafter during the war are well documented in many books and articles and I will only speak briefly about some of them here. On July 2, 1863 at Little Round Top, scouts reported that the Union line ended just North of Little Round Top. Hood's orders were to attack first up the Emmitsburg Road, drive the Yankee left, and assist McLaw's men when they attacked later. However, with the news from his scouts about the location of the end of the Union line, Hood, for the first time in his life, requested a change in his attack order. He asked Longstreet to be allowed to skirt the Union left and come in to attack behind the Union defenders. Longstreet refused. After asking for a fourth time and being refused again, Longstreet's reply was a preemptory demand to attack immediately as ordered. Hood's request for a flank attack on the Union left remains one of the great "what ifs" of the battle of Gettysburg. After receiving Longstreet's final order, Hood gave his order saying, quote, "Fix bayonets, my brave Texans: forward and take those heights!!" Stopping in a peach orchard to observe the attack, a shell from a Union battery exploded above his head shredding the entire length of his left arm. The bearded giant was out of the battle and General Lee would later refer to Hood's wounding as the moment the battle was lost.

After a period of recovery from his wound and without the use of his left arm, Hood and his division were sent to reinforce General Bragg's Army of Tennessee in the West. Hood led his troops with his arm in a sling. Having been promoted to Lieutenant General effective on 20 Sept 1863, Hood, at the Battle of Chickamauga, lost his right leg to a bullet in the thigh. After a period of recovery, he continued to command his Corps strapped in his saddle on his horse and was a Corps commander at the start of the Atlanta Campaign. Promoted on 18 July 1864 as the youngest of the full Confederate Generals, Hood was unmatched for bravery and gallantry on the battlefield and, earlier when in his prime, was a hero of the Confederacy.

Wanting a fighter to replace the ever retreating General Joseph E. Johnston, President Davis got what he wanted when he placed Hood in command of the Army of Tennessee in front of Atlanta on July 17, 1864. On July 12, 1864 General Lee telegraphed his reply to President Davis' request for his opinion, quote, "Hood is a good fighter, very industrious on the battlefield, careless off, and I have had no opportunity of judging his action, when the whole responsibility rested upon him. I have a very high opinion of his gallantry, earnestness and zeal. General Hardee has more experience in managing an army. May God give you wisdom to decide on this momentous matter." Hood's promotion was deeply resented by Lieutenant General Hardee who was miffed at being passed over for promotion. He asked to be relieved of command. He wrote, quote, "It is well known that I felt unwilling to serve under General Hood upon his succession to the command of the Army of Tennessee, because I believed him, though a tried and gallant officer, to be unequal in both experience and natural ability to so important a command".

Hood, often unwisely, attacked again and again after taking command. Union General John Schofield, Hood's roommate at West Point, warned General Sherman that, quote, "Hood will hit you like hell, now, before you know it". Hood finished the war as a victim of the Peter Principle. Marching the 30,000 man Army of Tennessee out of Florence, Alabama into Tennessee on November 19, 1864, he led the proud army into disaster after disaster culminating in the Battles of Franklin and Nashville in late 1864. It was Hood's old teacher, Union General George Thomas, who was almost relieved by General Grant before the battle, who ended Hood's career at Nashville. Heartbroken after the Battle of Nashville, he resigned his commission in January of 1865. After learning of the capture of President Davis, Hood surrendered to Federal authorities at Natchez, MS on May 31, 1865. While probably being the best division commander in the Confederate Army while serving under General Lee and others, Hood was not a successful army commander. Pending his appointment to command the Army of Tennessee, General Lee advised President Davis, quote, "Hood is a bold fighter. I am doubtful as to the other qualities necessary". John Dyer, author of "The Gallant Hood" states, quote, "He was essentially a man of emotion rather than intellect. He was never a reasoning and analytical man who carefully weighed all possible factors in a given problem or situation. Rather, he was much inclined to be impetuous in his decisions and trust in his intuition and his blind optimism to see him through".

After the war Hood moved to New Orleans where he married and was involved in merchandizing, real estate, and the insurance businesses. General Simon Boliver Buckner, a lifelong friend of General Grant, was his best man. Hood died in New Orleans of yellow fever in 1879. He is buried at the Metairie, LA cemetery. In "COMPANY AYTCH", published in 1882, Private Sam Watkins of the 1st Tennessee wrote, quote, "General John B. Hood did all that he could. The die had been cast. Our cause had been lost before he took command. He fought with the fierceness of the wounded tiger and the everlasting grip of the bull-dog. The army had been decimated until it was but a mere skeleton---when he commenced his march into Tennessee--- General Hood was just simply left in the lurch". Later, writing in The Southern Bivouac in May, 1884, Watkins reflected the love Hood's men had for him in the epitaph that he wrote, quote, "But the half of brave Hood's body moulders here: The rest was lost in honor's bold career. Both limbs and fame he scattered all around, Yet still, though mangled, was with honor crowned; Forever ready with his blood to part, War left him nothing whole--except his heart."

