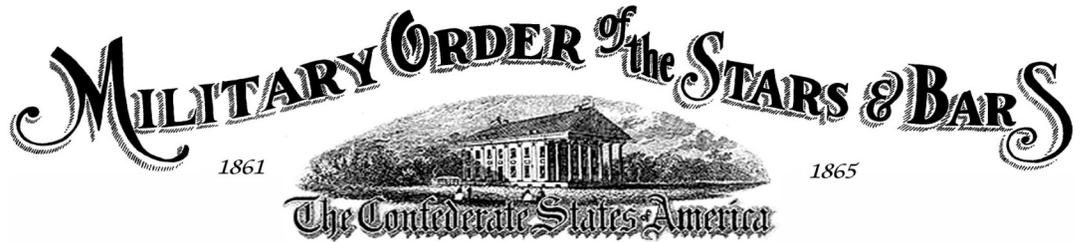




Volume 3, Number 12
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Officer's Call

Sesquicentennial Series Article #16

General Rufus Barringer

By Berley Crosby

Roughly 750,000 men served in the Confederate Army during the American Civil War. Of this number, the exploits and adventures of only a few such as Robert E. Lee or "Stonewall" Jackson are known to most people. This is unfortunate since the common soldiers made most of the sacrifices and endured the majority of the hardships during the struggle.

Rufus Barringer's 1st North Carolina Cavalry Regiment troopers were representative of these legions of common soldiers. Their interesting story is one that deserves to be told. Occasionally their lives were spiced with glimpses of the greats such as Lee, Jackson, or Stuart. Mostly, however, their story is one of hunger, boredom, fatigue, loneliness, and, in far too many cases, death.

In his own time and place Barringer was a leading citizen. Although not as well known now as he was then, he nevertheless, rubbed shoulders with those whose names are more familiar to us. His own deeds and those of the men in his command provide a good illustration of the life of a confederate cavalryman.

In 1861 Rufus Barringer was a successful lawyer in Concord North Carolina. He came from a family of influence in the state, but was not well known beyond it. Daniel Moreau Barringer, his older brother, also a lawyer, enjoyed a successful practice and also served two terms in the U.S. House of Representatives. At one time he was appointed as minister to Spain by President Zachary Taylor.

Rufus followed a similar path, first serving two terms in the North Carolina State Assembly and also as a presidential elector during the crucial 1860 election.

Captain Barringer's family was fairly typical of his times. It consisted of his second wife, Mrs. Rosalie Chunn Barringer (his first wife, Mrs. Eugenia Morrison Barringer, having died of typhoid fever in 1858), and his two small children by the first marriage, Paul and Anna.

It is interesting to note that two of Mrs. Eugenia Morrison Barringer's sisters also married men who would later become General officers in the Confederate Army. Anna Morrison was the wife of Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson and her sister Isabella married Daniel Harvey Hill who afterwards attained the rank of Major General.

Like many others, Rufus Barringer was a unionist at heart, but when his home state of North Carolina seceded on May 20, 1861, he went with her. This is a curious concept to modern Americans, but in those times people considered themselves citizens of their state first and foremost.

Therefore, when Governor Ellis called for 10,000 state troops, Rufus immediately responded by raising a company of cavalry from among his friends and neighbors. He recruited 100 men whose names he tendered to the state for service. The Governor accepted this offer and incorporated his unit into the 1st Cavalry Regiment then forming.

(— Continued on Page 5 —)



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Table of Contents

Page	Topic
1	Sesquicentennial Series Article # 16 - General Rufus Barringer
3	Commander General's Message
4	December Book Reviews
12	San Antonio, TX Annual Convention Notice
13	San Antonio, TX Annual Convention Form
14	Stuart at Gettysburg - Part One
19	Adjutant General's Report
21	Teacher of the Year Nomination
24	Gorgas Chapter # 299 Report
25	Chaplain's Corner
26	Major Gillis Flag Ceremony
27	Southern Cross Dedication

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Commander General's Message

The Next Chapter in our History



As we approach this year's Christmas season, I wish the very best to you and your families. Please take time to remember those families who have lost loved ones this year or have been significantly affected by the turbulent weather, economy, and other catastrophes within our Southern States and Country. Also, we should remember with prayer our military veterans and civilians who are serving and supporting the military in its mission of protecting our Country. We especially want to remember their families who anxiously wait for their return. We have a small group of our members who are a part of the active military and are serving in harm's way today.

We have experienced many successful achievements this year at all levels of the Order. At the National level we are able to report a positive net increase in the number of our active members this year. This number has been much greater than the number of our members who crossed over to the other side of the river or were dropped for non-payment of their annual dues. We are moving forward with our Sesquicentennial projects at Chapter, State, and National. Our membership is graciously donating their financial resources to several of our projects. This is the second year where we have issued an Officer's Call each month and I cannot compliment the Officer's Call and Confederate War Journal Staffs enough for their time and expertise in providing the quality content for our publication. Financially, we still remain in the black; we have no debt; and continue to recover our assets from the losses suffered in 2008. Our National At Large members are paying their 2011 dues promptly with many Chapters doing the same. As we explore and build strategic alliances with like-minded heritage organizations, we are experiencing the expansion of our dual membership numbers. These new members, who want to see the Order grow, certainly recognize the privilege it is to participate in the preservation of our Southern heritage and the remembrance of our ancestors.

Looking forward with eagerness to the New Year, we will continue to face challenging days for our membership and all things Confederate. More importantly, what will be the content of this next chapter that we write in the history of the Order? Will you be able to achieve the goals that motivated you to join? Will you seek to learn more about the WBTS? Will you make new friends? Will you explore new places and battlefields? If you like being a member of the Order and you are proud of your ancestor, will you tell your family and friends about us and encourage them to seek membership? Are you willing to purchase a new membership for your son, grandson, nephew, and father? We consider the purchase of life insurance to be important protection in our younger days and for our families. Is not a heritage membership that helps to preserve family memories important as well? The answer to all of these questions should be YES! We should make the necessary efforts that translate YES into action - for as long as we are able. There will be the day when we cannot. Will we have prepared those who follow us to pick up where we stop?

We will need to continue to guide the Order and take the firm stands when issues demand professional resolve and confidence. Loyal service combined with integrity must exemplify our character as we meet the founder's commitments without wavering. We do not have the luxury of waiting another century to deal with our challenges. We must tell what we know with honesty and be sure that our facts and data are accurate.

This season, why not give the special gift of membership to a deserving family member or friend? Every day matters! Gentlemen, *YOU* are the Order and our future is in *YOUR* hands!

Max Lee Waldrop, Jr.
Commander General

Gallant Soldiers Four Years with McCalla Rifles by Eros Wayne Wilson

333 pp., 2011. Gallant Soldier Publications, P.O. Box 462, Travelers Rest, SC 29690, \$30 + \$5 shipping, Hardback.

Reviewer: Deputy Adjutant General William L. Caynor Sr. DAG Caynor has published two books being: *Without a Scratch & Patriots & Secessionalists*. His next book to be released in the spring of 2012 is *Independence or Annihilation*.

Review:

This is a first rate company history of Company I, 14th South Carolina Infantry Regiment. In the summer of 1861, 85 patriotic men enlisted in Lowndesville, SC and established “**McCalla Rifles,**” named for George McCalla, a prominent citizen who originally clothed these Carolinians in their new gray uniform. Follow these courageous men as they confront the enemy in the Seven Days Campaign, Second Manassas, Sharpsburg, Chancellorsville, the bloody angle at Spotsylvania, the Wilderness, Gettysburg and ultimately alongside Marse Robert at Appomattox. These men saw the “elephant” many times and several lived to tell the tale. Twenty-six of the 126 men that served in the company during the war surrendered at Appomattox, although 41% of these southern gentlemen perished. Patterson does an exceptional job of capturing the experiences of men from a little known company that always seemed to be in the thick of the fight, on whatever battlefield they might be presented with.

Compatriot Wilson, your Great Great Grandfather would surely be pleased.

Eros Wayne Wilson is an MOS&B member and descendant of Private John Bowman Patterson of McCalla Rifles.

Collections of a Civil War Trivia Junkie by John Nischwitz

270 pp., 2011. Monograph Publishing, Amazon, \$29.95, Paperback.

Reviewer: Deputy Adjutant General William L. Caynor Sr. DAG Caynor has published two books being: *Without a Scratch & Patriots & Secessionalists*. His next book to be released in 2012 is *Independence or Annihilation*.

Review:

The author John Nischwitz, is a graduate of West Point and a retired Lt. Colonel of the Army. Colonel Nischwitz began his trek through Civil War trivia by first preparing monthly quizzes for the St. Louis Civil War Roundtable. The interest sparked the Colonel to consolidate these questions for all to wonder. There are more than 1000 questions regarding every aspect of the war and thus an excellent opportunity for any devoted enthusiast or novice. This is a superb collection of Civil War Trivia Questions for all ages and venues to enjoy and treasure.

Book Review Column

The Officer's Call offers a column pertaining to the review of Southern literature. This will give authors an opportunity to acquire some exposure and compatriots the chance to gain first hand knowledge of Confederate history and culture writings available in the marketplace.

Authors, please submit all book review requests to: Deputy Adjutant General William L. Caynor Sr., P.O. Box 775875, Steamboat Springs, CO 80477 (970)879-7850 caynorwrls@frii.com

(Continued from Page 1: Sesquicentennial Article #16)

The 1st's officers, like Barrington himself, were all distinguished gentlemen. The two ranking officers, Colonel Robert Ransom and Lt. Colonel Lawrence S. Baker, lately of the U.S. cavalry, were both West Point graduates of wide experience. Victor Barringer, his brother, was appointed major. The first regiment was staffed by select people from the entire state. The result was the formation of a model regiment of the finest volunteers that North Carolina could offer. It was intended that the first was also to be the best.

Captain Barringer's first responsibility was to equip and train the men. Initially the training exercises were more like social gatherings than serious business. J.C. Neel, in his "War Reminiscences" said, "they met in Concord once a week and galloped around and had a big time." Patriotic ladies joined in the fun serving the men fine dinners and also presenting Captain Barringer with a "very nice silk flag."

The light hearted romping soon came to an end. On June 15 the company were all sworn in as "regular soldiers for the war." This was unusual since most soldiers were ninety day volunteers.

When the company was assigned to Asheville, Barringer's wife and children accompanied him. Since the unit came by rail, they had no horses. Barringer therefore devoted his time to drilling his men on foot.

Many of the young men had never been away from home. This was a great adventure and initially they seemed to enjoy themselves. Private Neel remembered that "we had a good time sight-seeing and swimming in the French Broad River."

In early August all the companies at Asheville reported to Camp Beauregard in Warren County where they joined with the rest of the 1st Cavalry Regiment. Here there was no swimming or sight-seeing. Under the stern, watchful eyes of West Point Officers, the boys were turned into men and the men into soldiers.

Barringer himself seems to have been put off a bit. He notes in his history of the 1st that "No troops ever went through a severer ordeal. At times and on occasions there were loud complaints against Colonel Ransom for the rigid rules and harsh measures adopted." Private Neel also resented the discipline stating that these officers "threatened to split our heads if we were a little out of line."

