

THE CALCASIEU GREYS



Capt. James W. Bryan
Camp 1390
Sons of Confederate Veterans
Lake Charles, Louisiana



Lt. Isaac Ryan
Chapter 205
Military Order of the
Stars and Bars



Winner of the 1992-93 Dr. Paul Jon Miller National Newsletter Award

Winner of the 1997 Harvey Hutchinson State Newsletter Award

<http://www.geocities.com/scv1390>

March 2003

Next Meeting

The next meeting of Captain James W. Bryan Camp 1390 will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 10, at Montana's Smokehouse Restaurant, 212 W. Pine St., Lake Charles. Y'all come!

Hunley Captain's Gold Pocket Watch to be Opened March 5th

Charleston, SC – February 28, 2003 – When scientists open the gold pocket watch belonging to Lt. George Dixon, what will it tell us? "Obviously the time on the watch has all of our interest, it could be very telling," said Hunley Project Director, Dr. Robert Neyland. The excavation of the watch will begin on Wednesday, March 5th and Neyland says it could easily take two days to complete the excavation process.

Archaeologists and conservators at the Warren Lasch Conservation Center removed the ornate, gold pocket watch from a sediment block excavated in the lab last June. Before the watch could be opened and excavated, it was x-rayed in order to gain a better understanding of its condition and internal structure. This allows the scientific staff to safely open the watch while protecting the artifact and any information it may hold.

The x-ray images also helped the scientific staff determine, if perhaps the watchcase had trapped a pocket of 19th century air within it. A sample of this air could provide important data to scientists studying atmospheric changes. "We now know that the watch does not appear to contain trapped air, nor is it a sealed container. Upon careful inspection of the watchcase and the x-rays, we were able to tell that the interior latch that holds the case shut seems to have corroded, and left the front cover very slightly ajar," said Hunley Project Senior Archaeologist, Maria Jacobsen.

The pocket watch belonged to Lt. George E. Dixon, the Captain of the Hunley. It is decorated on both sides and includes a chain and an ornate fob, both made of

gold. The chain of the watch was intertwined with very fragile, waterlogged textiles, meaning Lt. Dixon probably kept the watch in the right hand pocket of a vest or coat. Senator Glenn McConnell, Chairman of the Hunley Commission, said of the upcoming event, "Not only is the time on the watch significant, but there may be an inscription on the interior of the watch that may help us understand who Lt. Dixon really was. The elegant outside appearance of the watch and chain has already given us a sense of Dixon's personality."

The H. L. Hunley was located in 1995 by Clive Cussler's National Underwater Agency (NUMA), a 501c3 non-profit organization. The hand-cranked submarine was raised in 2000 and delivered to the Warren Lasch Conservation Center, where an international team of scientists are at work excavating and conserving the historic vessel and its artifacts.

Hours of operation for public tours and the Hunley gift shop are from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p. m. on Saturdays and from noon to 5:00 p. m. on Sundays. All proceeds go to support the Hunley conservation and excavation project.

To purchase tickets call toll free 1-877-4HUNLEY (1-877-448-6539) or log onto the Internet at www.etix.com.

Gods and Generals Tells an Epic Story

By Mike Jones

The epic War for Southern Independence drama "Gods and Generals" opened 21 February at the United Artists, Lake Charles 10 theaters, 3416 Derek Drive and it is a triumph both as motion picture entertainment and as to historical accuracy.

A local reenactor who took part in the filming was very impressed. Tommy Curtis, First Lieutenant Commander of Captain James W. Bryan Camp 1390, saw himself in a camp scene toward the middle of the movie and in the climatic Battle of Chancellorsville toward the end.

He said he was impressed with both the historical accuracy of the movie and the way the characters were portrayed, as well as the attention paid to "getting it right" with regard to the battle scenes.

"Gods and General" harkens back to an earlier era of epic Hollywood movies, like "Gone With the Wind," and is a three hour and 40 minute experience. However the intermission gives ample time to refresh.

The engrossing story is based on the novel "Gods and Generals" by Jeff Shaara and is a "prequel to the 1993 television mini-series, "Gettysburg." It covers the time period of 1861 to 1863 and includes the battles of First Manassas, Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville.

Robert Duvall as General Robert E. Lee looks and sounds like the historical icon, an achievement always difficult for an actor when portraying a well-known figure from history.