His wife, the former Anna Marie Hennen, and his eldest daughter preceded him in death by only a few days, also dying of yellow fever. The couple left ten orphans who were adopted by families in the North as well as the South. The family unit was completely broken up. Of the ten children, only two married. The original photograph of the ten Hood orphans is located in the collections of the Confederate Museum in New Orleans. Portraits of General Hood and his wife are part of the photograph of the children.

General Hood has been memorialized throughout the nation by naming Fort Hood, Texas for him. A large, color painting of General Hood is located on the second floor of Mary Harmon Bryant Hall at the University of Alabama.

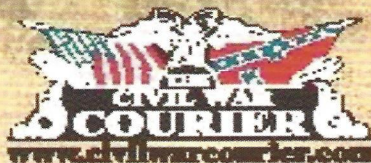
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We saved the historic house General James Longstreet used as his headquarters during the winter of 1863 – 64 from demolition and are developing it into a museum, (See www.longstreetmuseum.com), and historic Bethesda Church which was used as a hospital by both armies, and battlefield preservation.

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Guilford Gray, Company B, 27th North Carolina Troops



40th Virginia Infantry



26th North Carolina Troops Furthest at Gettysburg



The Collection of Flags at the Museum of the Confederacy

By Cathy Wright, Collections Manager, and Waite Rawls, President & CEO

As the readers of this newsletter know well, the Museum of the Confederacy was founded in 1890 to be the museum for what had been the Confederate nation. Its founders were a collection of the most important women from across the entire South in combination with a group of very influential women from Virginia. In its first 15 years, about half of the current collection had been donated by the famous Confederate leaders and their families and also by the less famous, but no less important, enlisted soldiers and common civilians. In order to preserve their legacy, hundreds of donors thought it their duty to contribute not only their uniforms, arms, and papers, but also thousands of civilian items. These artifacts cover a gamut from the critically important to the far less significant; but, taken collectively, they are the largest, most important collection of items of the American South before, during, and after the era of the Confederacy.

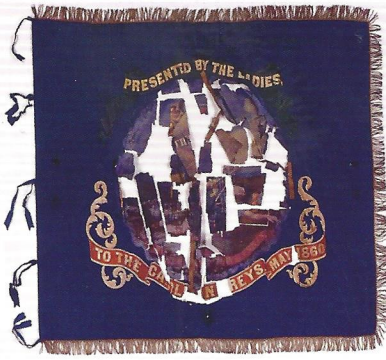
Perhaps no part of the collection is more significant than the flags. By most estimates, there are about 1,300 wartime flags of the Confederacy in existence, and the Museum of the Confederacy is the repository for 510 of them. For 120 years, we have preserved, displayed, researched, and interpreted them.

Source of the Collection:

Our collection came from three primary sources. First, a large number of flags were donated directly by their private owners—often from the color bearers who carried them and who prevented their capture. Most of our First, Second, and Third National pattern flags were donated by individuals, as were a variety of state flags. Many of these donations were the silk flags that had been made before the war, or in its early days, for company use, with state seals on one side and a depiction of local interest on the other—painted in oil directly on the flag. Most of these were retired early in the war in favor of battle flags. So the appearance of a Confederate army also changed from an array of unique, local flags to one of national identity. But even with battle flags, the collection showcases the array of patterns—Hardee, Polk, Van Dorn, Bragg, and others. By 1905, the Museum had 100 flags in its collection from private donations.

In 1905, the largest collection of Confederate flags were actually held by the U. S. War Department, where there were 545 flags which had been captured during the war. In that year, reunification sentiment was strong enough to get Congress to pass legislation to return the flags to the states of origin if origin could be determined from the flag. The Commonwealth of Virginia received 75 flags from Virginia troops and immediately entrusted them to the Museum of the Confederacy, including 13 of the 15 flags carried by Pickett's Division at Gettysburg. In 1938, this group of flags was loaned by the Museum to the Confederate Memorial Association, which had built its "Battle Abbey" in Richmond on the site of the Robert E. Lee Camp of Confederate Veterans. They hung there until they were returned to the Museum in the 1980s, well after the CMA merged with the Virginia Historical Society in 1946.

The third source came in 1906. The War Department still had 252 flags which did not have any unit or state designation. Congress passed a further resolution that donated all of those flags to the Museum. Many of them are unmarked Army of Northern Virginia battle flags. In the past 30 years, the Museum has tentatively identified many of those flags by studying the flag itself, its date of capture, and the unit which captured it. For example, the 26th North Carolina Troops had 20 color bearers killed or wounded at Gettysburg where their casualty rate exceeded any other Southern unit in any battle of the war. They advanced further than any other unit in the Pickett/Pettigrew Charge before losing their flag. That flag has been tentatively identified and is currently on loan to the North Carolina Museum of History.