North Carolina troops, unlike those of her sister states, were provided with mounts at state expense. Horses were brought in from all over. Each man was issued what were described as "nice gray uniforms and very inferior guns and pistols." They also received Model 1833 Dragoon sabers of Mexican War vintage from the Fayetteville arsenal.

Some men, like Private Levi Morphew of Company D, balked at all the discipline. In a letter to his parents he explained how easy it was to get in the hospital, "a blood boil or even a bad corn on your toe or anything of that nature would entitle you to go there."

Most of the troops eventually adapted well and soon became what Private Neel says was "a very handsome body of troops." Private Morphew even commented, "we take it tolerable... I enjoy myself first rate and stand up to it as well as any of them." Occasional humorous incidents, like runaway horses and frightened riders ripping through field and forest, lightened things up, but mostly it was hard work.

By mid October the Regiment was ready for active service with orders to the front lines around Manassas, Virginia. Before it left, Mrs. Ransom, the Colonel's wife, presented it with a hand embroidered silk flag she had made. As part of the ceremony "she requested that the flag never be surrendered," and it never was. After Appomattox, one of the men wrote, "they never surrendered it, but sunk it in the river."

On the way to Manassas the regiment was received in Richmond by no less than President Jefferson Davis himself. He stated that it was "one of the best regiments and the very best volunteer regiment of cavalry that he had ever seen." A local newspaper said it came in "numbering some 900 men, well equipped and thoroughly armed." It also indicated that a wagon train of some "forty or fifty substantial vehicles with four stout horses attached to each" was accompanying the men. Over the next few months and years such trains would be but dim memories.

In early November the regiment arrived and was placed on advanced picket duty around Centerville. Captain Barringer, in a letter to his children, mentioned that their camp was on the Bull Run Battlefield. With the enemy close by everyone was alert, including Private Neel who reported that an entire squad was once deployed to investigate an alleged enemy intrusion which turned out to be an ancient horse grazing in a corn field.

More dangerous foes were soon encountered on November 26th at Vienna, Virginia. Colonel Ransom, with a detachment of 200 men, surprised about 100 men of the 3rd Pennsylvania Cavalry, killing several and capturing 26 during a three mile chase. One North Carolina trooper was slightly injured when his horse fell. Captain Barringer's troops were present but not engaged as his detachment was being held in reserve at the time.

In December the cavalry units at Manassas were organized into the First Brigade under J.E.B. Stuart. This included the 1st N.C, the 2nd, 3rd, and 6th Virginia Cavalry Regiments, and the Jeff Davis Legion. Although elements of the 1st N.C were involved in Stuart's December 20th raid at Dranesville for winter forage, they weren't heavily engaged. The winter was primarily at Manassas doing outpost and picket duty.

The main enemies were sickness and cold. The State of N.C. constantly appealed to the ladies to donate carpets, quilts, and blankets for the shivering troops.

On February 7, 1862 troopers of the 5th Pennsylvania Cavalry, captured nine 1st N.C. pickets. Their commander corroborated the soldiers' own opinion of their equipment when he reported that the prisoners were armed with rather unusual weapons: "Colts repeating rifles, old fashioned horse pistols and sabers."

In March of 1862 the regiment was ordered to Kinston N.C. There they were supposed to do some recruiting and refitting as well as keeping an eye on the movements of the Federal forces under General Burnside.

This easy duty was cut short in June when they were ordered to Richmond to help counter General McClellan's thrust up the James River Peninsula. By mid June the 1st was on picket duty south of the Chickahominy River. Both Ransom and Baker had received promotions, to Brigadier General and Full Colonel respectively with Baker in charge of the 1st.

On June 29th Colonel Baker with detachments from the 1st N.C. and elements of the 3rd Virginia set off to reconnoiter around McClellan's army. In a narrow lane near Willis' Church the column was ambushed. Hit by both rifle and artillery fire, the 1st lost some 60 men, the remainder escaping as best they could. The men felt someone had blundered terribly. Private Morphew's experience was probably not unusual.

When several riderless horses ran by his mare, she also spooked, racing wildly off. In attempting to bring her under control he hurt his elbow and also lost both hat and gun. Private John H. Monie wrote in his memoirs that he lost his gun while jumping a fence.

The Regiment was present during the Seven Day's Battles but were primarily engaged in picket duty and in guarding prisoners. When the Federals withdrew to Harrison's landing the 1st was assigned to keep an eye on them.

During July and August the regiment was in the vicinity of Richmond, drilling, picketing, and scouting. At this time it was reorganized. Together with the Cobb, Jeff Davis, and Hampton Legions and the 10th Virginia, the 1st N.C. became part of the First Brigade under the command of General Wade Hampton.

As Lee's forces moved northward to meet General Pope, Hampton's Brigade was assigned the task of watching McClellan's withdrawal from the Peninsula. While other troops were fighting at Cedar Mt and Second Manassas, Private Neel remarked that the 1st N.C.'s worst enemies were mosquitoes.

Bullets were soon as thick as bugs as the regiment joined in the invasion of Maryland which culminated at the bloody battle near Sharpsburg. During this campaign the 1st acted as an advance guard. Once again it was ambushed, this time at night. Fortunately the enemy's aim was high and casualties were light.

Once across the Potomac the regiment participated in skirmishes at Urbana, Frederick, Middletown, Catocin Creek, Buckettsville and a place inappropriately named Pleasant Valley. It arrived at Harper's Ferry too late to fight but just in time for the spoils. Together with Jackson's victorious troops they helped themselves to whatever was available.

Private Monie got a "much needed overcoat, a flageolet, and a fine little goat skin which some of the ladies at home greatly appreciated."

At Sharpsburg on September 17-18, the 1st occupied a position on the left flank but was never ordered forward. Its duty was later to cover Lee's retreat across the Potomac at Williamsport, Maryland.

This duty turned out to be extremely hazardous. As one of the last units to cross, the 1st got cut off in the darkness, being forced to find another crossing point. Private Neel wrote that several men and horses got separated, drifted down river or got stranded on large rocks in the river. Many of the horses "were ruined by their legs being cut on sharp rocks." Captain Barringer observed that the crossing was worse than the fighting.

All the while both men and animals were subsisting on short rations. Private Neel recalled that the only food for both was green corn. Private Monie related how they stopped in a field near Sharpsburg to get something to eat only to be shelled by Federal Artillery before they could even get a good start.

Once across the river, it was picket duty and getting rested up. On October 9th General Stuart obtained four cannons and handpicked 1800 men for a raid into Pennsylvania. Among them was a detail of 200 men from the 1st N.C., including Captain Barringer.

On this successful raid the 1st served as the advance party going in and the rearguard coming out. Private Neel said the march was "the hardest trip we had during the whole war." This is easy to imagine considering the fact that at one time during the three day foray they traveled eighty-five miles in just twenty-seven hours.

Riding a circuit around McClellan's entire army they captured and brought back 1,200 horses (a hard enough task in peace time). At Chambersburg they burnt all the Army stores and did severe damage to the railroad and telegraph lines. The total casualties for the entire raid were three men.

Captain Barringer and his troops were once called on to perform a distinctly unmilitary operation, that of escorting General Stuart while he made a courtesy call on some lady friends who happened to reside off the designated path. They guided him safely through two miles of Federal territory and then back to the main column.

After this escapade there was little rest for the men and horses of the 1st. With the movement of McClellan's army in November, the troopers were almost constantly skirmishing with opposing cavalry forces on the flanks. The 1st was engaged at Gaines Cross Roads, Little Washington, Barbee's Cross Roads, and Amisville.

At Barbee's Cross Roads it was taught a hard and expensive lesson in small unit tactics. Having been bested in virtually all horseback encounters, the Federals had taken to dismounting fully three fourths of their troopers and deploying them like infantry. The remaining mounted men took the horses to the rear and waited.

Private Matthew Person wrote in a letter soon after the Barbee incident that the Yankees had dismounted men and hidden them behind a fence. The charging 1st was driven back by the concealed Federals, losing twenty men. "It was a wonder they had not killed everyone of us," he said. The lesson was not lost on the survivors. In a letter to his sister (dated November 22, 1862) General Wade Hampton wrote, "We have had several fights of late and my men do finely. They always drive the Yankees, and are beating them now at their own style of fighting, which is to dismount a large number of men and fight them as Infantry."

Burnside, having replaced McClellan, moved his troops toward Fredericksburg. To deny him easy crossing points the 1st was transferred to the upper fords of the Rappahannock river. From that location they raided Federal supply lines and depots while the main battle was taking place. From late November until the first of the following year they conducted raids on Yellow Chapel, Dumfries, Occoquan, and Fairfax Station.

They captured much war materiel and many luxury items. Sergeant G.F. Adams of Company D wrote home that they had captured cutler's stores "consisting of boots, shoes, tobacco, cigars, butter and cheese." Wade Hampton wrote of drinking some of "Burnside's champagne and finding it very good."

At this time there was a shortage of forage for the horses, Private Pearson referring to the area as "the poorest country I have seen in Virginia." It seems the men, though ill clad, were well fed. One man remarked that "we have plenty to eat," another referring to himself as being "fat as a pig." Sergeant Adams noted that "the health of the regiment is very good notwithstanding they are half naked and barefoot."

With the second Christmas of the war approaching many of the men were homesick. The war was supposed to be short and exciting. Instead it was long and dull. Sergeant McBride saw the season like this: "I am thinking we are going to have a dull Christmas, no girls, no whiskey, no honey and peaches, no eggs, no nothing that is good."

The rest of the winter was equally uneventful consisting of frequent movements to find forage for the horses. January and February of 1863 was spent in Rockingham County in the Shenandoah Valley. March and April were spent in Halifax County on the North Carolina State line where some recruiting was done.

During the Chancellorsville campaign, when Barringer's famous brother-in-law Stonewall Jackson was mortally wounded, Hampton's Brigade was south of the James River recruiting.

In May the Confederate Cavalry gathered at Culpeper Court House in preparation for the invasion of Pennsylvania. While camped at Brandy Station the 1st N.C. took part in General Stuart's grand review of his cavalry corps. He assembled some nine thousand troops and invited General Lee to review them. As a tribute to their fame and fighting spirit, the 1st N.C. was chosen to lead the entire column in review. According to Colonel W. H. H. Cowles, as the column came into view, Stuart turned to Lee and pointing with pride to the 534 mounted men said, "General, there comes the 1st North Carolina Cavalry, than which there is not a better regiment in either army."

Yankee General Pleasanton, curious about the goings on, crossed the river with 10,000 troopers the next day. This precipitated the largest mounted cavalry battle ever on the American continent. The 1st was engaged from early morning until late afternoon. Most of the action was conducted dismounted but later in the day there were several charges on horseback. They routed the 10th New York Cavalry and captured their colors. Captain Barringer was wounded in the face during one such charge. In his official report General Hampton stated that Captain Barringer "bore himself with marked coolness and good conduct." The regiment lost thirty-one men that day.

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Immediately following the battle at Brandy Station the troops moved north toward Pennsylvania. The cavalry's task was to screen the movements of Lee's army. In practical terms this meant non-stop skirmishing with Federal cavalry first at Aldie, then Middleburg, Upperville, and Fairfax.

After Lee's army was across the Potomac Stuart took off on another excursion around the Federal army. The men of the 1st together with other members of his command were constantly skirmishing with Federal troopers. Notable actions were engaged in at Sykesville, Littleton, Hanover, Hunterstown, and Carlisle.

