

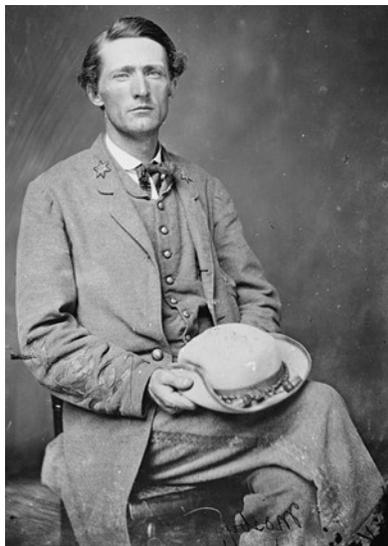
Volume 8, Number 3
March 2016

Officer's Call

John Singleton Mosby

By Donald C. Hakenson and Joseph Judson Smith, III

John Singleton Mosby was a Confederate cavalry commander. Known for his speed and elusiveness, he was given the nickname the "Gray Ghost." Mosby was born in Powhatan County, Virginia, on Dec. 6, 1833. As a child, he was a small boy with frail health and became a target for bullies in school, whom he always fought back against despite his disadvantages though he admitted he always lost. While attending the University of Virginia, a confrontation with one such bully led 19-year-old Mosby to pull a pistol and shoot the bullying student, George Turpin, who had something of a bad reputation, and wounded him non-fatally in the neck.



He was sentenced to a year in jail, fined \$500 and expelled from the university; however, Governor Joseph Johnson pardoned him around Christmas of 1853. Mosby's brush with the law had one positive outcome that would affect him the rest of his life: he began reading law, tutored by the man who had been the prosecuting attorney in his trial, and opened his own practice in 1855. The following year, on December 30th, he married Pauline Clark, the daughter of a prominent Kentucky lawyer.

Although he had opposed secession, Mosby enlisted as a private in a company that was soon incorporated into the 1st Virginia Cavalry. In February 1862, he was promoted to first lieutenant and served as adjutant of the 1st Virginia, but he clashed with the new regiment's commander, Fitzhugh Lee. He resigned in April, be-

coming a staff courier and scout for J.E.B. Stuart. In Stuart, Mosby found a hero to emulate.

Mosby provided intelligence information to Stuart that aided him in his famed "Ride Around McClellan" during the Peninsula Campaign of June 1862. In July 1862, Mosby was briefly a Union prisoner before being exchanged. During the course of the war he would be wounded seven times, and would lose an eye in a carriage accident in the 1890s; for someone who had been a sickly youth, he proved quite resilient.

In early 1863, he was authorized to recruit a group of partisans. Both Stuart and Robert E. Lee wanted the horsemen Mosby recruited to be under the command of the 1st Virginia Cavalry, but Mosby preferred operating outside the traditional military structure and argued that guerrilla actions would be useful in defense of Virginia and the Confederacy. He sought and received permission from Confederate Secretary of War James Seddon to organize a partisan unit; Company A, 43rd Virginia Cavalry Battalion, became part of the Provisional Army of Confederate States (PACS). Mosby would eventually rise to full colonel before war's end.

Mosby did not consider his men a traditional army unit, and he would call them together to strike a selected target, then disperse afterward, making them hard to run to ground. This ability to strike quickly and

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

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

Address all general business or advertising correspondence to MOS&B IHQ, P O Box 18901, Raleigh, NC 27619-8901.

Commander General's Message



I would like to thank all of our members for their recent donations to the Confederate Legacy Fund. On July 11, 2015 I announced a new funding drive at our Alexandria Convention and set a modest objective of \$10,000.00. I am pleased to report that we have now exceeded that goal. In fact, we have received a total of \$10,465.00 as of December 31, 2015. I am extremely impressed with our collective efforts for a great common cause.

The best thing about this year's Legacy Fund drive is that we didn't rely on major donors to achieve our objective. In fact, everyone had the opportunity to participate according to his own conscience and his own means. A majority of the donations we received were in the \$10.00 to \$25.00 range. We also had several donations of \$100.00 or more, including one for \$1,000.00. All told, we had over 400 of our members participate in this drive.

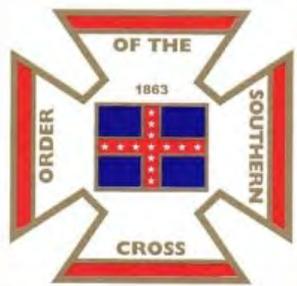
The Legacy fund will eventually pay for our entire college scholarship program through the interest it earns on investments. It will also fund projects that protect and enhance our Southern heritage. These projects will only be funded from the interest earned on this account and the principle will remain untouched. Currently these types of expenditures are paid for from our General fund.