Caroline Greys, Company E, 30th Virginia Infantry Before Conservation



8th Virginia Regiment Volunteers



Caroline Greys, Company E, 30th Virginia Infantry After Conservation

Highlights of the Collection:

The collection includes so many notable flags that listing the “most important” is indeed a challenge. But here goes:

- The first ANV battleflag, stitched by the Cary sisters for Gen. Joseph E. Johnston and used as his HQ flag for the rest of the war.
- Robert E. Lee’s HQ flag, based on the First National pattern but with a unique Ark of the Covenant pattern of stars, stitched for him by his wife.
- The first Second National flag ever made, originally used to drape Stonewall Jackson’s casket when his body lay in state in the Capitol Building.
- The Second National pattern flag of the *CSS Shenandoah*, the last Confederate flag surrendered in the war, in November 1865.
- The Third National pattern flag which was draped on Jefferson Davis’ casket for his reburial at Hollywood Cemetery.
- Several flags made from the wedding dresses of their makers, including Mrs. P. G. T. Beauregard and Mrs. A. P. Hill.
- 59 (?) surrendered at Appomattox, including flags from (# ?) different states.
- A flag carried by Maryland soldiers in both the Civil War and the Revolutionary War
- 7 Kentucky flags, 4 Maryland flags, and 2 Missouri flags.
- 12 C. S. Navy flags.
- 20 Headquarters flags.

But perhaps the real highlight of the collection is the variety of unique unit flags, with paintings or lettering that evoke a variety of emotions and encouragements—“Liberty or Death”, “Don’t Tread on Me”, “Any Fate But Submission”, “On To Victory”, “Our Rights We Defend”, “God and Our Native Land”—and the constant reminder that the flags were from “the Ladies” of various towns and counties. And, among the most evocative of all is the flag of the 15th Virginia, sewn from a wedding dress: it simply says “HOME.”

Challenges of Preservation:

We have good and bad news about the preservation of the collection of flags. The bad news is that textiles which are 150 years old become quite fragile. In order to display them, they need to be “conserved,” a laborious and expensive process. The silk flags have become extremely delicate as the material itself cracks and breaks when folded. The oil painting on many of them has deteriorated and fallen into pieces.

The wool flags (and most of the battle flags are wool) have proven to be more durable, but they were tattered, torn, shot through in actual use, and nibbled by insects in the years before coming to the Museum. In the 1930s, noting their condition, many of them were “Ritchie-stitched”—stitched over with a quilting stitch on a sewing machine to give them strength. At the time, this was the best conservation technique that was known. Even the Ft. McHenry Star Spangled Banner was Ritchie-stitched. But today, those very stitches are slowly pulling the underlying fabric apart and making it curl up.

The conservation process includes a careful cleaning. The restoration of a Ritchie-stitched flag is usually the most expensive because each stitch must be clipped and pulled out with tweezers, an enormously time-consuming process. The oil painting on a silk flag is pieced back together, almost like a jigsaw puzzle, and filled in so that the original painting can be seen. The fabric is then carefully flattened onto a padded surface and covered with ultraviolet filtered glass. Once framed, this sturdy arrangement allows the flag to be displayed, stored, or shipped without handling the material.

The MOC began a formal flag conservation program in 1995. Since that time, we have raised over \$500,000 to conserve 50 flags. While that is a remarkable record, we still have over 450 to go. We outsource this work to the very best conservators in the country. Depending on the condition of each flag, they cost \$10,000-25,000 each.

Scores of people have donated to our Flag Conservation Program. In many cases, they simply want to support our efforts by designating their donation to the program. Some simply write "FCP" on their checks, and we recognize that term and direct the money to the program. A few organizations, such as the Order of the Southern Cross, have made large, periodic donations to the program. Other contributions are directed to a particular flag. Naturally, we have our own "hit list" of flags that we prioritize, usually because of the condition of the flag, the unique character of the flag, or the need for a specific exhibit; and we will suggest where we need donations. For example, we now need to conserve some of our Appomattox surrender flags for use in the new museum site there and are raising money for the 18th Virginia, a unit from Appomattox. Or the Caroline Grays flag pictured here was high on our list of priorities because of its unique character and fragile condition. Other donors are interested in a specific unit's flag, often because of an ancestor, and are willing to commit to the whole budget for that flag. In some cases, that is an individual with the means to conserve a flag. In other cases, groups, such as reenactors or Confederate heritage groups, have committed to raise the money for a flag.

Challenges of Interpretation:

As all members of the MOS&B know, the Confederate flag is one of the hot spots of Confederate interpretation, especially because of its use in the 20th century by segregationists (or worse). The image of the Army of Tennessee battleflag evokes passions which sometimes cloud rationality. We work especially hard to help people understand the history and legacy of various flags used by the Confederacy. A day does not go by without hearing someone in the museum explain the various flags. "No, that is not the Confederate national flag. This one is." Or "No, that is not the Stars and Bars. This one is."