The troops arrived at Gettysburg on July second and were engaged on the left flank the following day. The 1st charged the Federal lines several times. During one of these actions General Hampton was wounded in hand-to-hand combat. If not for the quick action of the Regimental Sergeant-Major Richard Fulghum, he would have certainly been captured. After Fulghum carried him from the field, the 1st's Colonel Baker took command of the entire Brigade while Lt. Colonel Gordon took command of the 1st.

As in the aftermath of Sharpsburg, the cavalry once again covered the retreat of the remnants of Lee's army. It protected the wagon trains and the river crossings. One of the more sizable actions occurred at Falling Waters, near Williamsport.

Once across the river, General Meade failed to press his advantage thus allowing the cavalry to obtain needed rest. Most of the next while was spent attempting to obtain forage and standing picket duty. With the increasing boldness of the Federals, skirmishes were fought at Brandy Station, Mountain Run, Culpeper Court House, Raccoon Ford and Jack's Shop.

Captain Barringer took five months recovering from his wounds at Brandy Station. His gallantry on that occasion brought a promotion to major. He was fortunate enough to have a visit from his family in September while at Hanover Court House. He was also approached by those who wished him to run for Congress. While this would have been an easy and seemingly honorable way out of the frontline misery, he declined writing in a letter, "I entered the army from a sense of duty alone... Our great object is not attained... and I think it is better for those in service to stand by their colors."

Once again there was a reorganization with the 1st being transferred to a Brigade composed solely of North Carolina troops and under the command of General Baker. Baker was wounded during this time and Colonel Gordon was promoted to Brigadier General. This left the 1st in the hands of Colonel Ruffin, Lt. Colonel Cheek, and Major Barringer.

In early October Lee began what came to be known as the Bristoe campaign. With Stuart's cavalry out front scouting and skirmishing, Gordon's brigade once moved too quickly and found itself surrounded by Federals. Fortunately it was dark and the enemy was blissfully unaware of their presence. The word was passed for the troops to remain silent until morning when a breakout attempt would be mounted. Many who later wrote accounts of this action remembered it as the longest night of their lives. When light began to show over the horizon Stuart sent word to Gordon, "for God's sake take the 1st N.C. and cut through."

Colonel Ruffin obeyed immediately but the enemy's first volley stuck him down. The leaderless troops hesitated momentarily then Major Barringer, still officially on the sick list, stepped in leading the charge "with only a walking cane for a weapon." He was slightly wounded in the charge but not nearly as much as some of the troopers, one of whom was hit seven times but still remained in the saddle.

The 1st was also in on an action that the Confederates derisively called the "Buckland races," a seven mile chase of Federal cavalry in which the pursuers were so close to the pursued that it looked for all the world like a horse race.

Major Barringer and his horse, Black Shot, along with the troopers of the 1st N.C. were at the front so close on the heels of the Federals that they might have been part of the same company of men. Amazingly the rout was so complete that remarkably few of his troops were killed or injured.

Barringer himself wasn't so lucky a bit later as he chased the enemy through a village. His tired horse became unmanageable and "threw both horse and rider square up against an old building and so disabled the commander." At this point Captain Cowles took over and continued the pursuit.

There were further skirmishes during this campaign including actions at Russell's Ford, James City, Culpeper Court House, and Manassas. The 1st lost some twenty-four men killed during this time. In spite of all the hardship it maintained its reputation as one of the best drilled and disciplined regiments in the Brigade. General Stuart issued special orders in which he called the regiment "a pattern for others."

During the winter Major Barringer was promoted to Lt. Colonel and was temporarily assigned to command 4th North Carolina Cavalry then picketing in eastern North Carolina. This continued until spring.

On the first day of March Hampton dispatched the 1st and some other units to blunt the impact of the Kilpatrick-Dahlgren Raid on Richmond. Near Atlee's Station they closed on the rear of the encamped Federal column. The surprised Federals fled in fear toward their main column. Uncertain about how many men were actually attacking and confusion in the gathering darkness unnerved Kilpatrick, causing him to pull back.

Just before the Wilderness Campaign in May the 1st was doing scouting and picket duty along the Rapidan. As Grant pressed forward they provided much valuable information on his movements.

With reports of a possible raid by Sheridan on Richmond, the 1st was hastily withdrawn to check his activities. Gordon's Brigade harassed the raiders from behind while Stuart imposed himself between them and Richmond. He was successful in stopping them at Yellow Tavern but in the process was mortally wounded.

Meanwhile the 1st was engaged at Ground Squirrel Church attacking the column from the back. In this action General Gordon was also mortally wounded. This set of unfortunate circumstances set the stage for Lt. Colonel Barringer's promotion to Brigadier General and his subsequent reassignment to his old Brigade on June 6, 1864.

Barringer's Brigade, including the 1st N.C., had the dangerous job of attacking the flanks of Grant's army as it executed a flanking movement around Lee's forces. This led to skirmishes at Wilson's Wharf, Hanover Court House, Haw's Shop, Ashland, Malvern Hill, Nantz' Shop, Herring Creek, Crenshaws, and The Rocks.

The fighting generally took place in heavily wooded areas requiring the men to fight dismounted. At this time the Brigade was transferred to a newly formed division commanded by W. H. F. Lee. He employed it in repulsing a raid on the Petersburg & Weldon and the Southside & Danville railroads by Federal Cavalry under Generals Kautz and Wilson. In engagements at Ream's Station, Black's & White's, and Sappony Church, they utterly destroyed the raiding party.

An added benefit for General Barringer was the acquisition of a new horse to replace the skittish beast that had once run him into a wall. A Sergeant Ratcliff of the 5th N.C. Cavalry was lucky enough to capture a Federal Colonel with a magnificent gray horse. Speaking of Sergeant Ratcliff, Major John M. Galloway tells the story in his History of the 5th N.C.

Unfortunately for him the horse attracted the attention of General Barringer. Partly by persuasion, partly by authority, Ratcliff was induced to exchange with the General. Ratcliff got a serviceable black chunk of a horse. The General got a charger fit for Charlie O'Malley in his best days. By curious coincidence when General Barringer was captured in April 1865, this Yankee Colonel was in the crowd which captured him. His first words were, "I'll be damned, if yonder ain't my horse." Hence we infer that Yankee Colonels do not have the benefit of Sunday School training, or soon forget it.

After a short rest the Brigade was next positioned on the extreme right flank of Lee's Petersburg defenses so as to guard the Weldon railroad. The summer was full of action notably at Ream's Station where Barringer commanded the division and also during Hampton's "Beef Steak Raid." At a cost of 140 men the Brigade performed their duty and also rustled 3,000 head of cattle from the enemy.

Increasing hardships were reflected in the letters the men sent home. In 1864 Private Matthew Person wrote, "We have been fighting nearly all the time... we are living hard now... They are feeding us old beef. I despise it. We have no way to cook." Another trooper, John S. Wray said, "when we couldn't get anything else I lived on hardtack." NCO's fared no better as Sergeant Adams noted in his correspondence, "our rations are thin." On the positive side he finished up with the comment, "but we are whipping the Yankees right and left." Person, probably speaking the thoughts of many others, commented on their leadership when he said of Barringer, "he is a slow old fellow but a good officer."

As the year drew to a close the Brigade wintered near Belfield. Compared with the Petersburg troops they had it pretty good. As Private Person put it, "This is a very good place... We are getting plenty of good beef to eat now." Also both the Brigade and the Regiment grew in strength. By spring the 1st was up to four hundred men.

Until March of 1865 the Regiment was merely engaged in picket duty. Late that month, however, General Sheridan made his famous flanking movement at Five Forks. The entire Brigade was dispatched to repel him.

At Chamberlain Run it engaged Federal troops and gained what may have been the last Confederate victory in Virginia. They savagely drove the Federals back several miles to Dinwiddie Court House. At the end of the fight only two field grade officers remained in the entire Brigade. Eighty percent had been lost.

The following day they were pulled back to Five Forks and held in reserve due to their heavy casualties. After the fall of Petersburg the Brigade again served as rearguard for the entire army as it headed toward Appomattox Court House. On reaching Namozine Church they were put under orders not to retreat for any reason. Overwhelmed ten to one, they stood their ground ultimately being destroyed as a separate fighting unit.

Those that survived attempted to rejoin the army. General Barringer survived but was captured by some of Sheridan's scouts dressed as Confederates. He was taken to General Sheridan who, after providing him lodging and feeding him breakfast sent him under guard to Petersburg. There General Meade, in a kindly gesture, offered Barringer the contents of his purse, knowing that Union greenbacks would be needed once he was sent north. Barringer thanked him but refused his offer.

General Barringer was the first general officer to be captured and taken to City Point where the Federal Headquarters were then located. It so happened that President Lincoln was visiting there at that time and he was very anxious to meet a genuine Confederate General. An interview was arranged and the two men conversed pleasantly for a period of time. They discovered that the General's brother, Daniel, had shared a desk with Lincoln while they were both in Congress.

Lincoln gave Barringer a note to the Secretary of War, Stanton, saying that the General was the brother of a dear friend and to please make his stay in prison as comfortable as possible. The note proved anything but helpful in light of the assassination. Barringer was questioned many times. In fact he was held until July, long after many of the other prisoners had been released.

By August he finally made it home leaving behind a distinguished war record, having risen from captain to general in only a few years. His regiment was considered one of the finest in the Confederate service.

During the war the regiment was engaged in well over one hundred and fifty actions. Barringer himself was involved in seventy-six battles and suffered three wounds. Following the war the men returned home or headed west. Barringer picked up the pieces of his life and resumed his law practice.

Rufus Barringer and the men of the 1st North Carolina Cavalry are truly representative of the soldiers of the Confederacy. Their war wasn't one of grand strategy or elaborate flanking maneuvers. It mostly consisted of day to day survival, wondering when, or if, they would get something to eat and pondering their prospects of surviving the next battle. Through their words and by reciting some of their deeds we get a glimpse of what it was to be a member of the gallant 1st North Carolina Cavalry. <http://firstnccav.home.mindspring.com/nc1hist2.html>

- Berley Crosby is a Life MOS&B member (national & state) and a member of the General Maxcy Gregg #98 Chapter in Columbia, SC. General Barringer is his ancestor.

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!

CALENDAR

Chapters, Societies and Departments can have their special events publicized on the [new website](http://www.militaryorderofthestarsandbars.org/) calendar at: <http://www.militaryorderofthestarsandbars.org/>. Please submit the name of the event, its location, date, time, contact person, and any special instructions to the Adjutant General Toni Turk at: trturk@frontiernet.net.

Request for E-Mail and Mailing Changes

We need your correct E-mail address and mailing address. We are sending out the "Officer's Call" electronically; as well as, printed. We find many members have not reported their address and others have not advised us of address changes. Please make sure we have your current E-mail and physical address. Contact us at headquarters@mosbihq.org so we may stay in touch.

Respond To Your Country's Call **75th MOS&B Anniversary Book Project**

Is soliciting your assistance for information pertaining to your Confederate Ancestor. The anniversary book will devote one chapter to our ancestors, so if you would like to submit a story or biography of your Confederate Ancestor in 350 words or less we will attempt to include it in the book depending on the quantity of submissions and available space. This is a great opportunity to recognize your Southern Heritage.

