It would take a lot of nerve, a deep-seated belief in the cause she was fighting for, and a tragic incident to turn a teen-aged, well-bred Southern girl into one of the Confederacy's most notorious spies. Belle was born in May of 1844 and, according to the New York Times, she was in Bunker Hill, Virginia, at the time and the family moved to Martinsburg, Virginia, when she was ten years old. The two towns are very near to each other and are both now in West Virginia. According to the Civil War Trust, she was born in Martinsburg. Her parents, Benjamin Reed Boyd and Mary Rebecca Glenn Boyd, named her "Isabella," but she shortened her name to "Belle." Her family was prosperous, owners of six slaves and staunch believers in the Southern cause. In the War for Southern Independence, her father would become a member of the Stonewall Brigade and three other members of the family would be convicted of spying for the cause. One of the family slaves, Eliza Corsey, became a close companion of Belle and was reported to be an accomplice in her espionage adventures. It was against the law to teach slaves to read and write, so Belle defied the law and spent hours at night by candlelight teaching Eliza. "Slavery, like all other imperfect forms of society, will have its day," Belle wrote, "but the time for its final extinction in the Confederate States of America has not yet arrived."

A family legend says that at eleven years old she was not allowed to join an adult dinner party. She protested by riding her horse into the dining room and proclaiming that the horse was old enough. At the age of twelve she was sent to school at the prestigious Mount Washington Female College of Baltimore. She graduated at sixteen and returned to Martinsburg just after the fall of Fort Sumter.

On July 2, 1861, Union forces occupied Martinsburg. On July 4, a drunken Union soldier, 25-year-old Frederick Martin of the Seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, who, as she wrote in her post-war memoirs, "addressed my mother and myself in language as offensive as it is possible to conceive. I could stand it no longer...we ladies were obliged to go armed in order to protect ourselves as best we might from insult and outrage." Belle pulled a Colt 1849 pocket pistol and shot him dead. She reported in her memoirs that Martin’s commanding officer investigated “all the circumstances with strict impartiality, and finally said I had 'done perfectly right.'” Her career as a Confederate spy had just begun at the age of seventeen.

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2016-2018
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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

May is the month when many of the southern states celebrate Confederate Memorial Day. May 10th was chosen because it the anniversary of the death of General Thomas Johnathan “Stonewall” Jackson on May 10, 1863. Jackson, like Robert E. Lee, was a native of Virginia and the epitome of a southern Christian gentleman. Jackson was a ruling elder in the Presbyterian Church and broke the existing law by teaching his slaves to read. He did this so they could read the Bible and be converted to Christianity. Before the war, he was an instructor at Virginia Military Institute and his father-in-law was president of Washington College now Washington and Lee. He was wounded by “friendly fire” and died of pneumonia as a result of his wounds.

Confederate Memorial Day is a state holiday in South Carolina. This year I had the privilege of attending three ceremonies here in Charleston.

At noon, the Fort Sumter Camp of the Sons of Confederate Veterans assembled at the Confederate Defenders Monument at White Point Gardens on the Battery. Our ceremony began with an invocation by our chaplain and we placed a wreath on the monument to remember the Confederate defenders of Charleston. Each of our members in attendance gave brief remarks about one of their ancestors. The ceremony was closed by a benediction from our chaplain.

Later that afternoon, I attended the ceremony held by the Benjamin Jenkins Johnson Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy at Lt. Col. Johnson’s gravesite in Magnolia Cemetery. Lt. Col. Johnson was killed by a cannon ball to the head July 21, 1861 on the battlefield of Manassas. The ceremony opened with an invocation and pledge of allegiance to the US flag and a salute to the Confederate flag and the flag of South Carolina. A Cross of Military Service for the Vietnam Conflict was bestowed upon Compatriot Lt Col. William Howard LeFevre, US Airforce, Retired. Bill is Past Commander of the Capt. Stephen Dill Lee Chapter, MOSB in Charleston. A memorial wreath was placed on Lt. Col. Johnson’s grave and the ceremony concluded with the Bishop Ellison Capers prayer.

That evening I attended the last of the three ceremonies at the Washington Light Infantry Armory at the corner of George and Meeting streets. The members of the Washington Light Infantry, Sumter Guards and Palmetto Guards came together to memorialize the Confederate veterans of each of their respective units. All three of these historic militia units from Charleston are members of the Centennial Legion of Historic Military Commands.

May the one true God of Israel continue to give us strength and courage to remember our Confederate ancestors and their Judeo-Christian heritage and to defend their honor against all of their foes!!