Part of the interpretation is to simply display a large number and variety of the flags in the collection. On any given day, we have more than a dozen on view, with exhibit labels explaining the context of that flag and something about its unit. Additionally, many other museums come to us to borrow flags for their exhibits. For example, when you go to the Gettysburg Visitors Center, you will note that the Confederate flags there are borrowed from our collection (along with a lot of their other Confederate artifacts).

Part of the interpretation is to have good images of the flags which can be used in books and magazines. Other partners in "the cause" of history use those images. For example, in solicitations for donations to preserve specific parts of battlefields, the Civil War Preservation Trust frequently uses the images of flags from our collection that were used on that same ground.

Part of the interpretation is to have special exhibits concerning the flags, to write or support scholarly research about the flags, or to give lectures about them. Our exhibit "Embattled Emblem" in 1993 led our Historian John Coski to write a book *The Confederate Battle Flag*, published by the Harvard University Press in 2005, which has become one of the most authoritative sources on the subject. And our exhibit on "Pickett's Charge" allowed us to exhibit many of the flags from that momentous event.

And a final part of the interpretive mission is to have all of our flags available for viewing by museum members and the public. We made a major step in 1998 by publishing a journal *Colours of the Gray*, which listed all of the collection and gave some background to each flag. It is long out of print and out of stock, and we hope to publish a new edition in the future. Using newer technology, in 2009 we put the images of the entire collection on our website www.moc.org in a searchable data base, along with a brief description of each flag. And both members and nonmembers can make an appointment to see a particular flag by calling or emailing flags@moc.org.

Before we close, we should also note that a flag needs a flag pole. We have about 150 flag poles in our collection. While they are not a conservation challenge like the flags, they are very interesting in their variety. A large number of them are simply the branch from a tree, as the flag pole could have been broken or shot through in combat, to be replaced at the time with whatever was convenient and then captured before a suitable replacement could be found.

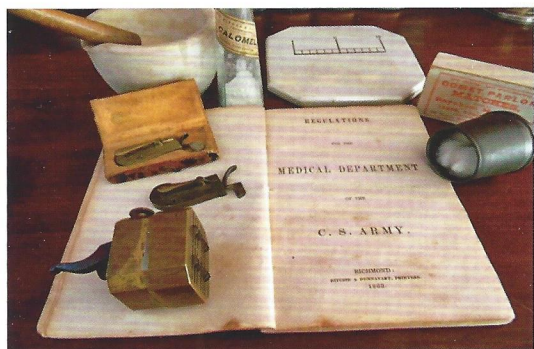
In summary, the colors are the most visible, most emotional statement about the men who followed them. Given the fact that we are the repository of over a third of all of the flags, it is our duty to preserve, interpret, and exhibit them. We believe that MOS&B members would be proud of our efforts, and we hope that you will support them.



Past Commander General Anthony Hodges doing a medical demonstration for Chickamauga-Chattanooga NMP, Lookout Mountain unit at the Cravens House, on the anniversary of the "Battle Above the Clouds."



"Plantation" medical chest, typical of what a Southern surgeon would have brought from home early in the war, it contains medicines for "purging" and medicines which supported their surgical efforts. Atop the chest are the instruments needed for "bleeding." The Confederate government, ideally, provided a large medicine chest or pannier filled with "tins" rather than the more fragile glass bottles, to replace these small chests as the war progressed.



Sitting atop a copy of the Confederate Medical Regulations are the instruments needed for "bleeding". To the right are a tin "cup" stuffed with alcohol saturated cotton. On the left are a cased single blade mechanical bleeder, another without case, and a multi-bladed brass body bleeder on bottom. The uncased center bleeder belonged to a surgeon in the 17th Tennessee Infantry.

BEANS KILLED MORE THAN BULLETS

A broad overview of disease and treatment in the Confederate Army

C. Anthony Hodges, D.D.S.

On average, our Confederate ancestors spent about fifty days in camp or on the march, for every day they spent in battle. The conditions encountered in the camps and on the march would result in many more deaths from disease than the time spent under hostile fire, with approximately twice as many men dying from medically related problems as from battlefield wounds and the related surgery. Inadequate shelter, poor water, improper waste disposal, and nutritionally inadequate and poorly prepared rations were all factors. As one soldier noted in his post-war memoirs, "beans killed more than bullets."

Unfortunately, for the men who composed the armies of the Confederacy and Union, the war could not have come at a worse time when one considers the existing knowledge and state of medicine in the mid-19th century world. Today, the practice of medicine is predicated upon the "germ theory of disease", that is, bacteria and viruses make people ill. However, in the mid 1800's, disease was still being blamed on "bad blood", "ill humors", "miasms" and other hard to define entities. Little had changed over several centuries when it came to the knowledge of medicine and disease and our ancestors medical knowledge was closer to that of King Arthur's Camelot than 21st century America. The studies and discoveries of Lister and others that would lead to the "germ theory" (and ultimately to our modern method of fighting disease-causing bacteria with antibiotics) were taking place at the time of the war and in the years thereafter. Thus it can be said that the War Between the States was one of the final acts in the "dark ages of medicine", a fact which had profound ramifications for any of our ancestors who became ill from disease.