Please submit all confederate stories & biographies to: Deputy Adjutant General William L. Caynor, Sr., P.O. Box 775875 Springboat, CO 80477, e-mail: caynorwrls@frii.com



Military Order of the Stars & Bars ***75th Annual General Convention*** ***San Antonio, Texas June 7-9, 2012***

The Texas Society and the Texas Chapter #5 (Houston) are honored to be the host for the 75th Annual General Convention in San Antonio, Texas. San Antonio is considered one of the top vacation spots in the South. Our hotel is the Old Menger Hotel, built in 1858, probably the oldest hotel west of the Mississippi and is located not only in the middle of all the good shops and restaurants of San Antonio but also next door to the famous Alamo. A step away from the Menger is the famous RiverWalk (the river that flows through downtown San Antonio). Everyone must take one of the famous boat rides.

The Convention Committee has decided to provide as much free time as possible to those attending because to get the real feel of San Antonio you must leave the hotel and get down on the RiverWalk where the shops and cafes are. Also since June has some uncomfortable weather we are encouraging casual wear as much as possible.

It is never too early to start making plans so mark your calendar accordingly. We encourage everyone to bring their families. Also there will be no formal bus tours. You will have time for touring, shopping, exploring or just relaxing in the afternoon. These kind of things is what San Antonio is famous for. You will enjoy this.

A little bit of history regarding your host city which is a Mecca for history buffs: When the area was first explored by the Spaniards in the late 1600s, a small Indian community was established on the San Pedro Springs area. The Spaniards named this the San Antonio River because it was discovered on the feast day of St Anthony. The actual founding of the city came in 1718 by Father Antonio Olivares, when he established Mission San Antonio de Valero. Soon five Spanish missions, chartered by Canary Islanders were built along the river. The Spanish Governor's Palace was completed on Military Plaza in 1749, and San Fernando de Bexar Church was built by 1758. In 1773 San Antonio de Bexar became the capital of Spanish Texas. By 1778, the settlement's population of more than 2000 was mostly poor Indians and Mexican settlers and was described as "miserable" by visitors. More of the history of this great City will be presented in later publications.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

The Texas Society & the Texas Chapter #5
David G. Whitaker DCS, Chairman





**75th Annual General Convention & Sesquicentennial Event of the
Military Order of Stars & Bars**

San Antonio, Texas : June 7 - 9, 2012

Name & Title: _____ **Chapter:** _____

Address: _____ **City/Zip:** _____

E-mail: _____ **Phone #:** _____

Registration (Until June 1, 2012) _____ @ \$75.00 \$ _____

Thursday, June 7, 2012:

Registration 1:00 - 5:00 PM; GEC Meeting 1:00 PM,
TX Society Meeting 4:30 PM; Barge Dinner at 7:00 PM _____ @ \$45.00 \$ _____

Friday, June 8, 2012:

Forrest Cavalry Breakfast 8:00 - 9:00 AM _____ @ \$25.00 \$ _____

Registration 7:30 - 9:00 AM; Opening Ceremony 9:00 - 9:30 AM
Business Meeting #1 9:40 - 11:30 AM

Ladies are invited to go on the Menger Hotel Tour led by Ernest Malacara

Luncheon with Speaker on the Alamo _____ @ \$30.00 \$ _____

Commander General's Reception at 5:30 - 7:00 PM (Wine & Cheese Only)
Dinner on your own

Saturday, June 9, 2012:

Prayer Breakfast 8:00 - 9:00 AM _____ @ \$25.00 \$ _____

Business Meeting #2 (Election of Officers) 9:30 AM

Awards Luncheon at Noon _____ @ \$30.00 \$ _____

Fiesta Dinner and Speaker 6:30 - 9:00 PM _____ @ \$55.00 \$ _____

Total Enclosed: _____ \$ _____

Check or Paypal, Made Payable and Mail to: David Whitaker MOSB 2012,
20018 Black Canyon
Katy, TX 77450

Convention Hotel & Reservation: Menger Hotel: San Antonio, TX
204 Alamo Plaza, San Antonio, TX 78205 Phone (210) 223-4361 or (800) 394-1454

Must request MOS&B for Convention Room Rate of \$115.00

Stuart at Gettysburg: Part One

By: C. L. Gray

After Robert E. Lee's death in 1870, the leadership of the Army of Northern Virginia, including Lee's aides, published countless articles in newspapers and other periodicals in an effort to deflect responsibility for the defeat at Gettysburg from Lee unto others. One of their favorite scapegoats was Jeb Stuart. Lee's aides were predominantly responsible for advancing the theory that Stuart's absence from the main body during the critical days before the battle blinded Lee to the movements of the Army of the Potomac and forced him into battle before he was ready. This theory, now widely promulgated throughout the Gettysburg's historiography, is simply not true. A careful examination of Stuart's orders reveals a very different story.

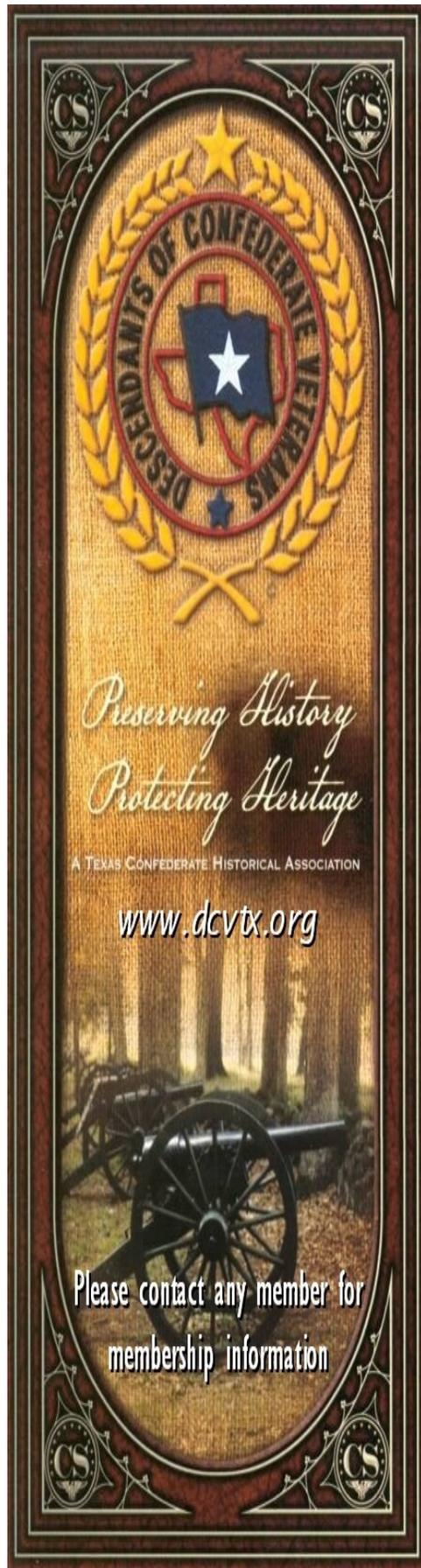
On June 22nd, Stuart met with both Lee and General James Longstreet and advanced his plan to pass by the rear of the enemy in order to destroy a large portion of the Army of the Potomac's communications and transportation. Lee told Stuart that he would think about it.

Once the meeting broke up, Lee sent a dispatch to General Richard Ewell waiting at Hagerstown, Maryland and ordered the Second Corps to proceed into Pennsylvania and, if possible, capture Harrisburg. Whether or not the rest of the army would follow depended "upon the quantity of supplies obtained in that country... There may be enough for your command, but not for the others. Every exertion should, therefore, be made to locate and secure them. Beef we can drive with us, but bread, we cannot carry, and must secure it in the country." (1)

Sometime during the afternoon, Lee made up his mind about Stuart's plan because he sent another dispatch to Ewell notifying him that Stuart would be "marching with three brigades across the Potomac, and (would) place himself on your right and be in communication with you, keep you advised of the movements of the enemy, and assist in collecting supplies for the army". (2) Since there would be no enemy in front of Ewell, once Stuart reached the Second Corps, the cavalry would have nothing to do but forage for supplies.

That same night, Lee sent orders giving Stuart permission to ride around the Union army. "If you find that he (Hooker) is moving northward and that two brigades can guard the Blue Ridge and take care of your rear, you can move with the other three into Maryland, and take position on General Ewell's right, place yourself in communication with him, guard his flanks, keep him informed of the enemy's movement, and collect all the supplies you can for the use of the army." (3)

Lee's orders were conditional. The first condition depended on whether or not Stuart believed two brigades could provide a sufficient force to guard the Blue Ridge and continue the screen that had so frustrated the Federals. If that force was sufficient, Stuart could then take three brigades of cavalry, move into Maryland, and join Ewell's march. But the movement to Ewell was conditioned on whether or not Stuart found the enemy moving northward. If the Federals were not moving toward the Potomac, then Stuart was not permitted to pass by the rear of the enemy.



Nowhere in the orders was Stuart told to communicate with Lee. He was directed to communicate with Ewell and to keep Ewell informed of the enemy's movement.

Lee sent the orders first to Longstreet since Longstreet needed to determine if he could spare Stuart from his front. Longstreet forwarded the orders to Stuart along with a letter urging Stuart to leave via the Hopewell Gap and pass by the rear of the enemy. Longstreet was concerned that if Stuart crossed the Potomac by the army's rear, he would disclose Confederate plans to the Federals. "You had better not leave us, therefore, unless you can take the proposed route in the rear of the enemy." (4)

Longstreet gave Stuart specific directions. The terminology to pass by the rear of the enemy only meant one thing. Stuart was to cross the Bull Run Mountains, go around the Union army, and place his command with Ewell. Longstreet mentioned the Hopewell Gap, which is a gap in that mountain chain. Since the Hopewell Gap is not mentioned in Lee's orders, it must have been spoken about in the meeting.

What is not stated is this: was the Hopewell Gap the only route Stuart could take? Or could it be, since Lee had not mentioned a specific gap or route, he left the decision on where to pass through the Union columns to Stuart's discretion.

In the letter's postscript, Longstreet warned Stuart that if he should come into the Valley and cross the Potomac west of the Blue Ridge, it would disclose the army's plan to move into Pennsylvania. Longstreet admonished, "You have better not leave us, therefore, unless you take the proposed route in the rear of the enemy." (5)

Longstreet notified Lee that he had "forwarded (Lee's) letter to General Stuart with the suggestion that he pass by the enemy's rear if he thinks that he may get through." (6)

The next day, Stuart received another set of orders because Lee directed his aide, Colonel Charles Marshall, to "repeat it" (the June 22nd order). (7) The second set of orders bear no resemblance to the first set. Whereas in the first set Stuart was ordered to pass by the rear of the enemy only if the Union army was marching north, in the second set that condition changed. Now Stuart could leave two brigades to watch the Federals and withdraw with the three others if Hooker's army remained inactive.

Withdraw where? The orders do not say.

Another condition was introduced. If Stuart found the enemy not moving northward, he was ordered to withdraw behind the Blue Ridge on the evening of June 24th, cross the Potomac at Shepherdstown on June 25th, and then move over to Fredericktown.

Is not moving northward just another way to say inactive? No, not within the context of the orders. The orders read: "If General Hooker's army remains inactive, you can leave two brigades to watch him and withdraw with the three others, but should he appear not to be moving northward..." (8) These were two very different conditions which had two distinct courses of action.