Deo Vindice!!

Harold F. Davis, III
Commander General
Above: Michael Byrd, a member of the Gov. Zebulon B. Vance NC HQ Chapter 307, North Carolina, is shown placing a wreath at the grave of Col. Henry King Burgwyn, Jr., during the Annual Confederate Memorial ceremony held at Raleigh’s Oakwood cemetery on Saturday, May 6, 2017. The ceremony was co-sponsored by the Capt. James I. Waddell Chapter 32, Raleigh.

Above: Gary Lee Hall, Lt. Commander of the Capt. James I. Waddell Chapter 32, Raleigh, NC, is shown placing the chapter’s wreath at the grave of Lt. Col. J. McLeod Turner during the Annual Confederate Memorial ceremony held at Raleigh’s Oakwood Cemetery on Saturday, May 6, 2017. The Chapter was a sponsor of the ceremony.
It is known that her memoirs, like so many other memoirs, were exaggerated. She wrote that in May of 1862 she managed to eavesdrop through a peephole on a Council of War while visiting relatives whose home in Front Royal, Virginia, was being used as a Union headquarters. She learned that Union Major General Nathaniel Banks’ forces had been ordered to march and she rode fifteen miles to inform Stonewall Jackson who was nearby in the Shenandoah Valley.

Early in the next year, 1862, her spying activities had become well known to the Union Army and the northern press was now referring to her as "La Belle Rebelle," "the Siren of the Shenandoah," "the Rebel Joan of Arc," "Secesh Cleopatra," "Pet of the Confederacy" and "Amazon of Secessia."

A New York Times editorial reported. “It was an oddly conspicuous act for a girl purporting to be a spy: On May 23, 1862, Belle Boyd, newly 18 and possessed of a "little rebel heart," sprinted across the battlefield in Front Royal, Va., crinoline swinging, bullets plowing up the earth around her. She waved her white bonnet in grandiose loops, a signal for Confederate troops to advance, and caught the attention of staff officer Lieutenant Henry Kyd Douglas.”

Douglas wrote, “It took only a few minutes for my horse to carry me to meet the romantic maiden whose tall, supple, and graceful figure struck me as soon as I came in sight of her.” Speaking in gasps, Belle said she had vital intelligence for General Stonewall Jackson: the Union had only 1,000 men at Front Royal under Colonel John Kenly, but forces in the adjacent towns of Strasburg, Winchester and Harpers Ferry could easily unite and set a trap. If Jackson charged down quickly, he could catch them all. “I must hurry back,” Belle said, and blew Douglas a kiss. “Goodbye. My love to all the dear boys.” Belle described in her version, “the Federal pickets... immediately fired upon me...my escape was most providential...rifle-balls flew thick and fast about me...so near my feet as to throw dust in my eyes...numerous bullets whistled by my ears, several actually pierced different parts of my clothing."

James I. Robertson, Jr. in his biography Stonewall Jackson, says that she informed Stonewall that the only force in the town was the 1st Maryland and two companies of a Pennsylvania regiment. Robertson then says that Stonewall “reacted with typical Old Testament anger. If Maryland infidels were going to invade Virginia, Maryland faithful would smite them. He promptly ordered the Confederate 1st Maryland to the front.” Stonewall’s victory at Front Royal was of minor importance in the overall success of the legendary campaign he led through the Shenandoah Valley, but it made the teenaged girl who ran onto a battlefield instantly famous nationwide.
In July of 1862 Secretary of War Edwin Stanton had personally issued a warrant for her arrest and on July 29, 1862, Belle was arrested by Union forces and detained at the Old Capitol Prison in Washington, DC. According to the Civil War Trust, she was anything but a model prisoner. She waved the Confederate flag from her window, sang Dixie and devised a way of communication where her contact would use a bow and arrow to shoot a rubber ball into her cell. She would then sew messages inside the ball and send it back. After a month in prison she was part of a prisoner exchange program. She was arrested again in July of 1863 and held until December of that year when she was released and banished to the South. On May 8, 1864, she sailed for England and was arrested once again, this time as a Confederate courier. With the help of Lieutenant Sam Hardinge, a Union naval officer, she escaped to Canada. Hardinge would be dropped from the Navy for his role in her escape. From Canada she went to England and there she and Hardinge were married on August 25, 1863. But she would become a widow in 1866 when Hardinge died at the age of 30.