When each Confederate regiment was raised, it was assigned a Surgeon and Assistant Surgeon. It should be noted that "Surgeon" is simply a military term for a doctor or physician and does not imply a "specialist" in surgery as it does today. These surgeons were assigned the ranks and attendant benefits of a Major, Captain, or Lieutenant of Cavalry, with medical experience determining which rank was assigned. Regiments were usually raised in a local geographic area with local men selected as the officers for that regiment. The assignment of Surgeons followed this same pattern with the local physicians forming the pool from which the regimental surgeons were chosen. The medical and surgical experience of each surgeon varied widely. For example, the 20th Tennessee Infantry, raised in the Nashville area, had an experienced surgeon who had taught at a prominent medical school (University of Nashville), and had a wide knowledge of medical and surgical techniques of the day. Other units raised in a more rural area would typically have a surgeon with less experience and possibly less formal training. Medical school in mid-19th century America usually lasted six months to a year and no "pre-med" education was required as it is today. The ability to pay the tuition was usually the only admission requirement. The schools that lasted a year instead of six months, usually repeated the course work twice rather than adding any new information to the curriculum. Some physicians, especially in rural areas, simply "apprenticed" with a local doctor to obtain their education. State licensure and board requirements were virtually unknown in the pre-war South. The Confederate military did institute a board examination for medical officers, but they were not standardized, and the degree of difficulty in passing the board varied widely within the Confederacy.

In addition to the Surgeon and Assistant Surgeon, each regiment was assigned a Hospital Steward and litter or stretcher bearers to aid the surgeons. The Hospital Steward functioned as both a head nurse and pharmacist for the regiment. Men assigned to this duty often had been medical students, pharmacists, or had other medical experience prior to the war's beginning. If a regimental band existed, they were often assigned the role of stretcher bearers or assigned to assist the medical officers. If a band did not exist, men were picked from the ranks for this duty, and Army of Tennessee General A. M. Manigault noted in his memoirs that only the best and bravest were picked for this duty.

The diseases encountered by the South's soldiers varied over time as the war progressed. In the early part of the war, when large groups of soldiers were brought together in encampments for training and organization, the prominent diseases were usually childhood diseases such as measles, chicken pox, and mumps. Measles was a big killer in the early war and when the fledgling Army of Tennessee was massed along in the Tennessee-Kentucky border in 1861 and early 1862, infantile diseases were rampant in the army's encampments. This was especially true for the men and regiments from rural areas, as they had less exposure to these diseases due to the "spread out" nature of their communities, while the "city-bred" soldiers had often had these diseases (and the resulting immunity) due to the more compact nature of their communities and the increased likelihood of exposure to them while growing up. It was not unusual for these regiments in the early part of the war to be at 50 per cent or less strength due to disease, even though they had yet to hear a shot fired in anger.

As the war progressed the diseases became more serious in nature with smallpox, typhoid fever, malaria, scurvy, and other diseases appearing with regularity in the South's armies. By mid 1862, and continuing until war's end, bowel complaints such as diarrhea and dysentery, were the most common problem in the army and one surgeon wrote that he considered diarrhea/dysentery to be "THE" disease of the Confederate Army. Probably every Confederate soldier had multiple bouts with this problem and some experts have concluded that bowel complaints killed nearly as many men as all the battle casualties combined.

Unfortunately, as noted previously, the medical officers had no real idea of the causes of these diseases, and as a result, they could not come up with an effective method of treating them. Treatment for disease in the 1860's was usually either by "bleeding" or "purging".

Bleeding as a medical treatment had been around for centuries and the War Between the States was its final hurrah. Bleeding consisted of eliminating the disease-causing "bad blood" from the system by removal of blood from the patient's body. In the "dark ages" and even during the American Revolution bleeding had been accomplished by the application to the patient of living leeches to remove the bad blood. By the time of the WBTS, bleeding was accomplished through the use of "cups" and mechanical bleeders. The "cup" was used to create suction and cause an accumulation of the bad blood and the "bleeder" was used to incise the accumulated bad blood and thus remove it.

For example, in treating pneumonia, which was known to be an accumulation of fluid in the lungs, cupping and bleeding was frequently used. A piece of cotton, saturated in alcohol, was placed inside a small glass or metal cup. The cotton, saturated with alcohol, was ignited with a match, and while burning inside the cup, the cup was placed on the patient's chest over the lungs. This created a "suction" (the intent was NOT to burn) which resulted in a fluid filled bump or blister. The physicians of the era surmised that the fluid in the blister had been removed from the lungs and they would use a bleeding instrument to incise the blister and allow the fluid to flow out. This resulted, or so they thought, in the removal of the disease causing fluid from the lungs. Of course, we now know this to be spurious and it resulted only in further weakening of the patient. Bleeding instruments could be as simple as a small single knife type blade or as elaborate as a dozen blades in a brass body which all incised at one time when a trigger was pushed. After his wounding at Chancellorsville, General Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson was cupped and bled in this manner to treat his pneumonia while recovering from his amputation and many feel this contributed to his untimely death.