This phrase "not moving northward" could have meant that Richmond's fears had been realized, and the Federals had taken advantage of Lee's absence to attack the Confederate capital. This threat was very real. On June 10th, Hooker had written Lincoln "...will it not promote the true interest of the cause for me to march to Richmond at once?" (9)

Richmond politicians may have feared that Hooker would sweep down on them, but it does not appear Lee considered this a possibility. For if Hooker was truly moving on Richmond, it seems improbable that Lee would have ordered Stuart to withdraw to the western side of the Blue Ridge, cross the Potomac, and ride toward Fredericktown. Therefore, the phrase "not moving northward" must have another meaning. Yet, it is not clear to what that meaning is.

The problem with the second set of orders is that they are unclear, illogical, and lack any specificity as to what Stuart should do. If, as Marshall claimed, he was to repeat the first set of orders, he did a very poor job.

So, how does one reconcile the two orders? If you combine the first set of orders, Longstreet's endorsement, and what Lee, Longstreet, and Stuart had already discussed, it appeared Lee was giving Stuart another condition under which he could circle around the enemy. Before, he could only pass by the rear of the enemy if the Federals were moving north. Now, he could do so if the Army of the Potomac was inactive (or remained in their camps). The only time Stuart was to come back to the army in the Valley was if the Federals were not marching northward.

The differences between northward, inactive, and not northward were very important because Stuart's actions depended upon them.

Lee also informed Stuart that it would be best if he did not cross the Potomac until June 25th and then he should do so as quickly as he could. If Stuart was to cross the river with the main body, would Lee have needed to give him a specific date in which to do so?

Stuart was also given discretion to decide whether or not he could pass around the enemy without hindrance. This was the only discretion he was given by Lee. If he thought he could pass by, then he was to do so and damage the enemy all he could.

In both orders Stuart was ordered to communicate with Ewell and not Lee. One more set of orders would reach Stuart. They arrived late night on the 23rd. These orders actually clarified what Stuart was supposed to do. He was ordered to place himself with Jubal Early, who would be at York, which was also given as the possible concentration point of the army. For the first time Stuart was given a time frame. He must move on "as speedily as possible." (10) In direct contradiction to the orders received earlier in the day, Stuart was warned that the roads from Shepherdstown and Williamsport were packed with men, artillery, and trains and passing around the enemy would be the quicker route.

On June 24th, Stuart sent orders to Beverly Robertson to keep watch on the Federals and move on the rear and the right of A.P. Hill and Longstreet as they marched into Pennsylvania.

Early on June 25th, Stuart gathered his brigades at Salem Depot. He was aware that there were two divisions of Winfield Scott Hancock's 2nd Corps at Thoroughfare Gap, so he marched to Glasscock Gap near Haymarket. Upon reaching the gap, he found Hancock's other division moving northward. His orders now dictated that he was to pass by the rear of the enemy. Stuart sent Fitz Lee to Gainesville (2-1/2 miles away) to find out if the way was clear. Fitz reported that it was. Stuart then exercised the discretion given to him and passed by the rear of the enemy.

Even though Stuart was not ordered to communicate with Lee, he sent at least two messages, once on the 25th and again on the 27th.(11) alerting Lee that the Federals were on the march north.

A Tale of Two Reports

On July 31st, Lee sent his first report of the campaign to General Cooper, Adjutant and Inspector General of the Confederate Army. It was not an official report, but an "outline" (12) or a "general description" (13) of the events. The report, written before Lee received campaign reports from Stuart or his three corps commanders, was immediately leaked to the press.

The outline was very critical of Stuart. It stated that Stuart's orders directed him to move into Maryland, cross the Potomac east or west of the Blue Ridge, as, in his judgment should be best, and take position on the right of the column as it advanced." (14) In the context of the report, the right of the column meant Longstreet and Hill as they marched through the Valley and into Maryland. But as we have seen, Stuart's orders sent him to Ewell who was advancing through Pennsylvania.

In describing Stuart's movements, the report declared that Stuart had been left behind in Virginia in order to follow the movements of the Federal army after Hill and Longstreet crossed the Potomac. But in his efforts to impede Hooker's progress, Stuart advanced as far east as Fairfax Courthouse. When he could no longer delay the enemy, he crossed the river at Seneca and marched through Westminster, arriving at Carlisle after Ewell was summoned to Gettysburg. Unfortunately, Stuart chose a route that allowed the Union army to get between his brigades and the main army, which prevented him from sending word to Lee that the Federals had crossed the Potomac. In the next sentence, the report linked this lack of communication as the reason the march to Gettysburg had been conducted more slowly than it would have been conducted if the whereabouts of the Union army had been known.

In none of the three orders Stuart received was he ordered to guard the gaps, impede or delay the enemy, report the enemy's movements to Lee, or to watch Hooker in Virginia while helping Ewell forage in Pennsylvania, yet Lee's outline accused him of these very failures.

The outline's inaccuracies became all that the soldiers, politicians, and citizens knew about Stuart's actions until Lee sent his official report to the War Department on January 20, 1864, which corrected most of the misstatements made in the first report about Stuart's actions.

In this official report, Stuart was to pass by the rear of the enemy "as soon as he should perceive the enemy (was) moving northward." (15) Though the report still claimed Stuart was ordered to delay the enemy (16) in crossing the river, the report was very clear that Stuart had the discretion to enter Maryland either east or west of the Blue Ridge and "place himself on the right of General Ewell," (17) as he moved on Harrisburg. More importantly, the statement that censured Stuart for placing himself east of the Federal army was removed.

The reason for the slow pace of the army's march was also revised. No longer was it due to the lack of intelligence of the movement of the enemy. Now, the army marched at a leisurely pace due to the "inclement weather" (18) and "with a view to the comfort of the troops." (19) However, the absence of the cavalry remained the reason Lee had to concentrate his army east of the mountains. (20)

The most quoted portion of report read that the “movements of the army preceding the battle of Gettysburg had been much embarrassed by the absence of cavalry.” (21) But the next few lines addressed the fact that Lee had to send for Robertson and the two brigades left behind by Stuart to “rejoin the army without delay.” (22)

In the same paragraph that censured Robertson for not marching with the army, Stuart’s absence was thoroughly explained. “In the exercise of the discretion given when Longstreet and Hill marched into Maryland, General Stuart determined to pass around the rear of the Federal Army with three brigades and cross the Potomac, between it (the Federal Army) and Washington, believing that he would be able, by that route, to place himself on our right flank in time to keep us properly advised of the enemy’s movements.” (23) Again, in the context of the report, the right flank was Longstreet and Hill.

The report expressed the expectation that Stuart would send Lee word when the Federal army crossed the Potomac. When no message was received, “it was inferred that the enemy had not yet left Virginia.” (24) This inference seems almost impossible to believe. According to a June 19th dispatch Lee sent Ewell, he hoped Ewell’s presence north of the Potomac would provide Hooker with enough incentive to cross the river. In the June 22nd orders Lee sent to Stuart, he worried that Hooker would steal a march on him and get over the Potomac before Longstreet and Hill could march to the support of Ewell. On June 23rd, Lee sent a dispatch to Jefferson Davis alerting the president to the fact that the Federals were preparing to cross the Potomac and had laid down a pontoon bridge at Edward’s Ferry. Furthermore, if Stuart was ordered to pass by the rear of the enemy if he found the enemy moving northward, then the fact that Lee had received no messages from Stuart should have reinforced the fact that Hooker was following the Army of Northern Virginia across the Potomac. The report does not make mention of the two messages Stuart sent.

By leaving in the report the belief that Stuart was to inform Lee when the Federal army had crossed the Potomac, the report severely damaged Stuart’s reputation. For the report never explained how Stuart was to accomplish this almost impossible feat. If Stuart had not been delayed by Hancock’s march, he would have crossed the Potomac by the evening of the 25th. This would have placed him in front of the Union army with his command moving further away from the Potomac as he rode north to Ewell. There was no way Stuart would have been in a position to know when the Army of the Potomac crossed the river. He left that task for Robertson to do.

When the controversy erupted, the generals and aides who wrote articles explaining the loss used both the outline and the official report to bolster their arguments on what Stuart did or did not do after he left the main body. They filled in the reports’ vagueness and blaring contradictions with their own interpretations and insights. Stuart’s orders no longer mattered. The reports became the seminal source when discussing Stuart’s actions in the Pennsylvania campaign.

Longstreet Goes Public with the Causes of Defeat

In 1866, William Swinton published *Campaigns of the Army of the Potomac*. Swinton wrote Lee and asked if Lee would contribute to the chapter on Gettysburg. Lee directed Swinton to his January 1864 report. If Swinton had any questions about the battle, he would find the answers there.

Longstreet was a different story however. Since the army’s return from Pennsylvania, he had chafed under the spoken and unspoken accusations that he somehow bore the lion’s share of responsibility for the loss. He believed the accusations were not only unfair but were created to shield Lee from blame. When Swinton asked him to provide insight into the Army of Northern Virginia’s strategy and movements during the campaign, Longstreet eagerly agreed. It was his first opportunity to publicly defend himself, and he used Swinton’s book to deflect blame away from himself and onto the two people he believed most culpable for the loss: Lee and Stuart.

When Swinton asked Longstreet why Stuart was not with the army as it marched into Pennsylvania, Longstreet’s explanation sounded very much like Lee’s July 31st report. Longstreet actually lifted entire phrases and sentences from the report and used them to indict Stuart for not communicating with Lee about the movements of the Federal army.

Longstreet explained to Swinton that after Stuart passed into Maryland, he “was to take position on the right of the advancing column.” (25) In the context of the book, the advancing column was Longstreet and Hill. If Stuart had done this, he would have been in the “proper place to watch the Union cavalry thrown out on the left of the Army of the Potomac.” (26) Stuart, however, had advanced too far east in his effort to impede the enemy, and, when he crossed the Potomac, he found the Federal army between his brigades and Lee. This forced him to make a wide sweep through Pennsylvania in order to join the army at Chambersburg. (27) Stuart’s absence caused the army’s

march to be “conducted much more slowly than was usual.” (28) Longstreet also attributed Lee’s ignorance of the movements of the Federal army to Stuart’s absence. (29)

Not once did Longstreet take responsibility for the orders he forwarded to Stuart on June 22nd or the letter of endorsement he sent along with those orders. Nor did he bring up the fact that Stuart was ordered to join Ewell on the Susquehanna and not join the main body as it marched through Maryland. This would not be the last time Longstreet would try to wash his hands of any responsibility for approving Stuart’s movement around the rear of the enemy.

Longstreet’s cooperation with Swinton became the opening salvo of the Gettysburg controversy. All that was needed for the controversy to explode into a raging battle was for Lee’s restraining hand to be removed.

Next Month: A careful examination of the controversy, including the claims made against Stuart by his harshest critic.