Belle stayed on in England for two years while she wrote her memoirs, *Belle Boyd in Camp and Prison* and garnered considerable success as a stage actress. She returned to America in 1866 as a widow and the mother of a child, probably named Grace. She continued to act on stage and gave lectures on her spying activities during the war. She called her show “The Perils of a Spy” and called herself the “Cleopatra of the Secession.”

In 1869 she married an Englishman and former Union officer, John Swainston Hammond. The two would remain married for 16 years and have four children and three would live to maturity; Byrd Swainston Hammond, Marie Isabelle Boyd Hammond and John Edmund Swainston Hammond. The fourth child’s history is unknown. In November, 1884, the couple divorced and two months later she married Nathaniel High, Jr., an actor seventeen years younger than she. This marriage also ended in divorce at some time before 1900.

The Encyclopedia Virginia says that she died on June 11, 1900, while on a tour in Kilbourn, Wisconsin, (now known as Wisconsin Dells). She had been lecturing on her career as a spy before an audience of members of the Grand Army of the Republic, a Union veterans association. She suffered a heart attack and died in poverty. Others reported that the GAR members performed as pallbearers for her funeral. She is buried in the Spring Grove Cemetery in Wisconsin Dells.

**From the Chaplain General**

Dr. John H. Killian, Sr.

In recent days, we have observed the removal of the handsome New Orleans statue honoring our President Jefferson Davis. Those of us who value our Confederate heritage grieve at the callous disregard the greatness of such an American hero. I would pray that readers will reaffirm the greatness of Jefferson Davis and determine to honor his memory.

We honor Davis as an American patriot. Critics would scoff at this credit, but Davis had a distinguished role as United States Senator from Mississippi. Known as a powerful orator, Davis led efforts for the strengthening of the standing of the United States in the Western Hemisphere. Davis was a clear and effective spokesman for States Rights and for the Jeffersonian perspective of the US Constitution.

Prior to his service in the US Senate, Davis was a Colonel in the United States military, serving with distinction as a Colonel in the Mexican War and the Black Hawk War. Davis' military service and political service qualified him to serve as Secretary of War where Davis served admirably in building the defense of these United States. American military advanced greatly during the Davis Leadership of the War Department.

We honor Jefferson Davis as a proud Mississippian. Davis was not the fire-eater, but was the last Southern Senator to announce his intentions. But Davis understood the intent of Madison and Jefferson and saw his first loyalty as the loyalty to his home state of Mississippi. Understand that this was a strong perspective among the Founders and a strong viewpoint in the days leading up to the War. Davis had a brilliant mind and articulated the position of state sovereignty. To denigrate Davis would be to denigrate Jefferson, Madison, and Patrick Henry.

We honor Jefferson Davis as a man of principle. In his ride to Montgomery, Jefferson Davis confid-
ed to his carriage mate that he saw no way for the Confederate States to win the war and had no realistic hopes for success. But Davis did that which he believed to be his duty to God and his people. Our culture would do well to train our children to choose principle over pragmatism. Davis could have commanded great authority by choosing sides with expected winners, but our President chose Constitutionalism over prosperity.

We honor Davis as a man of faith. In the days after the War, Baptist Pastor J. William Jones had extensive talks with Jefferson Davis concerning his faith. Davis confessed the assurance that Christ was His Saviour and that he knew his sins were forgiven, based on the shed blood of Christ. Jefferson Davis left this world with confidence for the next world.

What a shame when we honor the ungodly and shame the great. May the Military Order of the Stars and Bars never shame the memory of Jefferson Finis Davis, our one President as a people and as a country.

North Carolina Society Participates in 2nd Annual Confederate Heritage Day

Thirteen members of the North Carolina Society joined with the North Carolina SCV, UDC, SAR, and the Order of the Confederate Rose, for the 2nd Annual Heritage Day at the NC General Assembly held in Raleigh, NC on May 10, 2017 - Confederate Memorial Day in North Carolina. Members met with their state representatives and senators in the morning and joined together at 3:00 PM in the NC House chamber gallery to be officially recognized by the NC Speaker of the House. Earlier at 11:00 AM, the Confederate heritage groups held a wreath laying ceremony at the Confederate monument on Capitol Square at the State Capitol.

Above: Shown are members representing the MOS&B at the 2nd Annual Heritage Day at the NC General Assembly on May 10, 2017. Standing with them is Valeria Hall Frazier, granddaughter of Confederate Veteran Weary Clyburn of the 12th South Carolina Volunteers, CSA. Valeria is a proud member of the High Point, NC UDC.
Above: Members of the SCV, UDC, MOS&B, and the Order of the Confederate Rose are shown following a wreath laying ceremony at the NC State Capitol's Confederate Monument on Capitol Square on May 10, 2017 - Confederate Memorial Day in North Carolina.

