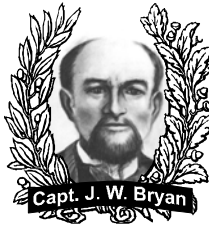


THE CALCASIEU GREYS



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



July 2004

Winner of the 1992-95 Dr. Paul Jon Miller National Newsletter Award
Winner of the 1997 Harvey Hutchinson State Newsletter Award
<http://www.geocities.com/scv1390>

Next Meeting

The next meeting of Captain James W. Bryan Camp 1390 will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday, July 13, at Wayne Harper's Restaurant, 316 Iris St. (at Bilbo and Iris right across the street from Old Lake Charles City Hall). The program will be on the Sam Davis Youth Camp. The Wayne Harper's Restaurant has a great menu at moderate prices. Besides great food, the restaurant is housed in a historic old building with a beautiful view of The South's Defenders Monument from the dining room on the second floor, where we're meeting. In addition, this historic building is located probably just a block from Captain James W. Bryan's home, which was destroyed in the Great Fire of 1910. Please join us for an excellent meeting, with good food, good fellowship and a great, historic building with a beautiful view of our monument.

Confederate Fact Sheet

Compatriot Wesley Beason is compiling a list of interesting facts about the Confederacy that we can hand out to the public. If you would like to contribute to this sheet with an interesting historical fact, please send it to Wesley Beason Sr., 8 Harmon Road, Sulphur, La. 70663.

Beauregard Returns To Courthouse

BY SHAWN MARTIN AMERICAN PRESS
DERIDDER — Confederate Gen. Pierre Gustave Toutant Beauregard, the parish's namesake, is home again.

The three-quarter life-size museum-quality marble bust of the general is now on display in the rotunda of the Beauregard Parish Courthouse more than two years after the Beauregard Parish Police Jury unanimously accepted the donation.

Until early 2000, a plaster bust of Beauregard stood in the courthouse. The old bust was knocked off its pedestal and broke into several pieces, rendering it beyond repair.

The new bust has been anchored to its 200-pound Corinthian order-styled pedestal, making it more secure. When accepting the donation, police jurors

mentioned placing a rope-type barrier around the sculpture to prevent damage.

The donors of the bust wanted to remain anonymous.

"This is a good thing ... Gen. Beauregard is the namesake of this parish," said Police Juror Rusty Williamson when he recommended the parish accept the donation. "The donors want the bust

back in the courthouse, and I agree. It's a real good thing."

The only other link to Beauregard is a somewhat faded portrait of him in the clerk of court's office. Beauregard was born near New Orleans on May 28, 1818, and he died there Feb. 20, 1893. He graduated second in his class from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 1838. In 1861, he was appointed superintendent of the academy.

Beauregard resigned from the Federal Army on Feb. 20, 1861, and days later was appointed the first brigadier general of



the Confederate Army. He commanded the forces that fired on Fort Sumter on April 12, 1861.

The bombardment was the opening engagement of the Civil War.

(Editor's Note: Anyone interested in a private viewing of the Beauregard bust for our camp on a Saturday, followed by a Dutch Treat dinner (lunch) in DeRidder, please contact Mike Jones.)

Port Hudson Monument Post Cards Ready

The Port Hudson Soldier's Monument post cards are ready. Contact Diane McCarthy at 439-2788 to obtain the post cards and a list of officials to whom they should be sent.

This soldier's monument - the only one ever erected in memory of those who served at Port Hudson - is a simple, vertical shaft constructed of Crystal Lake granite and stands approximately ten feet tall. It weighs almost 9,000 pounds and cost \$750 at the time it was made. It was paid for by mostly small contributions of nickels, dimes, and quarters at the beginning of the Great Depression, and dedicated by the United Daughters of the Confederacy at their state convention in 1930.

In the base of the monument is the following inscription:

"To the memory of the Confederate soldiers who fought in the siege of Port Hudson 1863

Dedicated May 1930 By Louisiana Division United Daughters of the Confederacy"

The Port Hudson SCA is visited by tens of thousands of tourists each year, each wanting to learn more about the men of Port Hudson and the longest true siege in US military history - 48 days. As the ONLY monument ever erected to the honor and memory of those who served here, it is a fitting and proper remembrance of that sanguinary period.

Members and friends of the monument have offered to furnish all the labor, materials and equipment to reinstall the monument at the Port Hudson State Historic Site. In addition, year-round maintenance and caretaking of the monument will be provided. There would be no cost whatsoever to the State of Louisiana. Indeed, such a singular monument would attract tourists who otherwise have no access to it at all in its present location. We, of course, would also propose to conduct a re-dedication ceremony befitting the men this monument commemorates.