1. Robert E. Lee, General. “Dispatch to General Richard S. Ewell, June 22, 1863.” *The War of The Rebellion: a Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*. Volume 27, Part III, 914.
2. Robert E. Lee, General. “Dispatch to General Richard S. Ewell, June 22, 1863.” *The War of The Rebellion: a Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*. Volume 27, Part III, 915.
3. Robert E. Lee, General. “Dispatch to General J.E.B. Stuart, June 22, 1863.” *The War of The Rebellion: a Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*. Volume 27, Part III, 913.
4. James Longstreet, Lieutenant General. “Dispatch to General J.E.B. Stuart, June 22, 1863. *The War of The Rebellion: a Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*. Volume 27, Part III, 915.
5. Ibid.
6. James Longstreet, Lieutenant General. “Dispatch to General Lee, June 22, 1863.” *The War of The Rebellion: a Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*. Volume 27, Part III, 915.
7. I (Marshall) remember saying to the General that it could hardly be necessary to repeat the order, as General Stuart had had the matter fully explained to himself verbally and my letter had been very full and explicit. I had retained a copy of my letter in General Lee’s confidential letter book. General Lee said that he felt anxious about the matter and desired to guard against the possibility of error, and desired me to repeat it which I did, and dispatched the second letter. Charles Marshall, Colonel. *An Aide-De-Camp of Lee*. (Boston: Little, Brown, and Company, 1927), 207.
8. Robert E. Lee, General. “Dispatch to General J.E.B. Stuart, June 23, 1863.” *The War of The Rebellion: a Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*. Volume 27, Part III, 915.
9. Joseph Hooker, Major General. “Dispatch to Abraham Lincoln, June 10, 1863.” *The War of The Rebellion: a Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*. Volume 27, Part I, 34-35.
10. Henry B. McClellan, Major. *I Rode With Jeb Stuart*. (New York: Da Capo Press. 1994), 317.
11. J.B. Jones. *A Rebel War Clerk’s Diary at the Confederate States Capital*. (Philadelphia: J.B. Lippincott & Co. 1866), 366.
12. Robert E. Lee, General. “Official Report of the Pennsylvania Campaign, July 31, 1863.” *The War of The Rebellion: a Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*. Volume 27, Part II, 306.
13. Ibid., 308
14. Ibid., 307
15. Lee. “Official Campaign Report, January 20, 1864,” 316.
16. Ibid.
17. Ibid.
18. Ibid., 317
19. Ibid.
20. Ibid., 316.
21. Ibid., 321.
22. Ibid.
23. Ibid.
24. Ibid., 316
25. William Swinton. *Campaigns of the Army of the Potomac*. (New York: Charles B. Richardson 1866), 337-338.
26. Ibid. (footnote 338)
27. Ibid.
28. Ibid., 337-338.
29. Ibid.

Confederate War Journal & Officer’s Call (November 2011 Edition) Correction Update:

P. 29., William **Bush** is the correct spelling, not *Boush*. Bush’s name is misspelled throughout the article.

Photo caption, lower left, p. 30: That’s Bush, not Salling.

Photo caption, upper left, p.31: That’s Howell on the left, Monroe on the right. (When this photo first appeared, the negative was probably reversed, thus resulting in the erroneous caption.)

Adjutant General's 2011 Report Toni Turk 12/3/2011

2012 Dues Collection Status

At the end of 2011 the Order has 1650 members. Fifty-seven percent of these are dues paid for 2012. Note: Dues for 2012 should be collected by the end of December and the National dues of \$35 submitted to IHQ by the end of January.

Scan Authorization Signatures Status

The *Confederate War Journal* contained an insert soliciting members to sign an authorization document to scan their membership records for research purposes. To date just over ten percent of the membership have returned these forms. Ninety-four percent of respondents have checked the recommended option of allowing scanning.

Deaths

The Order tracks the deaths of both current and former members. During 2011 there were fifty-five deaths reported or identified. The Order extends condolences to their families and friends.

Aderhold, John Benjamin	Conroe, TX	Long, Clarence Richard	Monroe, NC
Bowden, Otto R. T.	Jacksonville, FL	Love, Joseph Bland, III	St. Augustine, FL
Bradley, Ralph Sidney, Jr.	Springfield, IL	Lumley, Mathlan Iverson, Jr.	Winston-Salem, NC
Brauchi, Victor A.	Amarillo, TX	Mason, John Thomas	Covington, TN
Buckles, Frank Woodruff	Charles Town, WV	MacMahon, William Otis, III	Birmingham, AL
Bullard, Raymond Lee	Jacksonville, FL	McDonald, John Edmondson	Smyrna, TN
Buttgen, Louis, Jr.	Stafford, VA	Millard, David Ralph, Jr.	Miami, FL
Byers, Kenneth Coleman	Statesville, NC	Patterson, Kenneth Ray	Eden, NC
Chambers, Charles Edwin	Fort Worth, TX	Payne, William Carter, Jr.	Axton, VA
Crider, Charles Robert Mac	Southaven, MS	Perkinson, William Baxter, Sr.	Matoaca, VA
Crook, Robert Lacey	Ruleville, MS	Perry, Benny L.	Zebulon, NC
Crowder, John Edward	Big Lake, AK	Phillips, Nelson Lee	Pelion, SC
Davis, Michael Richard	Greenville, SC	Ramage, Martis Donald, Sr.	Tupelo, MS
Dean, Purl Gordons	Lady Lake, FL	Rogers, Murray Lee	Kissimmee, FL
Dudley, Homer Daniel	Midlothian, TX	Scarborough, Earnest Hoyt, Jr	Okanogan, WA
Ferguson, James Lewis	Americus, GA	Skelton, Dennis Earle	St. George, SC
Forrest, John Thomas	Terre Haute, IN	Skinner, Talmadge Schill	St. Augustine, FL
Friloux, Edward Eloi	Carencro, LA	Spears, Doyle Carlton, Sr.	Wauchula, FL
Gallant, Thomas Eugene	Ocala, FL	Steger, William Elbert	San Diego, CA
Garrison, Marty Preston	Harrison, AR	Stewart, Francis, Jr.	Colorado Springs, CO
Green, William Ralph	Fairview, TX	Taylor, William B. N.	Alexandria, VA
Gressette, James Hill, Jr.	Orangeburg, SC	Teal, John M. Y.	Ocala, FL
Hale, Robert Norman, Sr.	Athens, GA	Toole, Frampton Wyman, Jr.	Aiken, SC
Harriss, George, II	Wilmington, NC	Van Diviere, Charles Lawrence	Tignall, GA
Havron, James Cowan	Nashville, TN	Weeden, Kenneth Carl	Houston, TX
Kelley, William Franklin	Norton, VA	Widener, Ralph William, Jr.	Dallas, TX
Lee, George Taylor, III	Powhatan, VA	Zimmerman, Arnold W., Jr.	St. Louis, MO
Lindley, John Ellis	Marion, MS		

New Members

So far in 2011 ninety-nine gentlemen have joined the Order. We extend a hearty welcome to all of these:

Aitchison, Ernest Edward	Orland Park, IL	Bowling, James Douglas	Springfield, VA
Bailey, Joseph Oliver	Norcross, GA	Brand, Dennis David	Whitehouse, TX
Baxter, Stephen Hood	Suffolk, VA	Brazier, Robert Dale	Ennis, TX
Belmonte, Lee Alan	Tulsa, OK	Brown, Daniel Franklin	Amenia, NY
Bowden, Jay Dean	Waxahachie, TX	Bush, Wesley Monroe	Savannah, GA

Campbell, Raymond Ardell, J.
 Casey, Lawrence King, Jr.
 Chandler, James Gray
 Clarke, Thomas Richard, Jr.
 Cobb, Joe Hudson
 Cooper, John Horace, Jr.
 Daniel, Richard Lee
 Davis, Byron Reed
 Dennison, William Andrew, Jr.
 Duncan, Robert Lindsey
 Fairchild, Charles Jackson
 Fairchild, Richard Austin
 Floyd, Milton Faulk, Jr.
 Foster, Lewis Clayton
 Gill, Gus Daniel, Jr.
 Hale, Benjamin Early
 Hallford, Delbert Wayne
 Harriss, George, II*
 Hartley, Howard Kenneth, Jr.
 Hildebrand, Christopher L.
 Hill, William James Michael
 Hollis, Rick Dwayne
 Hoover, Don Wilson
 Irion, Gerald Wayne
 Ives, Ethan Edward
 Ives, Robert Edward
 Johnson, William Franklin, III
 Kebelman, Frank Louis, III
 Lacey, Richard Cobb, Sr.
 Lattimore, Larry Van
 Lattimore, Rodney Shannon
 Lattimore, Stephen Mark
 Lattimore, William Leonard
 Lemley, James Hershel, Jr.
 Luna, Charles Edward, Sr.
 Lunsford, Allan Townsend, Jr.
 Lusk, Edward Eugene, Jr.
 Lusk, James Edward
 Lusk, Zachary Hayden
 Martin, James Kelly
 Massey, Wesley Marlin
 McCord, Billy Quay
 McCord, Charles Kimble
 Mesic, Harry Randolph
 Moubray, Anthony Duane
 Murphree, Robert Smith
 Noroski, Joseph Harold
 O'Rourke, Brian Walter, Jr.
 Parker, Bobby Nelson
 Parker, Corey Stephen
 Parrott, Gary Eugene
 Perdue, Ronald Lee
 Perry, Floyd L.
 Potter, Heath Dale
 Randolph, Jack
 Reckline, Sigmund Joseph, Jr.
 Reynolds, James Allen
 Rhodes, Brandon Paul
 Roach, Kenneth Duane
 Rohde, Douglas Glenn
 Rucker, Brian Sims
 Rust, James Anderson
 Rust, Randall Davis
 Rutherford, Steven Dwayne
 Savelle, Timothy Morris
 Foley, AL
 Beaumont, TX
 Orange Park, FL
 Hoschton, GA
 College Station, TX
 Charleston, SC
 Monroe, VA
 Mount Juliet, TN
 Bristol, VA
 Austin, TX
 Madison, MS
 Madison, MS
 Charleston, SC
 Richmond, VA
 New Oxford, PA
 Berryville, AR
 Dewey, AZ
 Wilmington, NC
 Suffolk, VA
 Aiken, SC
 Mohrsville, PA
 Clarksville, TN
 Birmingham, AL
 Kerrville, TX
 Virginia Beach, VA
 Virginia Beach, VA
 Columbia, TN
 Oceanside, CA
 Fairhope, AL
 Rutherfordton, NC
 Rutherfordton, NC
 Matthews, NC
 Rutherfordton, NC
 Springfield, TN 37172
 Athens, TX
 Jeffersonton, VA
 Marietta, GA
 Marietta, GA
 Marietta, GA
 Fulton, MS
 Fort Worth, TX
 Bruce, MS
 Banner, MS
 North Charleston, SC
 Reading, OH
 Jackson, MS
 Munhall, PA
 Prospect, KY
 Magnolia, TX
 Arlington, TX
 Grand Junction, CO
 High Point, NC
 Batavia, OH
 Lexington, SC
 Knoxville, TN
 Baroda, MI
 Armuchee, GA
 Savannah, GA
 Windsor, CT
 Bethesda, MD
 Columbia, SC
 Haltom City, TX
 Haltom City, TX
 Ripley, MS
 Watkinsville, GA