Stephen Lang's performance as General Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson was an amazing feat. Jackson was a complex man, very spiritual as well as a military genius, which Lang skillfully portrays with historical integrity.

Jeff Daniels reprises his "Gettysburg" characterization of Col. Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain of the 20th Maine Infantry to bring a Northern viewpoint to the movie.

Many of the smaller roles are brilliantly performed and bring to life such heroic figures as Dr. Hunter McGuire, who was Jackson's physician, portrayed by Sean Pratt.

The authenticity of the settings, filmed entirely on location in Virginia, Maryland and West Virginia, gives the movie just the right feel and look. While the battle scenes are impressive, they are more like those of the movies of 1940s and 50s without the shocking and repulsive graphic violence of recent war movies.

"Gods and Generals" shows that epic movies can still be made with honesty, which stays true to history. It is movie entertainment at its best, but also excellent history.

Proposed 'By-Laws Revision' for Camp 1390

In the interest of preventing further discord, promoting harmony, and returning the accepted practice of democratic self-rule that our Confederate ancestors fought for, I submit the following proposed revisions and additions to our camp by-laws so that every eligible member, whether restricted by age, health, employment or other situations, will have the right to vote for the officers to lead him and our camp:

Proposed: (New) Article VII-- Elections Eligibility:

Section 1. No member shall be eligible to hold any office in the camp, which also comprises the executive

committee until he has been a member in good standing for a minimum of one full year.

Section 2. No member who has been considered suspended or expelled from the camp; may vote upon reinstatement until he has been a member in good standing for a minimum of one full year.

Section 3. The executive committee, as per their listed duties will promptly check the eligibility of all nominees for camp office.

Section 3A. The executive committee will immediately notify any nominee that they deem ineligible. The nominee will have seven days to present evidence to refute their finding. If satisfactory proof of eligibility is not presented on time, the nominee's name will be removed from consideration.

Section 3B. The executive committee, or their designee, will promptly draw up a ballot containing all nominees names deemed eligible for each contested camp office. There will be one ballot made per member in good standing, eligible to vote, as determined by the executive committee. Each ballot shall contain an original signature of the adjutant, the official camp stamp, or both.

Section 4. The executive committee, as per their listed duties, will also promptly check the eligibility of members to vote.

Section 4A. The executive committee will immediately notify any member that they deem ineligible. The member will have seven days to present evidence to refute their finding. If satisfactory proof of eligibility is not presented on time, they will be removed from the approved list and any consideration of voting in the election in question.

Section 4B. The members receiving ballots may return them, after voting, by U.S. mail to the camp adjutant or bring them in person to the annual meeting. Ballots should be sealed in a plain, unmarked envelope. All ballots will be turned over to an election committee appointed by the commander to be opened and counted. Any ballot not received by 30 minutes after the official start of the meeting by the camp commander will be deemed void and will not be opened or counted.

If the proposed "New Article VII" is approved and adopted; the existing Article VII through XV, shall be renumbered to read Articles VIII through XVI.

Submitted by:

Gordon D. Simmons Member in Good Standing and
Past Commander

Captain James W. Bryan Camp 1390
Sons of Confederate Veterans

Calendar of Events LOUISIANA DIVISION

March 22
Natchez, Mississippi
Confederate Celebration
History Parade
9:30 A.M.
For more information;
Robert Crook: scv8ms@aol.com



OUR DIXIE DONORS:

Michael D. Jones - Pvt. Hance Linscombe, Co. E., Cons. 18th La. Inf. Reg't.

Luke Jones - Pvt. Solomon Jones, Co. E, 11th Bn. Texas Vols.

Steve T. Lanier - Col. Haley M. Carter, 18th Bn. La. Cava./ Pvt. Ambrose Norton Lyons, Co. I, 28th La. Inf./ Pvt. James M. Baker, Co. , 1st & 37th Ark. Inf.

Dr. John K. Griffith, Jr. - Pvt. William Phipps Griffith, Co. I, 3rd La. Cav. (9th La. Battn. Partisan La. Cav.); Pvt./Cpl. John Croft Griffith, Co. B, 7th La. Inf.; Lt./Capt. Frank S. Pickle, Co. B, 14th Miss. Inf./ Co. D, 37th Miss. Inf.