My long-term objective is to let the Legacy fund account continue to grow until it reaches \$100,000.00. At that point, we can begin to make withdrawals to fund our college scholarship program. It is exciting to realize that we are now only a few years away from that point in time. Of course, your generosity has made all of this possible.

Thank you for standing up for our Southern heritage. Today we face a relentless assault of cultural genocide that is aimed squarely at us. This assault is driven under the banner of political correctness. For this reason, it is important that our members act as one on the issues that confront us. Without resolve on these issues our heritage will simply vanish. Of course, we cannot – and will not – let that happen! Thank you again for your generous support of the Confederate Legacy Fund. **Deo Vindice!**

Wm. Howard Jones

Commander General



PRESERVING CONFEDERATE HERITAGE

The Order of the Southern Cross was founded in 1863 by Lt. Gen. Leonidas Polk, Maj. Gen. Patrick R. Cleburne, and Chaplain (Rev.) Charles T. Quintard, on the eve of the Battle of Chickamauga. The Order promoted an *esprit de corps* within the ranks.

The Order was re-established in 1979 and, since that time, the Order has allocated more than \$250,000 to the preservation of Confederate heritage.

Any organization seeking financial support to help fund local Confederate heritage projects is encouraged to contact the Order by visiting our website at www.orderofsoutherncross.com or contacting Grants Chairman James E. Alderman at alde711@aol.com.

Deo Vindice!



The Chaplain General's Thoughts

By Raymond Holder, M'Div., B.C.C.



He is Risen, He is Risen Indeed!

The cross on which Jesus Christ was crucified on is not only the symbol of our Christian faith, but it is also the central symbol of history, especially western civilization. That cross was the cruelest and most despised method the Roman Empire could devise. They, the Roman Empire, executed many thousands by this cruelest of ways. The apostle Paul did much writing about that cross on which the prince of glory died as he traveled by foot on the Roman roads which all led to Rome.

1st Corinthians 1:18: "For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God".

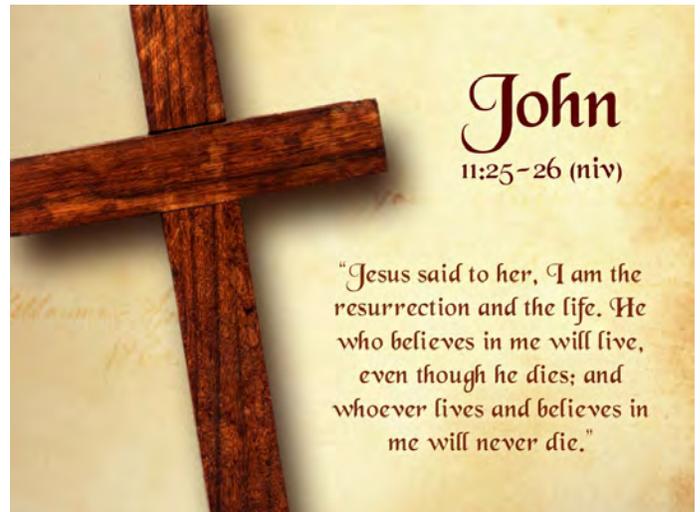
Our celebration of Easter in the churches throughout our country and the world is foolishness to the non-Christian world but to us it is everything. Christ is risen indeed on the third day after the crucifixion. Let us celebrate that resurrection by attending our places of worship not only on that day, but every week of the year.

The Old Rugged Cross

On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross, the emblem of Suffering and shame;
 And I love that old cross where the dearest and best
 For a world of lost sinners was slain.
 Oh, that old rugged cross, so despised by
 the world, has a wondrous attraction for me;
 For the dear Lamb of God left his home in His glory above
 To bear it to dark Calvary.
 In the old rugged cross, stained with blood
 so divine, such a wonderful
 Beauty I see; for 'twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died,
 To pardon and sanctify me.
 To the old rugged cross I will ever be true,
 its shame and reproach gladly bear;
 Then; Then He'll call me some day to my home far
 away, where His glory forever I'll share.

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross, till my trophies at last I lay down; I will
 Cling to the old rugged cross, and exchanged
 it some day for a crown.

This wonderful old hymn sums up what the celebration of Easter which is the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ, means to me. In a word, everything.



Article Submittal Request

If you have an article that you would like to be considered for publication, please send your submittal to Jeff Sizemore (Editor General) at swampeditor@yahoo.com.

Chapter and Society News is also welcome. Please email to the address. The preferred submittal is one in which the articles are in MS Word format and that all pictures are in jpeg format as this makes it easier to format to the proper scale within this publication.

If there is any questions, please feel free to contact me. Thanks.