Louisiana State Memorial At Vicksburg Rebuilt

VICKSBURG, Miss. — After years of waiting on funding, the lightning damaged Louisiana State Memorial at Vicksburg National Military Park has been restored.

The monument, an 81-foot tall Doric column topped by a granite brazier holding the "eternal flame"



of peace, had to be dismantled completely after being struck by lightning a number of times in the summer of 1999, a park spokesman said.

On the base of the monument is a sculpture of the Louisiana state seal, showing a pelican feeding her young.

It was struck first on the Memorial Day weekend in that year, and after additional strikes in July, inspection indicated the lightning had traveled through the central core of the monument and exploded inside, causing massive outward forces on the column.

The monument was completely dismantled and laid on the ground for four years awaiting funds to be appropriated to rebuild it.

When the stone base was dismantled, a time capsule, placed at the time of the monument's dedication in 1920, was located and recovered from the northeast corner of the foundation, and a number of water soaked documents and artifacts found inside.

The time capsule was opened on July 16, 2003. After resting in a water-filled cavity for many years, items in the non-watertight capsule were thoroughly saturated but still somewhat discernible, the spokesman said. Funds were procured after four years and for reconstruction and restoration began in June 2003. Keystone Restoration, Inc., of Palm Beach, Fla., began work to remove the remaining stone base.

Four 50-foot pilings were driven into the ground to support the reconstructed base, and the column sections were restored and replaced as originally constructed, the spokesman said.

On August 20, 2003, the eternal flame was placed atop the memorial. After completion of remaining details — including cleaning, pointing joints, patch work, mounting lightning rods to prevent future

damage and a final inspection — the scaffolding was removed on September 4-5, 2003. The surrounding area was landscaped, and that fall, the final work of restoring the heads to the pelicans on the state seal was completed, the spokesman said.

The Louisiana State Memorial is on Confederate Avenue at the highest point in the park, known as the Great Redoubt. This site, along with the Third Louisiana Redan, was the largest and most formidable stronghold of the Confederate fortification lines surrounding Vicksburg, and was garrisoned by Louisiana infantry.

Protecting the entrance into the city along the Jackson Road, the site was attacked by Union forces on May 22, 1863. After savage fighting, the Union troops were repulsed with heavy losses. During the siege, the redoubt was heavily bombarded on a daily basis by Federal artillery, until the end of the siege on July 4, 1863.

New Study Explores Unique Texas Civil War Unit

Colorfully known as the "Greyhound Division" for its lean and speedy marches across thousands of miles in three states, Major General John G. Walker's infantry division in the Confederate army was the largest body of Texans - about 12,000 men at its formation - to serve in the American Civil War. Walker's unit remained, uniquely for either side in the conflict, a stable group of soldiers from a single state from its creation in 1862 until its disbandment at the war's end.

In *Walker's Texas Division, C.S.A.: Greyhounds of the Trans-Mississippi*, to be published by Louisiana State University Press in June, Richard Lowe shows how this collection of farm boys, store clerks, carpenters, and lawyers became the Trans-Mississippi's most potent Confederate fighting unit, from the vain attack at Milliken's Bend, Louisiana, in 1863 during Grant's Vicksburg campaign to stellar performances at the battles of Mansfield, Pleasant Hill, and Jenkins' Ferry that helped repel Nathaniel P. Bank's Red River campaign of 1864.

Using a database of information collected on 2,200 soldiers, Lowe calculates that Walker's enlisted men were somewhat older, more likely to be married, and more often heads of households than their counterparts, both Rebel and Yankee. Although the Confederacy may have erred in not sending the division east of the Mississippi River to fight in larger campaigns, Lowe's book yields the poignant conclusion that the Greyhounds were content to remain where they were to shield their families from an invading enemy and the devastation of war.

A skillful blending of narrative drive and demographic profiling, Walker's Texas Division, C.S.A. represents an innovative history of the period that is sure to set a new benchmark.

Richard Lowe is the author or editor of five previous books, including a Texas Cavalry Officer's Civil War: The Diary and Letters of James C. Bates. He is Regents Professor of History at the University of

North Texas. *Conflicting Worlds: New Dimensions of the American Civil War*

T. Michael Parrish, Editor

Walker's Texas Division, C.S.A.: Greyhounds of the Trans-Mississippi

Richard Lowe

339 pages, 6 x 9, 9 halftones, 12 maps

ISBN 0-8071-2933-X \$39.95 cloth

Publication Date: May 2004

Battle Of Carrion Crow Bayou To Be Held

The Mouton Camp of Opelousas is proud to announce its hosting of the 2nd Annual Reenactment of the Battle of Carrion Crow Bayou, to be held October 8-10, 2004. The event takes place on the grounds of Chretien Point Plantation at 665 Chretien Point Rd., Sunset, La., actual site of the battle on October 15, 1863.