**Book Reviews on MOS&B Website**

If you have read a history book recently that covers the period of before, during, and after the War Between the States and would be willing to write up a review, the MOS&B would gladly appreciate you submitting it so we can include it with the various book reviews that we will start posting on our website. Please forward your review to the email listed on the website.

**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.

Note that references and footnotes are requested to support where the original information is acquired as it is up to the article writer to provide such material. If there are any questions, please feel free to contact me. Thanks.
Constitution Registration Form

Name:___________________________________ Title:___________________________________

Chapter Name and Number:__________________________________________

Phone Number:_____________E-mail:____________________________________

Spouse/Guest(s):________________________________________________________

Registration_________________@ $75.00_________________S____________________
Late Registration after June 1, 2017_________________@ $85.00_________________S____________________

**The deadline for all preregistrations is June 28, 2017**

Thursday, July 6
Commander General's Reception_________________@ $48.00_________________S____________________

Friday, July 7
MOSB Awards Luncheon_________________@ $30.00_________________S____________________
Women's Trolley Tour (limited to the first 40 to register)_________________@ $15.00_________________S____________________
Fort Fisher Bus Tour (limited to the first 50 to register)_________________@ $30.00_________________S____________________

Saturday, July 8
Prayer Breakfast featuring Rev. John Killian_________________@ $25.00_________________S____________________
Women's Backwater River Tour (limited to the first 40)_________________@ $30.00_________________S____________________

Commander General's Banquet_________________@ $50.00_________________S____________________
( limited to the first 80 to register) - Select your meal selection below for each participant **

** Select meal choice: __________ Prime Rib __________ Chicken Breast & Shrimp __________ Salmon Fillet **

Ancestor Memorial (See supplemental information sheet)_________________@ $5.00_________________S____________________

Additional 2017 Convention Medal (if available)_________________@ $20.00_________________S____________________

Additional 2017 Convention Program (if available)_________________@ $10.00_________________S____________________

TOTAL ENCLOSED (check) $____________________

Make check payable to: NC Society MOSB and mail to: MOSB, P.O. Box 18901, Raleigh, NC 27619-88901
Military Order of the Stars and Bars
80th Annual General Convention
Wilmington, North Carolina - July 6-8, 2017

Convention Schedule

Thursday, July 6th

10:00 - 11:30 AM: Free tour of Wilmington's historic Oakdale Cemetery including Confederate graves (transportation on your own with map to cemetery provided)
12:00 - 5:00 PM: Registration
1:00 - 3:00 PM: GEC Meeting - Coastline Conference Center
6:00 - 8:00 PM: Commander General’s Reception - Coastline Conference Center

Friday, July 7th

7:00 AM - 12:00 PM: Registration
7:30 AM: Forest Cavalry Corps Breakfast - Coastline Conference Center - Pay at the door
9:00 AM: Opening Ceremonies - Coastline Conference Center
9:30 AM: MOSB Business Session I - Coastline Conference Center
10:00 AM: Women’s Trolley Tour of Historic Wilmington
12:00 PM: Awards Luncheon - Coastline Conference Center
2:00 PM: Bus Tour to Fort Fisher
Supper on your own tonight

Saturday, July 8th

7:30 - 12:00 PM: Registration
7:30 AM: MOSB Prayer Breakfast - Coastline Conference Center
9:30 AM: MOSB Business Session II - Coastline Conference Center
10:00 AM: Women’s Backwater Boat Tour
Final GEC Meeting: To follow Business Session II
6:00 PM: Commander General’s Banquet - Cape Fear Club, in downtown Wilmington. This facility is not ADA accessible.

For questions regarding the 2017 MOSB Wilmington National Convention
Contact Byron Brady at: byronbrady@aol.com or at: 919-622-0606
Description of Convention Events

**The deadline for all preregistrations is June 28, 2017**

Thursday, July 6th

10:00 - 11:30 AM - **Free tour of Oakdale Cemetery:** Linda Lashley of Wilmington will be giving a free tour of Confederate Oakdale Cemetery. The tour will include a Confederate VA grave marker dedication for Brig. Gen. W.H.C. Whiting. Transportation to the cemetery will be on your own with maps provided. Suggested attire - comfortable casual.

6:00 - 8:00 PM - **Commander General’s Reception:** The Commander General’s Reception will be held at the Coastline Inn Conference Center and will feature a visit from **Confederate Spy Rose O’Neal Greenhow** portrayed by Kelly Atkins Hinson of Jackson Springs, North Carolina. Suggested attire - casual.