- From Page 1: John Singleton Mosby -

then "disappear" gave rise to Mosby's nickname, "Gray Ghost" which was used as the title of a television series about him in 1957-58. Mosby himself would often reconnoiter an area for a raid.

Mosby and his men boarded in homes of local residents throughout Loudoun and Fauquier counties. "Mosby's Confederacy," as the area and citizenry were known, made it possible for Mosby to wage successful guerrilla warfare. Ranger Alexander Hunter later observed that Mosby was not beloved by his men, but was instead feared and revered as "a force of nature."

Mosby regarded traditional military order as impractical to his purposes. Having lost an adjutancy to politicking early in the war, Mosby appointed his officers. He never partook of the spoils himself, but the concept was popular, especially with young recruits. The constant threat of a Mosby attack on Union pickets and supply lines made the command a thorn in the sides of successive Union commanders. Many historians now believe that Mosby's greatest contribution to the war was as a mythical, psychological presence in the battleground of Virginia.

Mosby and his partisan rangers leaped to fame in a raid on the town of Fairfax Court House on March 9, 1863. With just 29 men, he captured Union brigadier general Edwin H. Stoughton, along with a number of horses. His capture of Stoughton was very colorful and unforgettable. Mosby found Stoughton asleep in bed. Awakening the General with a slap on the rear, Mosby asked, "Do you know Mosby, General?"

The General replied, "Yes! Have you got the rascal?"

"No," said Mosby. "But he's got you!"

Upon hearing of the incident, Lincoln reportedly said, "I can create a brigadier general with a stroke of a pen, but I can't create 29 horses."

Shortly after the formation of the unit, the rangers proved their worth as scouts and couriers. On June 17, 1863, Robert E. Lee began to move his army north into Pennsylvania, using Stuart's cavalry to screen his right flank. Upon discovering that Union general Joseph Hooker's army was headed to Fairfax and Loudoun counties, Mosby, while scouting on the Little River Turnpike, captured two of Hooker's staff officers at a house near Aldie. He also captured a crucial letter, indicating that Hooker had no notion of Lee's plans and no intention of crossing the Potomac River. Thus far, Stuart's screen was working.

Lee had not been specific about which route he wished Stuart to take to Gettysburg, and after scouting



Mosby's Rangers-Top row (left to right): Lee Howison, Ben Palmer, John Puryear, Tom Booker, A.G. Babcock, Norman Randolph, Frank Rahm. Middle row: Robert Blanks Parrott, Thomas Troop, John W. Munson, John S. Mosby, Newell, Quarles. Front row: Walter Gosden, Harry T. Sinnott, O.L. Butler, I.A. Gentry.

from June 16 to June 24, Mosby recommended that Stuart pass between Hooker's corps and head to the still-passable Seneca Ford. When, on June 25, Mosby heard artillery fire as Hooker headed toward the Potomac River, he assumed that Stuart would simply turn around to avoid any unnecessary action or delay. Unknown to Mosby, Stuart forged on, resulting in his delayed arrival at Gettysburg. After the war Mosby was incensed by criticism of Stuart's judgment and, by implication, his own advice.

He also came close once to capturing a train on which General Ulysses S. Grant was a passenger. His primary area of operations in Northern Virginia became known as "Mosby's Confederacy," but he and his men raided as far north as Pennsylvania. Mosby's Rangers disrupted supply lines, captured Union couriers, provided intelligence to the regular Confederate army, and generally became a thorn in the side of Federal officers operating in northern Virginia.

At the time of the war, Gadsby's Tavern was known as the City Hotel. It was the City Hotel where the Lincoln-appointed Union Governor of Virginia, Francis H. Pierpont, made his quarters. Naming Pierpont the Governor of Virginia when Virginia had already seceded from the Union made many southerners steaming mad.

Mosby called Pierpont the bogus governor and twice tried unsuccessfully to catch him in 1863 and 1864. Mosby failed in his first attempt because Lincoln called Pierpont to Washington that day, so he instead captured Pierpont's aid Colonel Daniel F. Dulany while he was residing at the Rose Hill plantation on Franconia Road on September 28, 1863. In this raid Ranger French Dulany

helped Mosby capture his own father, Colonel Daniel Dulany.

On his next attempt, Mosby failed again when he and approximately forty men made it as far as four miles outside of the city of Alexandria on the Telegraph Road on June 9, 1864. Unfortunately for Mosby and fortunately for Pierpont a Yankee sympathizer discovered Mosby and his men camping in the woods and notified the authorities in Alexandria that Mosby was in the area. Mosby found out about this, aborted his plan and returned to Fauquier County.