Friday, October 8th will serve as living history program for area schools. Participation from reenactors and SCV members alike to expose local students to the War Between the States is needed and encouraged.

Saturday, October 9 will include open encampments and demos, the afternoon battle and that evening there will be a reenactor meal and then an evening ball next to the plantation house.

Sunday will include a memorial service for members Semmes' Battery, 1st CS Light Artillery who were killed during the actual fight on Oct 15, 1863. The weekend will close with an afternoon battle that day.

Reenactors and spectators are invited to come out and support this event. If you have any questions, please contact me at 337-826-1622/351-0285, or visit the event website below. Reenactors registration for is located there. Simply print out and mail in, or transfer information over to an email and email it to me at patriot1861@yahoo.com.

For Our Confederate Ancestors,

Charles Lauret, Cmdr.

Mouton Camp #778

Event Website:

<http://www.geocities.com/mouton778scv/CarrionCrowReenactment.html>

Mouton Camp Website:

http://www.geocities.com/mouton778scv/Moutons_Page.html

Calcasieu Pass MOH Winner To Be Honored

LAKE CHARLES, LA 27 May - The Louisiana Society Order of Confederate Rose will be erecting a State Historical Marker for Confederate Medal of Honor winner Private William Guehrs. Private Guehrs, Creuzbaur's Battery, 5th Texas Artillery won his medal of honor for his bravery during the Battle of Calcasieu Pass. The following was taken from the book "*Valor in Gray*":

"During the first exchange of fire with the enemy gunboat Granite City, Private Guehrs sustained a serious wound to his leg while serving as gunner to the Number One gun in his battery. With one comrade dead and seeing that two guns of his Battery were already out of action, Private Guehrs steadfastly refused available medical aid and remained with his gun, although compelled by his crippling wound to swab and load the piece from his knees. Despite a deadly crossfire from the gunboat Wave, Private Guehrs continued to load the Number One gun until help arrived and both enemy gunboats were surrendered. On 3 September 1864, Private Guehrs died from his wounds.

" We hope to have the money raised to erect the monument on September 4, 2004. September 4, 2004 is a Saturday and is almost to the day 140 years after Private Guehrs death. If any individual, UDC chapter, SCV camp and/or OCR chapter would like to donate funds toward this important monument, please send a check to: Mary Pace 808 Royal Lake Charles, La. 70607

Please make the check out to the LASOCR. Please write on the check that the money is for the marker for Private Guehrs. Thank you to those who have already donated funds. More details will be forthcoming.

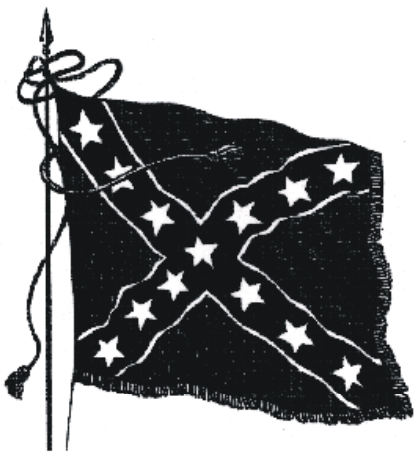
Captain J.W. Bryan Camp 1390, SCV
Lt. Isaac Ryan Chapter 205, MOSB
<http://www.geocities.com/scv1390>

Hunley Excavation To Resume

CHARLESTON, S.C. (AP) — Almost four years after the Confederate submarine H.L. Hunley was raised from the Atlantic, experts are still unsure why the first sub in history to sink an enemy warship went to the bottom. More clues should be revealed in the coming weeks, though, as scientists finish the excavation of the sub's interior.

"The Hunley has been very stingy with her secrets," said state Sen. Glenn McConnell, chairman of the South Carolina Hunley Commission. While the silt and sediment that filled the sub was removed months ago, scientists are working to remove encrusted areas inside the sub. They are looking specifically at the valves on the rear pump.

They will X-ray the valves to determine whether they are open or closed. That may tell whether the crew was attempting to pump out water that may have spilled in, McConnell said. Experts think the crew ran out of air.



**FLY THE
FLAG!**



The South's Defenders