Kelly Atkins Hinson

Friday, July 7th

7:30 AM - **Forest Cavalry Corps Breakfast:** Sponsored by the Forrest Cavalry Corps, the breakfast will be held at the Coastline Conference Center. Past MOSB CIC Beau Cantrell will be the featured speaker. Price will be announced later. Suggested attire - coat & tie.

9:00 AM - **Opening Ceremonies:** Coastline Conference Center. Suggested attire - coat & tie.

9:30 - 11:30 AM - **MOSB Business Session I:** Coastline Conference Center - Presided over by MOSB CG Harold Franklin Davis, III. Suggested attire - coat & tie.

10:00 AM - **Women’s Trolley Tour of Historic Wilmington:** While the men are in their Business Session I, the women will depart from the hotel on a one-hour trolley tour of the Wilmington historic district. This event is limited to the first 40 people to register. Suggested attire - comfortable casual.

Noon - 1:30 PM - **MOSB Awards Luncheon:** Coastline Conference Center - Presided over by MOSB CG Harold Franklin Davis, III. Suggested attire - coat & tie.

2:00 PM - **Bus Tour to Fort Fisher:** A 45-min bus trip to the Fort Fisher State Historic Site and tour of the fort by Bernhard Thuersam, Chairman of the North Carolina War Between the States Sesquisesimal Commission. Mr. Thuersam will describe the Carolinas history beginning in December 1864 and events leading up to the Battle of Fort Fisher. Following a tour of North Carolina’s most poplar state historic site, Mr. Thuersam will describe the events of the Fall of Fisher and the evacuation of Wilmington on the return bus trip back to the hotel. This event is limited to the first 50 people to register. Suggested attire - comfortable casual.

Bernhard Thuersam
Saturday, July 8th

7:30 AM - MOSB Prayer Breakfast: The MOSB Prayer Breakfast will be held at the Coastline Conference Center and presided over by Rev. John Killian, MOSB Chaplain General.

9:30 AM - Noon - MOSB Business Session II: Coastline Conference Center - Presided over by MOSB CG Harold Franklin Davis, III. Suggested attire - coat & tie.

10:00 AM - Women's Backwater Boat Tour: While the men are in their Business Session II, the women will depart from the hotel for a two-hour tour of the historic Wilmington waterfront and the backwaters of the Cape Fear River. This event is limited to the first 40 people to register. Suggested attire - comfortable casual. Unsold seats on the Backwater Tour may be offered to the public.

6:00 PM - Commander General's Banquet - Cape Fear Club: Held in the oldest continuous Gentleman's Club in the South, the Commander General's Banquet will feature Dr. Chris E. Fonvielle Jr., local author and historian speaking on *Last Rays of Departing Hope*. The Cape Fear Club was founded by Confederate Veterans in Wilmington in 1866. Paid parking is available adjacent to the Cape Fear Club in a city-owned parking deck. The event includes a social hour with a cash bar beginning at 6:00 PM and supper beginning at 7:00 PM. This event is limited to the first 80 people to register. Suggested attire - Formal, coat and tie or Confederate uniform for the men and formal or period attire for the women. Please note that this event is on the second level of the Cape Fear Club and is not ADA accessible.

2017 MOSB Wilmington Convention Commemorative Program Advertising Rates

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Advertising deadline submittal date - June 1, 2017
2017 MOSB National Convention
July 6-8, 2017
Wilmington, North Carolina

Fort Fisher
Protecting Wilmington, North Carolina
The last major seaport
open to the Confederacy
Bus tour scheduled
for Friday afternoon
MOS&B 2017 Scholarship Winners

William Connor Lee
Deatsville Alabama
College: Faulkner University
Goal: Business Administration Degree

Patrick Blahu
Greensboro North Carolina
College: Washington University, St. Louis
Goal: Engineering Degree

David Pope
Sylva North Carolina
College: VMI
Goal: U.S. Naval Officer - Then a career in personal fitness and development

Elizabeth Elaine Emmick
Dallas Texas
College: SMU
Goal: Degree in Psychology

Shelby Ellen Mussey
Bethany Oklahoma
College: Southern Nazarene University
Goal: Degree in Psychology

Mary Grace Burks
Montgomery Alabama
College: Auburn University
Cooper Chapter Cocktail and Derby Party

On May 6, members of the Samuel Cooper Chapter gathered at the beautiful farm of member “Captain” South Trimble Lynn to enjoy hors d’oeuvres prepared by Joanne Lynn and the Chevy Chase Club, mint juleps, gin and tonic, beer, etc.; hear fascinating stories from the Captain and Joanne Lynn; enjoy a light supper prepared by Joanne; and watch the Kentucky Derby.