Governor Pierpont was not exactly ignorant of Mosby's desires. Pierpont realized that he was a target when he received a most unusual correspondence while staying at the City Hotel. The message read, *"You did not see the farmer who rode by your hotel on a hay wagon yesterday, did you Governor? My driver pointed out your window, and I marked it plain. It's just over the bay, and I'll get you some night, mighty easy."*

None other than the Gray Ghost himself signed this bravado message. Mosby must have wanted Pierpont very badly to plan two such raids. It must have been one of Mosby's biggest regrets during the war in not snaring the pretend Governor of Virginia.

Mosby added to his reputation as a raider in August 1864, after Confederate General Jubal Early withdrew before Union General Philip H. Sheridan, up the Valley of Virginia. In following Early from Winchester to Cedar Creek, Sheridan allowed his wagons to stretch out in a vulnerable line. In the Berryville Wagon Raid of August 13, 1864, Mosby's rangers captured 200 men, burned or looted around forty wagons, and acquired 420 mules, 200 cattle, and 36 horses. Union General George A. Custer burned five civilian houses in reprisal. Then, on September 23, 1864, while Mosby was away nursing battle wounds, Union General Alfred A. Torbert ordered the execution of six captured Mosby men in Front Royal, Virginia.

A seventh, captured, according to Mosby's subsequent letter to Sheridan, "by a Colonel Powell on a plundering expedition into Rappahannock" was reported by Mosby to have suffered a similar fate. William Thomas Overby was one of the men selected for execution on the hill in Front Royal. His captors offered to spare him if he would reveal Mosby's location, but he refused. According to reports at the time, his last words were, "My last moments are sweetened by the reflection that for every man you murder this day Mosby will take a tenfold vengeance." After the executions a Union soldier pinned a piece of paper to one of the bodies that read: "This shall be the fate of all Mosby's men."

After informing General Robert E. Lee and Confederate Secretary of War James A. Seddon of his inten-

tion to respond in kind, Mosby ordered seven Union prisoners, chosen by lot, to be executed in retaliation on November 6, 1864, at Rectortown, Virginia. Although seven men were duly chosen in the original "death lottery," in the end just three men were actually executed. One numbered lot fell to a drummer boy who was excused because of his age, and Mosby's men held a second drawing for a man to take his place.

On the way to the place of execution a prisoner recognized Masonic regalia on the uniform of Confederate Captain Montjoy, a recently inducted Freemason then returning from a raid. The condemned captive gave him a secret Masonic distress signal. Captain Montjoy substituted one of his own prisoners for his fellow Mason. Afterwards Mosby upbraided Montjoy, stating that his command was "not a Masonic lodge". The soldiers charged with carrying out the executions of the revised group of seven successfully hanged three men. They shot two more in the head and left them for dead (remarkably, both survived). The other two condemned men managed to escape separately.

On November 11, 1864, Mosby wrote to Philip Sheridan, the commander of Union forces in the Shenandoah Valley, requesting that both sides resume treating prisoners with humanity. He pointed out that he and his men had captured and returned far more of Sheridan's men than they had lost. The Union side complied. With both camps treating prisoners as "prisoners of war" for the duration, there were no more executions.

On December 21, 1864, Mosby was ambushed near Rectortown by Union cavalry, who had no idea of his identity. Though Mosby was seriously wounded in the stomach, the injury was incorrectly reported as fatal in the New York Herald, much to Sheridan's delight.

Returning to command in February 1865, Mosby and his unit operated for a while in eastern Virginia. Shifting back to "Mosby's Confederacy," he chose to disband his troops on April 21, 1865, in Fauquier County, rather than surrender. Because he was excluded from the parole offered the Army of Northern Virginia, Mosby finally signed his parole in Lynchburg on June 17, 1865. He resumed his law practice in Warrenton in September 1865.

Mosby supported Grant's election in the presidential campaigns of 1868 and 1872, which earned him the enmity of many Southerners, who did not realize he had urged Grant to restore rights to former Confederates. Southerners were further angered by Mosby's refusal to accept the Lost Cause version of histo-

ry that attempted to separate slavery and the war. He wrote in an 1894 letter, "I always understood that we went to War on account of the thing we quarreled with the North about. I never heard of any other cause of quarrel than slavery."

He was named U.S. Consul to Hong Kong, 1878–1885, and gave the Federal government more headaches as he fought to reform corruption in the Foreign Service. He returned to practicing law, authored books, toured as a speaker, and held additional posts with the U.S. Government. He offered to raise a regiment during the Spanish-American War in 1898, but was turned down. He died in Washington, DC, on Memorial Day, May 30, 1916.