Bleeding was practiced on such a large scale during the war that any observant and thoughtful physician would realize that it was ineffective and any improvement in the patient was in spite of treatment not because of it. It was practiced by "older" physicians in the main, but unfortunately, its replacement therapy, "purging", was not very effective either.

"Purging" therapy, like bleeding, was predicated on the same believe in bad blood or ill humors as the origin of disease, but unlike bleeding, it used medicines that caused perspiring, urination, vomiting, and bowel movements to eliminate the disease causing ill humors. In some instances, medicines which caused several of these actions at one time were used. Often these medicines were substances we now know to be poisonous in larger doses, such as "sugar of lead" (lead acetate) and "calomel" or "blue mass" (mercury compounds). As noted earlier, diarrhea and dysentery were the most common diseases in the Confederate armies. A typical treatment for these diseases would consist of the administration of a paregoric, an opium compound which causes constipation, to eliminate the active symptoms, but this would be followed a few hours later by "blue mass", a heavy metal laxative, which evacuated the bowels, and also eliminated the diarrhea causing ill humors (or so the physicians thought). This cycle of paregoric followed by blue mass might be carried on for several days. Of course, this purging therapy actually

dehydrated the patients, which is a critical flaw under any circumstances, but particularly so in the case of bowel complaints, where the patients were usually already dehydrated.

There were some treatment successes. A program of "vaccination" against smallpox was instituted and the entire Army of Tennessee was inoculated prior to the opening of the Tullahoma campaign in the summer of 1863. Quinine was effectively used to treat malaria and other fevers, and to a large degree served as a general analgesic similar to today's aspirin or ibuprofen. However quinine and other effective medicines were often in short supply. Southerners tried to overcome these shortages by substituting dogwood bark for quinine, with this and other substitutes covered in a book, RESOURCES OF SOUTHERN FIELDS AND FORESTS by Frances Porcher, which was distributed through the South. The Confederate government had a program where they paid women in coastal Carolina and Georgia to grow opium poppies, with the poppies being collected and sent to government laboratories for processing into medicinal opium.

It can safely be stated that medical (disease) treatment for the most part was a disaster for our Confederate ancestors and when the knowledge and treatments of the era are reviewed, it is little wonder that disease deaths outnumbered battlefield deaths by roughly two to one. This was due to the state of medical knowledge however, and not due to a lack of compassion or caring by 19th century physicians. It should be noted that while great strides were made in prevention and hygiene in the years after the WBTS, it was not until antibiotics were discovered at roughly the time of WWII, that any real advancement was made in the treatment of many diseases and the fight against infections.

In our next installment, *Bite the Bullet*, we will look at the myths and realities of battlefield wounds and the resulting surgical procedures, that many our ancestors had to endure.

Sesquicentennial Highlight Article Notice

Any Society is welcome to submit a "Sesquicentennial Highlight Article" for publication consideration in the *Officers' Call*. Sesquicentennial Committee Chairman Barton Campbell asks that you coordinate thru him, as he is "orchestrating" these topics for the MOS & B newsletter. He can be contacted at colbart@earthlink.net.

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Adjutant General's Reminders

2011 Dues – There are 1438 members current with their 2011 dues. There are 260 members from 2010 that still need to renew for the current year. A special collection effort is being made by the Deputy Adjutant General Bill Caynor. *There will be a proposal at the upcoming Convention to remove non-current dues members to an inactive status with a special review process for readmission to the Order. All non-current members are encouraged to re-affiliate before July.*

Teacher of the Year – The Randall Brackin Jones 2011 History Teacher of the Year Award will be presented at the upcoming Jacksonville Convention. If you want to nominate a secondary or college teacher to receive this award, contact me for a nomination form: trturk@frontiernet.net.

Collaterals – Check out the Collaterals database linked at: <http://www.militaryorderofthestarsandbars.org/programs-services/collaterals/>. This is a project recognizing our collateral relationships to Generals Lee, Jackson, Forrest & Stuart and Pres. Davis. Consider making your connections and add a supplemental relationship to your membership and to the online database.



The 2011 Sesquicentennial Convention is upon us.

The Sesquicentennial Convention is now just around the corner. It is time to get your reservations in for both the hotel and the convention. We have now been able to negotiate the price of our hotel down to \$99 a night which for a 5 Star Waterfront hotel is a great bargain. Northeast Florida is not as well known as other parts of the State but it has as much or more to offer. Just because Jacksonville has never tried to sell itself as a vacation paradise does not mean it is not loaded with sunshine, great beaches, picturesque attractions and historical places; it just means Jacksonville does not have many Yankee tourists to interfere with your enjoyment.