Sikes, Duane Allen
 Sims, Joseph Francis
 Smith, Clayton Addison
 Smith, Ford Hardin
 Snodgrass, David Wayne
 Stimits, Roy Alan
 Thomson, Thomas David
 Toal, Richard Lane
 Tomlinson, William Payne
 Turney, William Dalton
 Walden, Paul Ashley
 Waldrop, Lake Wadelo
 Waldrop, Michael Wayne
 Wall, Gerald Larkin
 Wall, Joseph Edward, III
 Watkins, Warren Byers, III
 Watson, Donald Walter
 White, Ky Wayne
 Whitehead, James Wyatt, IV
 Williford, Matthew Daniel, III
 Wilson, Gregory Gordon
 Wood, Jack Benny
 Worsham, Raleigh Elmore
 Wright, Davis Lee
 *Deceased
 Jacksonville, FL
 Charleston, SC
 Midland, TX
 Lubbock, TX
 Greenwood Village, CO
 Hampstead, NC
 Walls, MS
 Ferris, TX
 Tampa, FL
 McGehee, AR
 Lorton, VA
 Pontotoc, MS
 St. George, UT
 Roscommon, MI
 Richmond, VA
 Warrenton, VA
 Wilmington, NC
 League City, TX
 Waldorf, MD
 Virginia Beach, VA
 Lexington, SC
 Gainesville, FL
 Lynchburg, VA
 Wilmington, DE

New Life Members

Fifty-seven members of the Order took the step of establishing their Life Membership in the Order. These were:

Aitchison, Ernest Edward
 Anderson, William Alan, Jr.
 Beard, John Christian
 Belmonte, Lee Alan
 Bowden, Jay Dean
 Brazier, Robert Dale
 Brent, Gerald Page
 Brown, Daniel Franklin
 Butler, Charles Voiers, Jr.
 Campbell, J. A. Barton
 Casey, Lawrence King, Jr.
 Christmas, Charles Ernest
 Craig, Mark Steven
 Dame, Richard Alan
 Dennison, William Andrew, Jr.
 Donnelly, John Thomas, Jr.
 Embrey, John Murray, Jr.
 Farrar, Sidney Clifton, Jr.
 Flanagan, James Byron, Jr.
 Fogerson, Charles Lee
 Foster, Lewis Clayton
 Gillikin, Thomas Lewis, Sr.
 Gordon, Paul Tulane, III
 Hallford, Delbert Wayne
 Harris, Lyttleton, Tazewell, IV
 Herron, Stewart Lynwood
 Irving, Preston Eugene
 Kincannon, Douglas Michael
 Lacey, Richard Cobb, Sr.
 Lee, Donald Edwin
 Luna, Charles Edward, Sr.
 McBurney, Andrew Sloan
 McCord, Billy Quay
 Orland Park, IL
 Martinez, GA
 Kingwood, TX
 Tulsa, OK
 Waxahachie, TX
 Ennis, TX
 Olive Branch, MS
 Amenia, NY
 Paris, TN
 Richmond, VA
 Beaumont, TX
 Mobile, AL
 Roanoke, VA
 Derby, KS
 Bristol, VA
 Stafford, VA
 Spotsylvania, VA
 Fort Worth, TX
 Smyrna, GA
 Ruidoso, NM
 Richmond, VA
 Brunswick, GA
 Houston, TX
 Dewey, AZ
 Houston, TX
 Southaven, MS
 Kosciusko, MS
 Lake Jackson, TX
 Fairhope, AL
 Houston, TX
 Athens, TX
 Dorset, VT
 Bruce, MS

McCord, Charles Kimble
 Mesic, Harry Randolph
 Moncure, Conway Bagwell
 Outlaw, Perry James
 Parker, Wayne Lavern
 Pilcher, Gregory Alfred
 Potter, Carl Dale
 Randolph, Jack
 Ready, Steve Arthur
 Reckline, Sigmund Joseph, Jr.
 Roach, Henneth Duane
 Rothermel, Louis Frederick, II
 Sappington, Oliver Earl
 Snodgrass, David Wayne
 Thornton, Roger Peter
 Toal, Richard Lane
 Tomlinson, William Payne
 Turner, Gene Devoy
 Waldrop, Lake Wadelo
 Wall, Gerald Larkin
 White, Stanley Thomas
 Whitley, Philip Donald
 Worsham, Raleigh Elmore
 Wright, Davis Lee

Banner, MS
 North Charleston, SC
 Richmond, VA
 Fairhope, AL
 Summit, MS
 El Dorado, AR
 Wagener, SC
 Knoxville, TN
 Greenville, TN
 Baroda, MI
 Windsor, CT
 Houston, TX
 Sunrise Beach, MO
 Greenwood Village, CO
 Niddrie, Australia
 Ferris, TX
 Tampa, FL
 Tulsa, OK
 Pontotoc, MS
 Roscommon, MI
 Oxford, MI
 Houston, TX
 Lynchburg, VA
 Wilmington, DE



On 11/12/2011, Commander Larry Jolly (left) of the Lt. Gen Nathan Bedford Forest Chapter #100 was presented the Lt. Charles Reid Meritorious Service Award by Commander Christopher Cummins (right) of the Mississippi Society MOS&B.



Commander Larry Jolly (center) of the Lt. General Nathan Bedford Forest Chapter #100 MOS&B inducted and welcomed new members Compatriot Tommy Thomson (left) and Compatriot Steven Rutherford (right) into the order at the chapter meeting held in Ripley, Mississippi on November 12, 2011.

Teacher of the Year Nomination

Compatriot:

The *Military Order of the Stars and Bars* annually recognizes an exemplary educator of Southern history/culture at the secondary/post-secondary level. It is time to consider nominees for the 2012 award. Nominations of deserving educators are solicited. Nominations should include a narrative explaining why the nomination is being made. Nominations must be postmarked no later than March 1, 2012.

The General Executive Council has determined that the recognized educator will be awarded a trophy and an honorarium of \$500 to be presented at the San Antonio Convention.

Nomination materials should be mailed to:

MOS&B Education Committee
 c/o Toni Turk
 264 N 300 W
 Blanding, UT 84511

For a copy of the nomination form, or if you have questions, please contact Education Committee Chairman Toni Turk at the above address or email him at: trturk@frontiernet.net



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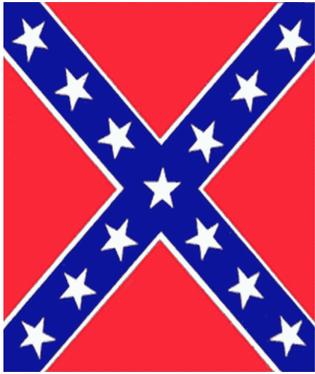
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ALABAMA SOCIETY GORGAS CHAPTER #299 REPORT

By Dr. Sam Gambrell, Jr, Adjutant

PROGRAMS

September 2011-1st Lt. Commander John Coleman gave a most interesting presentation entitled "Adventures of a Confederate Captain, his great grandfather Thomas Wilkes Coleman. Thomas' father had come to Greene County, AL near Eutaw in 1818 where he built Grassdale, his plantation home. Thomas was born in 1833 at Grassland, grew up there, and attended Princeton University graduating with both BS and MS degrees. Returning to Green County, he read law in Greensboro, Hale County, with Steven Hale. After marrying Frances Wilson on October 25, 1860, he joined the Greensboro Guards and was sent to Ft. Morgan. He organized Co. F, 40th Alabama Infantry and was elected their Captain. He was sent to Vicksburg, fought at Deer Creek, was captured, and paroled on July 9, 1863. Going home, he joined the 40th Alabama again and was sent to Chattanooga, TN with his body servant, Mark. Fighting at Missionary Ridge, he was shot with a minnie ball which collapsed his left lung and exited through his back. He rode the train to the hospital at Marietta, GA for treatment and sent Mark back to Alabama to get his wife, Frances, and her servant, Betsy, to come to the hospital. After treatment, he was moved in a mule and wagon with his family to the hospital at Montgomery, AL for recovery from his wound. He was the father of nine children, a very active and successful politician, and a successful trial lawyer. He was elected Solicitor in Hale County, elected to the Supreme Court of Alabama, served on the Constitutional Conventions of 1865 and 1901, was a University of Alabama trustee who was instrumental in bringing Dr. Denny and Dean Farrar to the university, founded the Farmers and Merchants Bank of Montgomery, and was a friend and colleague of Booker T. Washington as they worked together on concerns of and problems in the Black community. One of the most outstanding citizens and leaders in Alabama during his lifetime, he died on November 9, 1920 at age eighty-seven and was buried in the cemetery at Grassdale Plantation.

October 2011-Roger Ballard, a Chapter member, gave a most interesting presentation entitled "Collecting the Confederacy with an Alabama Connection". He showed several weapons and knives explaining for each its type, its history, and how he acquired it. Included in his presentation were: (1) A Dixon-Nelson Rifle, 58 caliber, made in Alabama; (2) A Sturdivant Rifle, 58 caliber, serial # 149, made in Alabama. Sturdivant was a jeweler. (3) A Confederate copy of a Sharps Rifle, made in Richmond, VA. (4) A Dragoon pistol, 52 caliber, made by a gunsmith, Mr. Gilpy, in Mobile. (5) A Navy Colt pistol, model 1851, serial # 94120, which was one of 600 that were bought by Alabama Governor Moore for use by Alabama Confederate soldiers. (6) An 1855 Colt Sidehammer pistol owned by Henry Yarborough and a photograph of Yarborough. (7) A knife owned by J. M. McKinney, an Alabama man. (8) A knife made for G. W. Shackelford, one of three brothers in the Confederate Army. Made by Lewis Crenshaw of Hope Hull, AL. (9) A knife made by T. L. Pruitt of Prattville, AL which was one of 39 made for men of the Autauga Guards. (10) A knife carried by James Monroe Jay, a Confederate soldier who mustered into service at Navy Cove near Fort Morgan, AL. He joined the "Dixie Boys" unit of Pickens County, AL. The "Dixie Boys" later became Company C, 24th Regiment, Alabama Volunteers. (11) A morning report from the 24th Alabama signed by Captain (later Colonel) Newton N. Davis and dated February 15, 1862.

ANNUAL FISH FRY AND SOCIAL

On October 23rd, approximately 170 members and guests of Paul Bryant Jr and the local MOS&B, SCV, and UDC organizations gathered at ThisLDu, Paul's plantation near Boligee, AL, for the social outing that Paul hosts each year. The 5th Alabama Infantry Regiment Band gave beautiful renditions of several selections of Civil War period music. A delicious fish fry with all the trimmings was served and enjoyed by all. Early attendees enjoyed fishing in Paul's fish ponds. Gorgas Chapter Commander Richard Rhone presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Paul and his wife, Cherry, from the Gorgas Chapter in recognition of their service to the MOS&B, to heritage organizations, and to the Tuscaloosa community at large.

Chaplain's Corner

By Rev. John H. Killian

No nation in modern history has, as a whole, revered the Lord Jesus Christ as did the Confederate States of America. Our day is cursed with politicians who will seek to misuse religious talk to manipulate voters. But a belief in the God of the Bible was knitted in the fabric of the Confederacy.

J. William Jones was a prominent Baptist minister from Virginia, who after the War served as Chaplain for the United Confederate Veterans. Jones testified that "in the Winter of 1863-64, there were religious services almost every night when one of the major Confederate forces was not directly engaged in battle. But it was not only the young who were converted while under arms. Generals Braxton Bragg, Joseph E. Johnston, William J. Hardee, Dick Ewell, and John B. Hood (to mention only a few) were converted and baptized while in Confederate service, along with perhaps 150,000 men in gray."