A Letter Written During the War Between the States

Submitted by Adam Gaines

Camp near Fredericksburg, Dec. 17th, 1862

My Dear Wife & little children,

I am spared through the kind Providence of God to drop you a few lines which leaves me well, hope this to find you all enjoying the same blessings. I know you must be very uneasy about me & will be until you hear from me. I have experienced another bloody & hard fought battle. On last Friday & Saturday a hard fought battle and a complete victory was won by our brave soldiers. We were drawn up in line of battle on Thursday morning the 11th before day and lay on our arms all day & night in the snow. Friday morning Gen. [Stonewall] Jackson came in[to] our position and we moved near our centre and were in line of battle all day. Friday night we were carried back on [General James] Longstreet's right wing adjoining Jackson's left. There we remained in line of battle until Saturday evening when we were double-quickened into the advance. We lay Saturday night on our arms. Sunday morning we moved a short distance to our right and lay under shells of the enemy all day. We were exposed to shells all day Saturday. We had one man wounded in our company. Thos. J. Patton was wounded in the head. The outside bone was broke & a piece taken out. On Sunday night we received orders that Monday morning we would be shelled by the enemy and that the Yankees no doubt would attempt to break our centre. We were ordered about 8 o'clock to go to work and fortify ourselves, that if we did not we would be cut to pieces. We went to work and worked all night Sunday. I don't think I ever worked much harder in my life than I did Sunday night. When day broke we had ourselves splendidly protected from shell & musketry, but they did not make the attack. We were in hopes they would attack us after we had prepared for them. They said there was danger and sent over a flag of truce to bury their dead, and to our great sur-

prise Tuesday morning they had all re-crossed the river and left us in our entrenchments. On Tuesday I went over the battlefield. I never saw such a sight in my life. The dead Yankees were staid all over the battlefield for 2 miles. This morning we were ordered back to our old camps being six days & nights we were in line of battle. Today I have been on a portion of the battlefield. A great many of the Yankees are yet unburied, but the Yankees came over under a flag of truce and have been burying their dead all day. I conversed with several of the Yankees. They say that we gave them a good flogging and that their loss was sever. It is supposed their loss is estimated from 10 to 15,000. General Lee's official dispatch says we lost 1,800 killed & wounded. I expected we would all be killed but thank the Lord we were not and are yet spared. As it is very near night I cannot give you all the particulars of the fight. We send off our mail early or I would conclude tomorrow. My chance for writing is bad this evening. It is cold & snowing some. I will write again in a day or two. I want to write to Father tomorrow. I will give you a more full detail of the fight. I heard from the Jeff Davis Artillery yesterday. A number of that company came over to our Regt. yesterday evening and said Ed Nobles had his foot shot off, and a Mr. Dennis from Warrington had his thigh shot off, and John J. Crosby was shot all to pieces, and several others slightly wounded. George was not hurt, if any at all it was very slight. I did not see Mr. Maul, but Lieut. J.B. Edwards saw him and this is what he said. I was gone off on the battlefield at the time. I had a letter wrote to send you the morning we were ordered out, but could not send it off, and I could not write until now, and I tore the other up, thought some Yankee might get it. I also had one wrote to Nannie which I destroyed. I will write her again soon. I will write your Pa and cousin Levard also. I want you to write soon. I have not rec'd a letter from you in several days. I am very anxious to hear from home. Give my love to Father, Mother, & the girls & children, also to Aunt N.E. & cousin Levard and Holland. Kiss the little babes for me and tell Walter his Pa has a hard time. May the blessings of Heaven rest upon you & Protect you is the prayers of your Dear Husband until Death.

D.L. Bozeman

P.S.

Mary, I want you to have me another pr. of shoes made, No. 8's. The pr. you sent me was so short I could not wear them. I sold them for 10\$. Let me know what each pr. cost, also what my blanket cost. I want my shoes made lower quarter than the first. I do not want them made after the soldier pattern. They do no good & they are a great deal harder to get on & off. Send them by

Tom Butler or Jo Roberts, the first that comes. I have not got my clothing from Jim Cox yet. It is so cold the ink freezes on the pen. Excuse this scribbling. I will try & do better next time.

D.L. Bozeman

David L. Bozeman, was born on February 18, 1834. He enlisted on March 15, 1862, at Pleasant Hill, Ala., and was commissioned 2nd lieutenant, Co. A, 44th Alabama Infantry. He served as acting company commander from November 1862 until February 1863. Promoted to captain in March 1863. He was captured on April 19, 1863, at Suffolk, Va., and wounded in the battle of Chickamauga, Ga., in September 1863. He was mortally wounded in action at the battle of Spotsylvania Court House, Va., and died on May 16, 1864. He is buried in the Confederate Cemetery at Spotsylvania, Va.