Jacksonville was home to the last really large United Confederate Veterans conventions in 1914 at which time there were over 8,000 Confederates marching in the streets and living in tents in Confederate Park. To honor this, we have taken the original 1914 UCV Convention medal and had it copied and modified to fit this year's Sesquicentennial Convention. It is befitting to focus our 2011 convention around the last large UCV event. The medal is a historically correct copy of the 1914 UCV medal. Even the small city skyline was taken from the 1914 medal.

The medal to the left is the original 1914 UCV attendee's medal and the one on the right is that of the 2011 MOS&B Sesquicentennial convention. The image in the center is that of then Captain John J. Dickison, Florida's "Swamp Fox," the man who with a very small command kept Federal forces from occupying the interior of the State and capturing the State's capitol. Florida was the only state east of the Mississippi River not to be captured during the war. Come and learn about Florida's unusual history during the War Between the States.

Hotel reservations can be made at http://www.wyndham.com/groupevents2010/jaxht_mosbfl/main.wnt or by calling the Wyndham reservation telephone (800) 996-3426. Make sure you reference the Military Order of the Stars and Bars and not just MOS&B in making reservations in order to get your discounted hotel rate. The convention registration form is on page 13 of this *Officer's Call*.

The MOS&B 2011 Sesquicentennial Convention

July 14, 2011 - July 16, 2011

Registration Form: Jacksonville, Florida

Name: _____ Member Number: _____

Address: _____

E-mail Address: _____ Telephone: _____

Spouse's name: _____ Others: _____

Member registration:	\$ 75	Total \$ <u>75.00</u>
Thursday: Dinner on the St. Johns excursion	\$ 45	Total \$ _____
Friday: Forrest Cavalry Breakfast (FCC)	\$ 25	Total \$ _____
MOS&B Luncheon	\$ 25	Total \$ _____
Historical presentation and museum	\$ 25	Total \$ _____
Commander General's Reception and Dinner	\$ 40	Total \$ _____
Saturday: Prayer Breakfast	\$ 25	Total \$ _____
Award's Luncheon	\$ 35	Total \$ _____
Gala Ball	\$ 55	Total \$ _____
Olustee Battlefield tour (bus)	\$ 30	Total \$ _____
Florida Historical presentation (conference room)	\$ 15	Total \$ _____
Additional Sesquicentennial Convention Medals	\$ 30	Total \$ _____
Additional copies of "Florida History"	\$ 15	Total \$ _____
Total for all events and extras:		Total \$ _____

Make your checks payable to MOS&B Florida Society and mail with reservation to:

Adjutant Raleigh Worsham
 6768 Hartsworth Drive
 Lakeland, FL 33813-0809

You may make reservations with the hotel at:

http://www.wyndham.com/groupevents2010/jaxht_mosbfl/main.wnt

Reservations may also be made by telephone at (800) 996-3426 and requesting the Jacksonville Riverwalk. For our special \$99 rate, reference the Military Order of the Stars and Bars and not just MOS&B.

Please address your questions to Convention@mosbfl.org or Adjutant@mosbfl.org

Note: The Registration Fee of \$ 75 includes one Sesquicentennial Convention Medal and one copy of "Florida History."

Required Convention Attire:

For Business Sessions, Luncheons, Reception: Jacket/Coat, Collared Shirt, Tie
 For Banquet and Ball: Jacketed Formal, Tuxedo, US Military or Period attire



Chaplaincy Memorial: Ft Jackson, SC



Memorial Tablets with the names of those who died in combat service - U. S. Army Chaplain Center & School at Ft. Jackson, SC



Gettysburg, 5 July 1863

will not be repeated each year like the major Federal holidays, but for one day it will have national significance. On June 1st, the Army Chief of Chaplains will dedicate the Army Chaplaincy Memorial, the largest of its type in the world. The lighted memorial will consist of a bronze statue of a chaplain comforting a wounded soldier, a fountain circulating day and night, and polished tablets with the names of 292 Army and Army Air Force chaplains who have given their lives in combat service in ten wars since 1775. Interspersed will be the names of ten enlisted chaplain assistants who also died in the service of their country.

Regardless of which day we observe this year as Memorial Day, or even where we are, I hope we can stop our usual activities for just a moment and reflect on the sacrifices of all those who gave up their tomorrows that we might have our today free of tyranny and oppression. For God and Country.

The Chaplain's Corner

"Memorial Day"

Joshua 6: 13: *"The seven priests carrying the seven trumpets went forward, marching before the ark of the Lord and blowing the trumpets. The armed men went ahead of them and the rear guard followed...while the trumpets kept sounding."*

Each year during the months of April and May there are a number of holidays that recall the valiant service of America's veterans. Patriots' Day, the 19th of April, is celebrated in Massachusetts to mark the anniversary of the battles of Lexington and Concord in 1775. On May 21st of this year Armed Forces Day will be observed on most military posts throughout the country. And, of course, there is a long tradition of the Decoration Days in April and May that go back to the late 1860's.