Upon arriving, Captain’s pet longhorns respond to Captain’s rebel yell by coming to the fence to greet visitors.

Compatriots Bob Brown and Jerry Keathley drove from Leesburg, but could not cross the Potomac at White’s Ferry as planned. Due to the high water on the river, the ferry was closed, so they improvised by driving up to Point of Rocks and arriving via the northern route rather than the southern route.

Captain’s stories were fascinating. Perhaps the one of most historical interest is the fact that his great-great-great grandfather, Colonel James Morgan, was the owner of Emily Morgan, a beautiful mulatto slave belonging to James, but captured by Santa Anna. Emily is the subject of the song *The Yellow Rose of Texas*.

The April 1984 edition the Texas Monthly published an article about Emily. Following are extracts from the story: “The song is an homage to the accidental heroine of Texas independence. Our story begins in April 1836, a panicky time for the nascent Republic of Texas. The Alamo had fallen, the garrison at Goliad had been massacred, and the newly elected government was in flight. Sam Houston, in command of a restive volunteer army heavily outnumbered by Santa Anna’s seasoned troops, was busily conducting a strategic retreat.

“There lived at that time, near a settlement called New Washington, at the mouth of the San Jacinto River, an indentured servant girl named Emily Morgan “comely mulatto . . . exceptionally intelligent, as well as beautiful.” Emily was a member of the household staff of James Morgan, a North Carolina merchant who had made his fortune in Texas real estate and who, at the time of Santa Anna’s approach, was away commanding the rebel forces on Galveston.

“The army that Santa Anna led across the plains of Texas was a formidable force, but it did not move with lightning speed. It was burdened with its commander’s three-room carpeted tent, his opium cabinet, his champagne supply, and—since the sacking of Harrisburg—a piano. Santa Anna, it hardly needs to be said, was not shy about his creature comforts in the field. When his eye fell upon Emily Morgan, the generalissimo was smitten. Whether the attraction was mutual we do not know, but the mulatto girl quickly became one of the spoils of Santa Anna’s campaign.

“Emily remained a staunch Texan while under Santa Anna’s sway. She certainly appears to have done her part in keeping her abductor occupied. Why, historians ask, did Santa Anna choose an untenable encampment on the plains of San Jacinto, with the Texan Army in front of him and a bayou prohibiting his retreat? Why, on the
afternoon of April 21, when he knew that Houston’s forces were only half a mile away, was his army taking a siesta? The answer resounds through the ages: Santa Anna was in a hurry to get into the sack with Emily Morgan.

“While the concupiscent commander and the fetching servant girl occupied themselves within the tent, the Texans charged across the plain and set upon the idle Mexican camp with the force of a crushing wave. The battle was over in eighteen minutes. Santa Anna slipped away, half dressed, clutching a box of chocolates. He was discovered the next day, ignominiously disguised as a private of his own army.

“The earliest extant version of “The Yellow Rose of Texas” resides in the Barker Texas History Library at the University of Texas—a brittle, faded holograph, bearing only the initials of its presumed author, H.B.C. The song is a tribute to “the sweetest rose of color this darky ever knew.” Over time the racial overtones of the song were leached away, and by the time Mitch Miller codified the present version, in 1955, the song was an all-purpose Texas anthem, suitable for use in Ralph Yarborough’s Senate campaign.

“But there are people around to see that Emily Morgan is not forgotten. There exists in this country a semi-venerable, semi-secret organization whose members know one another by the tiny yellow roses pinned to their lapels. They are the Sons of the Knights of the Yellow Rose of Texas, and in their hushed councils the name of the true first lady of Texas is kept alive. Members of SKYRT maintain that it is possible to visit the San Jacinto battlefield at night and see among the moss-draped oaks and the commemorative markers—not one of which bears her name—the ghost of Emily Morgan. Just like in the song, she “walks along the river in the quiet summer night.” If you should encounter her in this fashion, a simple thank-you will suffice.”

According to James Marten, 75% of white men in the Confederate States of America were veterans. (1) The difficulties of being a defeated group within their own country made the “Rebels” more determined than ever to maintain their honor. Honor in the South is the habit of a lifetime—something not altogether understood, even today. The years of Reconstruction (1865-1877) added to the years of privation in military service—and amplified the difficulty in returning to civilian life.