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Military Order of the Stars & Bars
79th Annual General Convention
Fairhope, Alabama
May 19-21, 2016



Convention Registration Form

Name & Title _____ Chapter _____
Address _____ City/State/Zip _____
Phone Number _____ Email _____
Guest(s) _____

Registration _____ @ \$75.00 \$
Late Registration after April 13, 2016 _____ @ \$85.00 \$

Thursday, May 19
Commander General's Reception _____ @ \$55.00 \$

Friday, May 20
Forrest Cavalry Corps Breakfast - pay at the door _____
Awards Luncheon _____ @ \$40.00 \$
Delta Boat Tour/ Water Defenses _____ @ \$65.00 \$
Children (6-12 yrs old) _____ @ \$35.00 \$

Saturday, May 21
Prayer Breakfast _____ @ \$25.00 \$
Commander General's Banquet _____ @ \$75.00 \$
Ancestor Memorial (See Supplemental Information Sheet) _____ @ \$5.00 \$
Additional 2016 Convention Medal _____ @ \$37.00 \$
Additional 2016 Convention Program _____ @ \$10.00 \$

Total Enclosed (Check) \$ _____

Make check payable to: BG Liddell Chapter #271
Mail to: David W. Myers, Adjutant, The Ridge #301, 430 W. Ft. Morgan Rd, Gulf Shores, AL 36542



Supplemental Information Sheet- 79th Annual General Convention

Ancestor Memorial _____ @ \$5.00 \$ _____
(Attach to Registration Form)

Ancestor's Name _____
Ancestor's Rank _____
Ancestor's Unit _____

Ancestor's Name _____
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Ancestor's Name _____
Ancestor's Rank _____
Ancestor's Unit _____

Additional Ancestors- Use another Sheet



Hotel Information

Hampton Inn Fairhope- Mobile Bay (Located in the heart of Fairhope's historic downtown shopping and entertainment district, home to countless antiques stores, galleries, shops, and restaurants.)

23 N. Section St.

Fairhope, Alabama, 36532

(251) 928-0956

13 Apr 2016 Reservation Cut off (Group Rates)

Code for Convention Rates: Group Name: Military Order of the Stars and Bars

1 King Room \$109.00/night + Tax

1 Queen Room (2 Queen Beds) \$109.00/night + Tax

Specialty Room (Studio) \$119.00/night + Tax

Rates are based on two (2) each adults per room, additional adults will be charged \$10.00 per room per night.

FREE Parking, Pool, Business Center, Gym/Fitness Room, FREE High Speed Internet,

Free Hot Breakfast



Convention Hotel

Hotel reservations are being made for the 2016 National Convention in Fairhope. Just a reminder that the BG Liddell Chapter was only able to secure 40 rooms at the Convention rate and the reservation and registration cutoff date is 13 April 2016. When making your reservation be sure and give the Group Name: Military Order of the Stars and Bars at the Hampton Inn Fairhope – Mobile Bay (Refer to Page 8)



Thursday's Events

On May 19, 2016, for those wishing to attend (free event), we will meet on the grounds of the Confederate Hospital (now the Grand Hotel) for a Cannon Salute honoring all Veterans and given a short history lesson on the Battle of Mobile Bay by a period Sailor reenactor. Immediately following (for those that registered for this event) the Commander General's Reception will kickoff at Wintzell's Oyster House with a superb seafood buffet meal and cash bar. The area has beautiful scenery and atmosphere with some of the oldest liveoaks around.



Meeting Location

The Fairhope Yacht Club is the location for the 2016 Convention meetings, Awards Luncheon and Prayer Breakfast.



Friday Events

On Friday May 20, 2016, after the Awards Luncheon (there will be plenty of time in between to fresh'n up, change clothes etc), we will gather ourselves (for those that have registered for this tour) and board the Delta Express, a 50 passenger eco tour boat, complete with bench seating and restroom facility. We will journey approximately two hours through the Mobile-Tensaw Delta and experience wetland habitats ranging from marsh to cypress-tupelo swamp and bottomland hardwoods. Not only the sites of Confederate Water Defenses the Delta is home to Alabama's largest population of alligators, black bear, the rare red-bellied turtle, osprey, bald eagles and of course snakes and fish. The Delta Explorer is handicapped accessible. Please attach a note to your registration if there is a handicap so we can prepare better comfort.





Commander General's Banquet

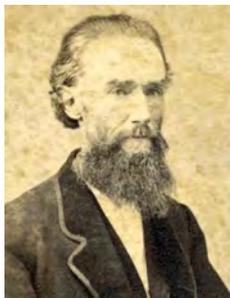
The Commander General's Banquet on Saturday, 21 May will be held at the world famous The Gift Horse (Foley, Al). Very historical and another full meal buffet. Menu's for these events are forthcoming and will be posted to the MOS&B website, Officer's Call and Facebook.