On June 28, 1968, the Congress passed the Uniform Holidays Bill, which moved three holidays from their traditional dates to a specified Monday in order to create a convenient three-day weekend. The holidays included Washington's Birthday, Veterans Day and Memorial Day. The change moved Memorial Day from its traditional May 30 date (in many states) to the last Monday in May. The law took effect at the federal level in 1971.

In the states of the former Confederacy, there are still a number of Confederate Memorial Days that seem to recall different events in the War Between the States. Alabama, Georgia, Florida and Mississippi all have state holidays on the fourth Monday in April to recall the surrender of General Joseph E. Johnston's Army of Tennessee to General William T. Sherman on 26 April 1865. South Carolina and North Carolina have state holidays on May 10th to recall the death of Lt. Gen. T.J. "Stonewall" Jackson, while Texas chose 19 January, the birthday of General Robert E. Lee.

The Military Order of Stars and Bars has a large number of veterans who surely deserve to be honored both on Memorial Day and certainly later on Veterans' Day. Adjutant General Toni Turk reminded us recently that we have 20 World War II, 24 Korean War, 68 Vietnam War, 20 Desert Storm, 7 Operation Iraqi Freedom, and 11 Operation Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan) veterans in our ranks.

On June 1, 2011, at the U.S. Army Chaplain School, Fort Jackson, South Carolina, there will be yet another memorial day. It

Veterans Report

Toni Turk – Adjutant General

To date 178 compatriots have self-reported their military service. This is just over 12% of the current membership of the Order. Forty-two of these are retired from the military. We have ten members currently serving. The following is a breakdown of the numbers that have rendered service in our nation's "hot" wars:

- WWII – 15
- Korea – 20
- Vietnam – 64
- Desert Storm – 22
- Afghanistan – 10
- Iraq – 11

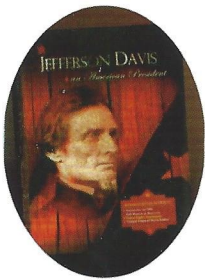
In addition to the above, our members have participated in a number of "hot" spots, e.g.: Bay of Pigs, Bosnia, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Iranian Hostages, Kosovo, Lebanon, Libya, North Korea, Philippines, Somalia, & Suez Canal

All veterans who served from 1947-1991 are considered Cold War veterans. An additional 54 veterans gave service during the Cold War period without actually serving in a "hot" war. These include those that were Korea & Vietnam era veterans. Additionally, some of these served during periods of great military stress such as the Berlin Wall & Cuban Missile crises.

Members that have not self-reported their military service may do so by email to trturk@frontiernet.net or by mail to *The Military Order of the Stars and Bars*, P.O. Box 1700, White House, TN 37188-1700. We are interested in learning the names of any conflicts served in, dates of service, branch of service, highest rank attained, any combat awards received and whether currently serving.

Announcement of Chairman's Recognition Award

Sesquicentennial Committee Chairman Barton Campbell has announced a "Chairman's Recognition Award" that he will do each year of the sesquicentennial (during his tenure) for the Society with the most innovative project – that is the key word. All Societies are encouraged to "compete". Please advise Compatriot Campbell of your projects via his email, colbart@earthlink.net



JEFFERSON DAVIS An American President

This DVD set was five years in the making and is the first and definitive documentary film on the entire life of patriot and president, Jefferson Davis.

Jefferson Davis' life spanned the 19th century and he was one of the pivotal figures that shaped the United States of America. His life was heroic and tragic and at all times, epic.

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This DVD is on sale until June 30 for \$25.00 plus \$5.00 shipping. Available at the MOS&B store

<http://www.militaryorderofthestarsandbars.net/store/>



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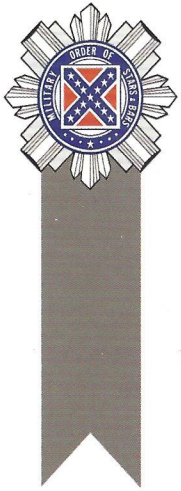
These beautifully crafted grave markers are 4" by 4" and are the "lug" type with the screw receptacle on the back. Can be mounted in concrete or on a metal shaft.

Many of us have purchased these in the past for \$55.00 (plus \$10.00 shipping) but thanks to a new price from the supplier we can offer them for \$40.00 each (plus \$5.00 Shipping.) Save \$20.00

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"New" Book Review Column

The Officer's Call will now be offering a column pertaining to the review of Southern literature. This will give authors an opportunity to acquire some exposure and compatriots the chance to experience what is available in the marketplace regarding Confederate history and culture. Authors, please submit all book review requests to: *ADC William L. Caynor P.O. Box 775875 Steamboat Springs, CO 80477 (970)879-7850 caynorwrls@frii.com*

Submittal Entries

MOS&B Officer's Call Magazine welcomes submittals via e-mail to Editor@mosbfl.org on or before the 1st day of the preceding month. Pictures are welcome. Please submit articles in Microsoft Word format or as plain text in your e-mail. It will be most appreciated that a copy of the MOS&B chapter newsletters; as well as, the MOS&B State Society newsletters also be sent to the e-mail above. Thanks!