For instance, Veterans couldn’t go in procession to Confederate Memorial sites, nor could they wear Confederate gray unless they cut off all insignia and buttons, according to Marten. (2) These were but two of the strictures placed on the defeated army.

After 1877, the South once again had control of its destiny. The United Confederate Veterans Robert E. Lee Camp #1 was formed in Richmond, Virginia in 1883. One of the goals of the UCV was sectional reconciliation, which was pretty magnanimous, considering Reconstruction had just ended. The Camp took the lead in organizing and spreading the UCV in 1889. Marten reports that 25 to 33% of all veterans joined. (3)

By 1887, there was some movement toward general reconciliation in the North. In 1887, U.S. Army Adjutant General R. C. Drum proposed the return of captured Confederate Battle Flags. Grover Cleveland, the first Democratic President elected after the War, agreed but the North was not so sure. There was a maelstrom of public opinion against the proposal and against the President—possibly leading to his defeat for reelection. (4)
bore them in existence and they are very scarce….Upon
direct appeal of the veterans who surrendered to their
captors, it is probable that many may be secured. Let the
application be made.” (5) But the South had to wait until
1905 for the return of their flags.

Confederate veterans were afforded a great deal of
respect in their home states—no quarrels over pensions for
them [granted by the state and much smaller than federal
Union pensions]. The North was a different story: there
was strong sentiment against “the army of pension-
beggars… Southerners maintained an almost mythic regard
for Confederate Veterans.” (6) And they sought to memo-
rialize battlegrounds.

All veterans, North and South, wanted “precision
in the text on their markers honoring their units and in the
locations of the markers establishing positions and move-
ments.” (7) Southern cities were glad to oblige, cognizant
of the commercial viability of War tourism. Much of this
occurred in the mid-1890s when the Confederate veterans
were starting to pass away.

Along with National Parks and War monuments, came the
desire to collect souvenirs of the conflict. Confederate
items were especially prized. While the Confederate Vet-
eran found nothing wrong with selling souvenirs of battle
to the Yankees, a member of the United Daughters of the
Confederacy in Savannah wrote “I have noticed recently
that almost every paper and magazine circulated in the
South has an advertisement calling for Confederate war
relics. What are our people thinking of? Are they selling
these relics that should be held as sacred treasures in every
Southern household to enterprising relic hunters, who in
turn place them in museums North, and charge the seller a
big price to visit and see what they considered worth-
less?” (8)

In 1896, thanks in large part to a campaign led by
the Confederate Veteran, women’s memorial groups, and
the Confederate Memorial Literary Society, the Confed-
erate Museum was established in the former Confederate
White House in Richmond. The last decade in the 19th
century set the stage for honoring the Confederate soldier
into the 21st century and beyond.

There were disputes over this treatment then as
now. Marten reports “no late-nineteenth-century subject
was more guaranteed to spark sectional differences among
veterans than the Confederate flag…. ” (9) In 1896, the
GAR resolved “those who wore one uniform and fought
under one flag, fought for their country and were right,
while those who wore the other uniform and fought under
the other banner, fought against their country and were
wrong, and no sentimental nor commercial efforts to efface
those radical differences should be encouraged by any true
patriot.” (10)

This was the hard-line view from the North. And
the acceptance of the need for soldiers’ homes in the
North was a far cry from that of the South. Confed-
erate soldiers’ homes “provided dignified living condi-
tions….[for] exemplars of masculinity and… clean liv-
ing heroes.” (11) There was nobility associated with
“fighting for the cause.”

During the last decades of the 19th century, the
spirit of the Confederate veteran was harnessed to in-
vigorate the New South. Modernization and industrial-
ization came but did not displace the contributions
and spirit of those who took part in the War Between
the States. This appreciation was shown in the Confed-
erate Memorial Literary Society’s 1893 Roll of Honour
project. This was a collection of 60,000 responses
from Confederate veterans to 23 questions about mili-
tary service which took 30 years to complete. The
results were printed in 340 volumes and stored in the Mu-
seum of the Confederacy in Richmond, (12) and many
firsthand accounts were also published in books and in the
Southern Historical Society Papers.