Directions from the Mobile Municipal Airport

Mobile Municipal Airport to Hampton Inn, Fairhope, AL - 53 minutes (34.8 miles) via I-10 E
 Get on I-65S in Mobile from Airport Blvd (7.5 miles)
 Take I-10 E to US98 East in Daphne. Take exit 35A from I-10 E
 Continue on US98 E. Drive to Eastern Shore Trail/N Section St in Fairhope (9.5 miles) to the Hotel

Directions from the Pensacola International Airport

Pensacola International Airport to Hampton Inn, Fairhope, AL - 65 minutes (57.3 miles) via I-10 W
 Get on I-110 N in Brent from Airport Blvd (3.0 miles)
 Follow I-10W to US98 E/Old Spanish Trail in Daphne. Take exit 35 from I-10 W (44.6 miles)
 Continue on US98E. Drive to Eastern Shore Trail/N Section St. in Fairhope (9.7 miles)



Surgeon of the Month:

**Augustine Livingston East,
M.D.
Surgeon, Confederate States
Army**

Apparently originally from Louisiana he settled in Texas after the war and was photographed by Marks of Houston, TX
 Post War Photo

Compiled by Peter J. D'Onofrio, Ph.D.

President, Society of Civil War Surgeons, Inc.

www.socwsurgeons.org

Augustus Livingston East was born in Texas on July 8, 1839. He was the oldest of four sisters and two brothers born to Rev. John Day and Frances Collins East.

In 1860, he graduated with a degree in medicine from the University of Louisiana Medical Department (now Tulane University) in New Orleans, Louisiana. He then commenced medical practice in East Feliciana Parish, Louisiana.

Sometime prior to 1863, Dr. East married Mary Arabella Long (6 Feb 1839-10 Mar 1903). The marriage resulted in from four to eleven children, depending on which Ancestry.com record you access.

On February 24, 1863 he passed the Army Board of Medical Examination in Jackson, Mississippi. Dr. East was assigned as an Assistant Surgeon to Jackson's Division of Cavalry in Gallatin, Mississippi in November, 1863. In January 1864, he served as Assistant Surgeon in S.D. Lee's 11/17th Arkansan Infantry, 3d Brigade at Raymond, Mississippi. On September 26, 1864, Dr. East was on temporary assignment at the Way Hospital in Canton, Mississippi. On November 3, 1864, he was appointed Assistant Surgeon to rank from February 24, 1863. On January 12, 1865, Dr. East was dropped from the rolls - being a supernumerary officer (i.e., he was in excess of the

normal number of officers).

After the war, he practiced medicine in Port Hudson, East Baton Rouge, Louisiana. He died on August 31, 1892 in Plains, East Baton Rouge Parish, Louisiana. Dr. East is buried, along with his wife, in the Old Jackson Cemetery, Jackson, East Feliciana Parish, Louisiana.

NOTE: Much of the above biographical information was supplied by F. Terry Hambrecht, M.D., Biographical register of physicians who served the Confederacy in a medical capacity. 07/20/2009. Unpublished database.

The War of Northern Aggression

By Scott Barker

The term, *War of the Rebellion*, is a misleading and inappropriate appellation used by the United States federal government for military actions resulting from the United States invasion of the Confederate States of America (1861-1865). The term is anathema to most Southerners, because of the false attribution made as to the cause of secession by the Southern states from the federal Union. Accordingly, President Jefferson Davis took exception to the term, when he averred, "The withdrawal of a State from a league has no revolutionary insurrectionary characteristic. The government of the State remains unchanged as to all internal affairs. It is only its external or confederate relations that are altered. To term this action of a sovereign as a 'rebellion' is gross abuse of language."

But, as Sir Winston Churchill famously said, "History will be kind to me because I intend to write it." A most prolific writer, Churchill would author, and publish 43 book-length works in 72 volumes over the course of his life; and, of course, true to his stated intent, he was kind to himself. Thusly, it was the conquerors from the victorious Union who were to write the history of the war in the 70 Volume, 907,750 page compendium, *The War of the Rebellion: a Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*, which was published over the period of 1881-1891, and is the United States government's official record of the war. And, as lengthy as it is, it is still two volumes short of Churchill's output. Additionally, the phrase '*war of the rebellion*' is used to established the tenor of that history, both it, and the term '*Great Rebellion*,' were liberally used in Northern states. Of course, the connotation and use of the terms *rebellion* and *Rebel*, were intended to create negative impressions of Confederates, and were pejorative contrivances created by Northerners to falsely identify constitutionally permissible secession as a traitorous criminal offense.