While I would never presume to fully understand the mind of God, I cannot help but wonder if we lost the War at all. No great revival took place in the Union Army. The South, as a result of the War, became the Bible belt, and our region has been the seed bed for world missions and evangelism since that time. Why is the South the Bible belt? Because of the outcome and the influence of the revival among the Southern armies during the War Between the States.

Let us conclude our thoughts with the quote from Bennett Young, at the unveiling of the Confederate monument at Arlington National Cemetery on June 4, 1914. "The sword said the South was wrong, but the sword is not necessarily guided by conscience and reason. The power of numbers and the longest guns cannot destroy principle nor obliterate truth. Right lives forever. It survives battles, failures, conflicts and death. There is no human power, however mighty, that can in the end, annihilate truth."



(l to r): Rusty Williams, recipient; & Jim Templin, presenter

Douglas Southall Freeman History Award Presented

On Saturday, October 22, 2011, the Douglas Southall Freeman History Award was presented to Mr. Rusty Williams for his book, "My Old Confederate Home: A Respectable Place for Civil War Veterans." Presenting the award was Treasurer General Jim Templin. The award was presented at the dedication ceremony for the historical marker for the Confederate Men's Home, which was a project of the Austin Chapter of the Descendants of Confederate Veterans. Congratulations were presented by State Representative Allen Fletcher, a member of the MOS&B. The keynote speaker for the event was Texas Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson.



Texas Confederate Veterans Home

Historical Marker Dedication

On Saturday, October 22, 2011 a historical marker was unveiled in Austin Texas honoring and remembering the thousands of Confederate Veterans who resided in the Confederate Home during its operation from 1886 until 1954.

The marker was a project of the Descendants of Confederate Veterans Organization (DCV) and involved the Texas Historical Commission, the Travis County Historical Commission, the City of Austin, the Hoods Texas Brigade Association and many others. MOS&B members who are also members of the DCV were actively involved in the project. Speakers for the ceremony included Texas Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson and State Representative Alan Fletcher.

At an informal supper the night before the unveiling ceremony, DCV member Terry Ayres was presented the MOS&B Judah P. Benjamin Award for his untiring work in seeing the project through to its successful conclusion. This is the highest award presented to a non-MOS&B member and Compatriot Ayres was truly deserving of the award.



Major Gillis Flag Ceremony

On Sunday, 25 September 2011, the Captain Alonzo Ridley Chapter #303 (San Francisco, CA) met in Sacramento to commemorate the Sesquicentennial of the display of the California Confederate flag by Major Gillis. The California Society of the Military Order of the Stars & Bars has adopted the California Confederate Flag as our state flag.



We held a ceremony at the corner of 4th and J Streets in Sacramento where Major Gillis unfurled his California Confederate Flag on July 4th in 1861 in front of the St. George Hotel. The original flag is currently owned by the California State Capitol Museum. We unfurled a reproduction of the Gillis Flag and paraded it at the same location as the original event.

Major Gillis was celebrating Independence Day in 1861. Following a display of fireworks in the town plaza, Major George P. Gillis and E.J. Sanders walked to the corner of Fourth and J Streets, whereupon Major Gillis unveiled a confederate flag that he had wrapped around his walking stick. He paraded the flag in front of the St. George Hotel to the delight of the crowd, most of whom were Confederate sympathizers. One person who was not amused by the display of the flag was J.W. Biderman, who was a Union sympathizer. The *Sacramento Daily Union* newspaper reported on the incident:

J. W. Bideman [sic] and Curtis Clark, on reaching Fourth and J streets, after the exhibition of fireworks at the Plaza had concluded, noticed in the hands of J. P. Gillis a flag entwined around a cane. Gillis was at the time standing on the corner in company with E. J. Sanders. Bideman concluded at once that the flag was not that of the Union, and remarked to Clark, "I'll bet ten dollars that that is a secession flag, and if it is I'm bound to take it if it is unfolded." In the course of a few moments Gillis unfolded the flag, which proved to be that of the Southern Confederacy, and raising it on his cane over his left shoulder marched up and down the sidewalk in front of the St. George. The most of those present appeared to be Secessionists by sympathy, and were pleased with the exhibition. Bideman and Clark followed, and the first named, on approaching Gillis, caught him with the left hand by the throat and with the right tore the flag from the cane and put it in his pocket. Gillis appealed to his companions for a knife, but no weapon was exhibited. Bideman stated that no such flag as that could be carried in this town in his presence, and left the ground with it. He and a large number of his friends returned to the St. George subsequently, and Frank Rhodes and A. Burns waved the flag and invited the Secessionists present in the most pressing manner to come and take it. The invitation was not accepted. Major Gillis subsequently plead for its return very earnestly, but the flag was considered by its possessors as too valuable a trophy to voluntarily surrender it. The flag was exhibited yesterday, during the day, at the bar of Frank Rhodes, in the lower story of the Pavilion. It is the design of those who have charge of it to keep it there during the session of the State Convention in the upper room, after which it will be kept at the Adriatic Saloon on Third Street, between I and J streets. It was yesterday suspended beneath the American flag with the following inscription attached, Secession flag captured from Major Gillis, July 4, 1861. In the upper story of the Pavilion was the following notice: 'At the bar below may be seen the Secession flag captured from the renowned Major Gillis, July 4, 1861.' During yesterday afternoon, the Major went to the bar, and tried to induce Frank Rhodes, the proprietor, to give up the flag. Frank was inexorable, Gillis then said, 'Well, sir, I shall be compelled to take it then;' to which Frank replied, 'You will take desperate chances if you make the attempt.' Gillis then passed around the counter, and was about to seize him and throw him over the counter. There was then no further effort made to disturb the flag.

The original flag was made of silk, two feet wide by four feet long, in the design of the Stars and Bars, with sixteen small stars surrounding a seventeenth large star in the canton of blue. There is one star for the eleven Confederate States, one for the Confederate Territory of Arizona, one each for the border states of Missouri, Kentucky, Maryland and Delaware, and one large central star for California. Historian Laurence Talbott of California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, stated, "It is truly a Californian flag, of unique design."



Southern Cross Dedication

On Sunday October 9, 2011 the Sons of Confederate Veterans Black Horse, Beverly Tucker and Brandy Rifles Camps, as well as several confederate reenactors met at the Fairview Cemetery in Culpeper, Virginia to dedicate a newly placed Southern Cross to Culpeper resident and confederate soldier, Captain John LaFayette Caynor.

Captain Caynor's 3rd great nephew, MOS&B Historian General and member of the SCV Black Horse Camp # 780 made the trip from his home in Steamboat Springs, Colorado in-order to attend the ceremony. William L. Caynor Sr., the nephew, spoke at the ceremony and related the following regarding his ancestor.



Captain John Lafayette Caynor was a man born into patriotism. His grandfather was with General George Washington in that cold 1777 winter at Valley Forge. His service to the cause began on May 15th of 1861 when he enlisted at 33 years old into the Virginia Provisional Army. Later he was mustered in as a sergeant into Wise's Legion. This company became part of the 60th Virginia Regiment of Infantry. During their reorganization in April of 1862 John was elected Captain of Company F. Caynor served gallantly through the West Virginia campaign, Seven Days battle and the 1864 Valley campaign that included the invasion of Washington and subsequent Battle of Monocacy. He was wounded twice and led the regiment as Acting Major for six of the last nine months of the war, ultimately being captured with much of the unit at the Battle of Waynesboro on March 2, 1865.

After the war, on April 20, 1896, in Culpeper, the A.P. Hill Camp of United Confederate Veterans was established and John was elected 3rd lieutenant of a camp consisting of 110 soldiers.

John was a father of two, a Culpeper magistrate and devoted member of Culpeper Baptist Church and A.P. Hill Camp of Confederate Veterans at the time of his death at the age of 82. It is apparent that the local residents held the highest regard and respect for John's war service by continuing to refer to him as "Captain" for more than forty-five years after the war.

Captain Caynor was born in Fauquier County, Virginia on March 31, 1828 and died at Brandy Station, Virginia on November 25, 1910.

MOS&B Historian General William L. Caynor Sr. is presently working with the Black Horse SCV Camp to place three Southern Cross markers and two tombstones on the graves of his Caynor ancestry from the Fauquier, Culpeper areas of Virginia.

TENTH ANNUAL ABBEVILLE INSTITUTE SCHOLARS' CONFERENCE "THE WAR BETWEEN THE STATES: OTHER VOICES, OTHER VIEWS"

Stone Mountain, Georgia

February, 23-26, 2012

TOPIC: Nationalist historians for 150 years have protected Americans from confronting the stark immorality of prosecuting what French philosopher Bertrand de Jouvenel called, "a war such as Europe had never yet seen" to force eleven States into a federation from which their people had voted to secede. Should eleven American States secede today and form a federation of their own, such a war would be judged criminal.

Northern opposition to the war was more extensive, complex and had more respectable adherents than the mainline account allows; e.g., Governor Seymour of New York, 1861: "Indeed, Can we so entirely forget the past history of our country, that we can stand upon the point of pride against states whose citizens battled with our fathers and poured out their blood upon the soil of our state. Upon whom are we to wage war? Our own countrymen..." Lincoln and his party often acted as an embattled minority in the North. The Sesquicentennial offers an opportunity to explore the view point of the most neglected and misrepresented segment of American opinion on the great conflict at the center of our history.

Learn about the resistance of President Franklin Pierce and New York Governor Horatio Seymour. Midwestern "Copperheads." Christian reaction to the bloodthirsty rhetoric of pro-war Republican preachers. Pro-Union opposition to the Republican Party. Resistance in the border States. Gradations and conflicts in Northern opinion, especially among ethnic groups. Treatment of black soldiers by the Union army during and after the war. And much more.

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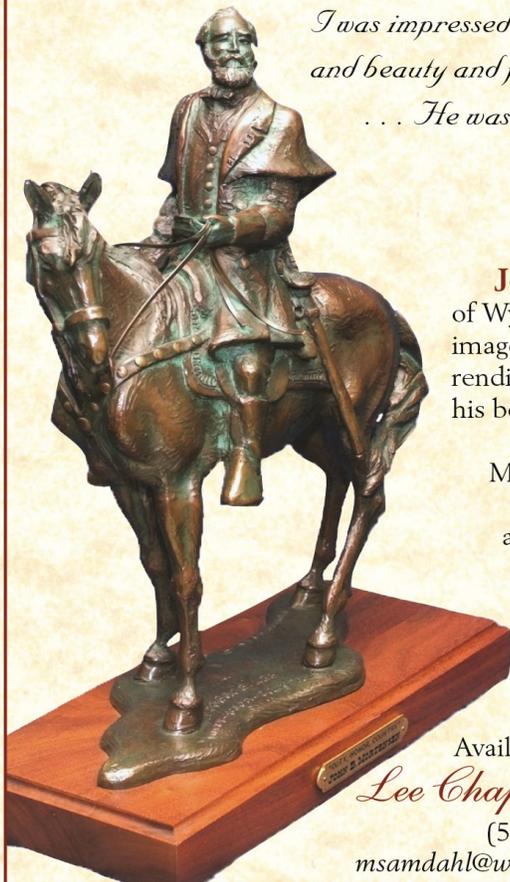
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