Marten discusses the ritualization of commemo-
ration of the War—the religion of the Lost Cause, cit-
ing the work of Charles Reagan Wilson of the Univer-
sity of Mississippi. Marten points out “Reunions of the
UCV tended to be more religiously oriented than GAR
gatherings…. (13) In addition, the Confederate Veter-
ian magazine was originally published at the press of
Southern Methodist Church in Nashville. (14)

In 1894, the Confederate Veteran showed its
colors when it editorialized that “most books about the
war, even those written by southern men from a south-
ern point of view, constituted defensive apologies ra-
ther than aggressive justifications for southern princi-
ples.” (15) Thus thirty years after the War there was a
definite movement to resurrect and idealize the Cause.

Union & Confederate Veterans in Gilded Age America.

Union & Confederate Veterans in Gilded Age America.
Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press,
64.

Union & Confederate Veterans in Gilded Age America.
Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press,
12.

5. *Confederate Veteran* Volume 1, 1893, 211.


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**VMI Cadets at Battle of New Market**

By Tom Todd

The Virginia Military Institute at Lexington, Virginia, was known as the West Point of the South. During the Civil War the students ranged in age from 15 to 24 and most of them were between 17 and 21. At the beginning of the war there were 1,973 living alumni of VMI and 1,865 (94.5%) of them served in the war. Of those, 261 died, 172 killed or mortally wounded in action and 89 from other causes. Approximately 19 served in the Union Army. Twenty-one of the alumni or faculty members became Confederate generals with Stonewall Jackson the most famous of those.

Controlling the Shenandoah Valley was a key element in General Ulysses S. Grant’s effort to press the Confederacy into submission. In May of 1864, Grant ordered General Franz Sigel’s army of 10,000 troops to the valley. Confederate General John C. Breckenridge pulled together 4,500 veterans to counteract the threat.

On May 11, 1864, 257 VMI students, ranging in age from 15 to 24 left Lexington on a march to New Market, Virginia, to reinforce and support General Breckenridge. After a march of 71 miles they arrived at New Market on May 14. The battle was to take place the following day.

Breckinridge’s intentions were that the students would remain behind the lines and be used as back up only in an emergency. Among the company of cadets were many of Virginia’s finest sons. One was a direct descendant of George Washington and another was Thomas Garland Jefferson, Thomas Jefferson’s grandson.

As fate would have it, the situation grew bad for the Confederates and one of Breckenridge’s staff suggested sending in the untried cadets. "I will not do
it," Breckinridge replied. "General, you have no choice," responded the desperate officer. "Put the boys in," Breckinridge ordered, "and may God forgive me for the order ..." Immediately, a Union artillery shell killed or wounded several. But the cadets bravely closed ranks and continued.

In the middle of the battlefield was the farm house of one Jacob Bushong who had built the house in 1825. And it still stands today. It was raining and had rained for some time before that. The field had turned to mud that often came over the tops of their shoes. As the cadets ran through the field toward the house many of them lost their shoes. The field around the house is still known as "The Field of Lost Shoes." When the cadets reached the house they split into two groups and went around the house.

On one side of the house they did encounter and defeated an artillery group. The Union forces were routed and one of the main reasons given for the victory was the cadets taking of these artillery pieces. Six cadets died on the battlefield and four more died of their wounds later, one living in agony for 66 days. One of the truly sad stories was that Thomas Garland Jefferson was severely wounded in the chest. His good friend Moses Ezekiel, the first Jew admitted to VMI, searched until he found him in the home of one the New Market ladies. Moses lay in bed and held Jefferson in his arms for two days until Jefferson finally succumbed to his wounds three days after the battle. Ezekiel who had always wanted to be an artist rather than a soldier returned to VMI after the war, went on to Europe to study, was knighted by the king of Italy and became a famous artist. He designed the Confederate Soldiers Memorial in Arlington Cemetery, among many other famous memorials. He was originally buried in Rome but now rests at the foot of this memorial.

The six cadets that died on the battlefield were originally buried in the St. Matthews Cemetery in New Market, Virginia. In the Spring of 1866 four of them were relocated to the cemetery at VMI and two were returned to their families.
The Order of the Southern Cross, founded in 1863 by General’s Polk and Cleburne of the Army of Tennessee, was originally created to provide financial assistance to the families of soldiers who had lost their lives in the service of the Confederacy.

The Order of the Southern Cross was re-established in 1979 as a philanthropic organization, dedicated to preserving our Southern Heritage through its Grants and Scholarship Programs. Since 1979, we have allocated more than $500,000 to these endeavors.

If you are an SCV Camp or a 501(c)3 organization and seeking financial assistance to help fund a Confederate Heritage project, we encourage you to contact us by visiting our website at www.orderofsoutherncross.com or by contacting Grants Chairman Greg Eanes @ eanesgreg@hotmail.com.