In his defense of secession, noted Southern intellectual and metaphysician Albert Taylor Bledsoe, prof-

fered in his 1866 book, *Is Davis a Traitor: Or Was Secession a Constitutional Right Previous to the War*, that President Davis was neither a traitor, nor was secession prohibited in the Constitution, and categorically dispelled arguments to the contrary. Another Southern intellectual to weigh in on the secession issue was Alexander H. Stephens, the former Confederate Vice President. Although Stephens had been opposed to secession by his native Georgia, he nonetheless acknowledged the Constitutional right of secession, and articulated a persuasive argument in support of this view in his 1868 - 1870 two volume publication, *A Constitutional View of the Late War Between the States*. In addition to the foregoing, President Davis himself added his scholarly opinion, in his 1881 two volume chronicle, *The Rise and Fall of the Confederate Government*, where he concludes with great lucidity the right of a sovereign state to choose its own form of government.

Accordingly, there had been no rebellion in the South, only secession from the federal Union. And, while much has been said and written concerning secession, the issue of its constitutionality was to be forever resolved through a legal decision. Indeed, there was no constitutional bar to secession until the United States



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Supreme Court, under the leadership of *Radical Republican* Chief Justice Salmon P. Chase, a former Secretary of the Treasury in the Lincoln administration, ruled it otherwise on April 15, 1869, in the case of *Texas v. White*. The Court was to opine in that case that “the Constitution, in all its provisions, looks to an indestructible Union, composed of indestructible states.” With this ruling, the Confederate government was found to have had no legal existence. Although the ruling conceded that divisibility was possible “through revolution or consent of the states,” it ruled the ordinances of secession “null and void.” The Court obviously had proceeded with great caution in articulating an opinion with which to conveniently support the *status quo*.

The high Court’s opinion being to the contrary, there was the inconvenient truth that at the time Abraham Lincoln took the oath of office, the Confederacy was a *fait accompli*, and was a *de facto* sovereign nation. The instruments of national government under the Constitution of the Confederate States of America had been established, and the Confederacy had fielded a formidable military force for its defense. Moreover, because the Confederacy had been overwhelmingly supported by the people of the South, the subsequent conquest was to take Northern invaders four full years of naval blockade, and unrelenting aggressive warfare, before the Confederacy would fall.

Following the defeat, marauding Union soldiers were joined by Northern carpetbaggers, who were abetted by Southern scalawags in ensuring that the Southern *Rebels* were plundered and punished for their *rebellion*. Military occupation resulted in coercion of Southern states to change their constitutions before being readmitted to the Union. This was a *non sequitur* action, in view of persistent assertions that the states of the Confederacy had never legally seceded from the Union. Moreover, the passage of the Reconstruction amendments, the 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments to the Constitution, were the result of duplicity and coercion by the Federal Government for the readmission to federal representation of former states in *rebellion*.

Of course, the suppression of Southern states in the post war period known as Reconstruction, had a limiting effect on Southern authorship of histories of the war. Moreover, Reconstruction itself was a Northern term used to describe military occupation and coercion at bayonet point of the Southern people. The suppression of Southern authorship and restraint of press freedoms in the post war period prevented the full revelation of Union atrocities against the people of the South.

Just as the causes, justifications, and actions of various actors relative to the war have been exhaustive-

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ly debated over the past 150 plus years, so too, have interpretations of histories for the war of 1861-1865. In this regard, of the many appellations in use for the war, sectionalism has been the primary determinant for their use. Contemporary use in Southern states seems to have settled on appellations, such as: War of Northern Aggression, War Between the States, War for Southern Independence, and War of Secession. Whereas, people in Northern states have shown preference for the following: Civil War, or American Civil War, War for Union, and of course, War of the Rebellion, among others. But, as the title of this opinion piece denotes, the War of Northern Aggression is the most apt and logical descriptor.

So, what is in a name, and why does it matter? Perhaps noted award winning author, George Orwell, was to provide the best answer to this question, when he said, "The most effective way to destroy people is to deny and obliterate their own understanding of their history." In this regard, Northern propagandists set about to create an alternate history, a history that castigated Confederate leaders, while exalting those of the North.

Scott Barker received his BA degree *summa cum laude* in Liberal Studies from Wittenberg University, Springfield, Ohio, where he was the recipient of the *Award for Excellence in Liberal Studies*. He received his AAS degree *highest honors* in Law Enforcement from Sinclair Community College, Dayton, Ohio. He now lives in retirement with his wife following a 28 year career with the Dayton Police Department. His published writings include articles on the historical development of bodybuilding and physical culture, as well as the War Between the States.

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