James M. Lowrey - Cpl. John William Francis Lowrey, Co. G, 43rd Ala. Inf.; Chaplain Lucius Mirabeau McGehee, 49th Ala. Inf.; Lt. Col. Quintas Cincinatus Lamar, 19th Miss.; Maj. John Pelham, Stuart's Horse Artillery, Col. R. G. Earle, 2nd Alabama Cavalry.

Frank Chilton Hyatt - Brig Gen Robert H. Chilton, Army Chief of Staff, Army of Northern Virginia

Bruce Tarver - Pvt. 'Ham' Isaac Hamilton Tarver - Pvt. 33rd Miss. Reg., Co. D, Pvt. Ogden's Cav. La. CSA, Pvt. Andrew Monroe Brothers, Pvt, Co. D, 13th Batln., LA (Partisan Rangers).

Alfred M. Moore III - Pvt. Stephen J. Moore, Co. A, 36th Miss. Inf.; Pvt. Rufus R. Moore, Co. E, 15th N.C. and Pvt. William L. Moore, Co. A, 15th N.C.

Charles Sallier, Pvt. Arsene Sallier, 28th Texas Cavalry, Ragsdale's Battalion.

Norman Coleman, Pvt. James D. Coleman, 28th Louisiana Infantry, Company F.

Sons of Confederate Veterans

2003 Louisiana Division Convention
Lafayette, Louisiana

May 10th

Holiday Inn Central-Holidome

Early Registration \$10.00 per person
(Before April 1st)

\$15.00 per person

After April 1st

Mail Payments to:

Patrick Tremie

c/o Br. Gen. A. Mouton Camp, SCV

330 Feu Follet, #205

Lafayette, LA 70508

Checks or Money Orders Payable to:

Brig. Gen. A. Mouton Camp #778-SCV

E-mail: patriot1861@yahoo.com

History Buffs and Preservationists Join Forces to Clean Up Battlefields

(Washington, D.C.) - The Civil War began as a struggle between armies of untrained but enthusiastic volunteers. Seven generations later, another army of volunteers is about to descend on America's storied Civil War battlefields - only this array of dedicated men and women will be armed with paint brushes, trash bags and weed whackers.

On Saturday, March 29, history buffs and preservationists of all ages will join forces to clean and restore Civil War-related battlefields, cemeteries and shrines. The nationwide effort - dubbed Park Day - will include 91 historic sites in 23 states.

"Civil War sites are often the victims of their own popularity," noted Civil War Preservation Trust (CWPT) President James Lighthizer. "Without proper maintenance, battlefields can suffer from the ravages of both time and tourism.

Our goal is to spruce up these links to America's past so they can be enjoyed by all."

Now in its seventh year, Park Day is an annual hands-on preservation event created by CWPT. Volunteers gather at designated Civil War sites to help with routine repairs and maintenance. Activities can range from raking leaves and hauling trash to painting signs and trail building. In exchange for their hard work, participants receive T-shirts and have an opportunity to hear local historians describe the significance of the site.

Among the sites that will be benefiting from Park Day activities this year are Prairie Grove Battlefield in Arkansas, Kennesaw Mountain Battlefield in Georgia, and Cold Harbor Battlefield in Virginia. "These are the

hallowed fields where our ancestors gave their lives. Now it is our turn to honor their sacrifice," remarked Lighthizer.

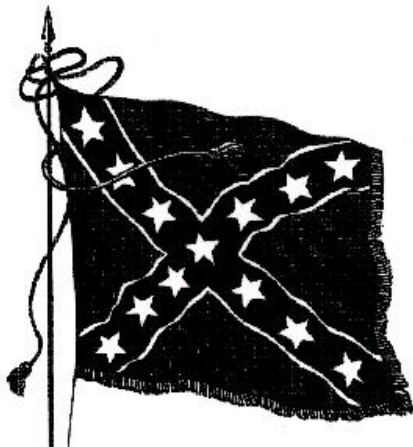
With 43,000 members, CWPT is the largest nonprofit battlefield preservation organization in the United States.

Its goal is to preserve our nation's endangered Civil War sites and to promote appreciation of these hallowed grounds through education and heritage tourism. CWPT's website is located at www.civilwar.org.



Tommy Curtis on the set of
Gods and Generals

Captain J.W. Bryan Camp 1390, SCV
Lt. Isaac Ryan Chapter 205, MOSB
<http://www.geocities.com/scv1390>



**FLY THE
FLAG!**