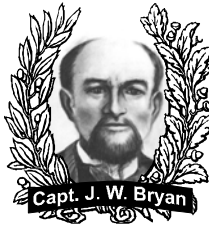


THE CALCASIEU GREYS



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



November 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, 9 November, at Louviere's Restaurant, 212 W. Pine St. in Lake Charles. We will finalize our 2005 officers, which were nominated at the October meeting without opposition, thus automatically elected if membership was current and other by-law requirements met. We'll also be discussing our upcoming Christmas party and Lee-Jackson Banquet in January. See you there.

Lee-Jackson Banquet 22 January

Captain James W. Bryan Camp 1390 will hold its annual Lee-Jackson Banquet in conjunction with DeRidder and Leesville camps and the Order of Confederate Rose at 6 p.m. Saturday, 22 Jan., at the War Memorial Civic Center.

The social will begin at 6 p.m. and the dinner at 7 p.m.

Russell Darden will be the guest speaker and will be speaking about Point Lookout, Md. Prison Camp. He has a slide program and an audiotape of Corporal Julius F. Howell, POW of Point Lookout.

A prison camp for Confederate prisoners of war was built at Point Lookout, Md., on the tip of the peninsula where the Potomac River joins Chesapeake Bay.

In the two years during which the camp was in operation, August 1863 to June 1865, Point Lookout overflowed with inmates, surpassing its intended capacity of 10,000 to a population numbering between 12,500 and 20,000. In all, over 50,000 men, both military and civilian, were held prisoner there. You can find out more about Point Lookout by viewing www.plpow.com/PrisonHistory.htm.

The OCR ladies from DeRidder and Lake Charles will be preparing the meal. It will be served buffet style. There is no charge!!

Russell and his wife Pam will also have tartans available for purchase.

Camp Moore Reenactment

The annual Camp Moore Reenactment will be held Nov. 20 and 21. Camp Moore was the largest Confederate military training camp in Louisiana and has a Confederate cemetery that has more than 600 burials. The facilities today include a museum, well cared for cemetery with Confederate monument. It is run by the SCV and UDC and this is the big fund-raiser for the historic site. Camp Moore is located in the town of Tangipahoa. Please support this event. The web site is <http://www.campmoore.com>.

Condolences

The members of Captain James W. Bryan camp extend our sincerest sympathies to the family of Compatriot Anthony Keith Fontenot, 32, of Carlyss who died 21 September. He was also a member of Masonic Lodge No. 424 F.A.M. in Sulphur, and Scottish Rites Valley of Lake Charles. He was a lifelong resident of Carlyss.

The camp also extends its most sincere sympathies to Compatriot Dr. John K. Griffith Jr., on the death of his wife, the former Leontine Elizabeth Theriot, 85, on 26 September. The camp sent a wreath to the memorial service.

Sympathies are also extended to Compatriot Luke Darte, whose father, Joseph "Leon" Darte, 80 of Ragley died 12 September. The camp also sent a wreath for that funeral.

Thanks are extended to Cmdr. Tommy Curtis, who is head of the camp flower detail, for providing the memorial wreaths on behalf of the camp.

Please remember in your prayers the family of our departed compatriot and our compatriots who lost loved ones.

Local Governments Backing Reenactments

RICHMOND, Va. — A recent news article reported that War for Southern Independence reenactments are gaining public support as lucrative tourist attractions.

Local and state officials are reportedly increasing support of such events, recognizing that their investment can pay big dividends.

"In one word, it's tourism," said Jim Campi, policy director for the Civil War Preservation Trust. "It's taken a while but local and state officials have come to realize that Civil War battlefields and battlefield preservation can mean big bucks for their community."

A study by the Washington group found that tourists at seven battlefields it studied (including Gettysburg in Pennsylvania, Shiloh in Tennessee, and Virginia's New Market and Fredericksburg/Spotsylvania sites) generated nearly \$157 million in total visitor expenditures last year, and \$22.4 million in local and state tax revenues.

An Italian In The War For Southern Independence

(Ed. Note: Our newest member, Compatriot P.L. Rossi of Italy, contributed this excellent article)

Prior to 1860, there existed in southern Italy an 800-year-old Bourbon kingdom known as "Two Sicilies." After the invasion led by Garibaldi in May 1860 and military intervention of the Kingdom of Sardinia from the north, it was forcibly annexed or united if you prefer, to the newly formed Kingdom of Italy. To Garibaldi's aid came the British legion on Oct. 14. With them was Gen. Chatham Roberdeau Wheat, who had met Garibaldi in New York in 1850, later Major commanding the 1st La. Tiger Inf. Bn.

He took part in the crossing of the Volturno River and the siege of Gaeta. In that battle several hundred of the Bourbon soldiers were made prisoner and left in charge of former British army Captain Bradford Smith Hoskiss. After the union ceremony in Naples, and personally thanked by the King of Italy, C.R. Wheat went back to the US.

Arriving in New York in Feb. 1861, and aware of Lincoln's election, he left in charge Capt. Hoskiss to recruit soldiers for the states that had newly seceded. Maj. Wheat formed in New Orleans the 1st La "Tiger" Bn. with 5 companies, and in March and in April 1861, just before the Union Blockade arrived in New Orleans the Ship "ELISABETTA" and 2 other ships with Capt. Hoskiss and about 500 former Bourbon Soldiers who had agreed to volunteer for the Confederacy and avoid reeducation prison camps in Italy.

All newly arrived joined La. military units. Some in New Orleans were enlisted in the European brigades "Italian Guards" Btg., about 300 men, and some went in the Garibaldi Legion of the Cazadores Espanoles rgt. (my gg grandfather was one of those). Some went in the 10th-13-18-21 and other units. The European brigades, after Gen. Butler's rape of New Orleans were disbanded in May 1862, so the Italian Guards Btg., the rest followed their units in Virginia or the west.

Somehow most of the Italians, including the former Italian Guards were formed in the 22 La Inf. rgt. at camp Enterprise Mississippi in August 1863. My gg Grandfather

was in Co. H. Later the regiment was moved to Camp at Alexandria, La., and in early 1864 attached to Thomas brigade, Polignac 2nd Division, and probably fought at the Battle of Mansfield.

Again moved to Camp Boggs at Shreveport in August 1864, the regiment was disbanded May 20 1865 by Gen. Kirby Smith. In the formal surrender of Gen. Kirby Smith, May 26, 1864, the 22 La Inf. rgt was not included. According to records at the Archives in Washington, the regiment was not mentioned in the formal act of surrender. There is mention also that Gen. Kirby Smith burned the relative records and muster rolls before surrender.

Some of the Italians went to New Orleans and tried to make a living in the shattered post war economy. Most became fishermen. The descendants of those established the "San Bartolomeo Society of New Orleans." You may visit the web site:

<http://www.usticca.sanbartolomeo/catalog/civilwar.htm>, where mention is made of their ancestors as soldiers of the Old South.

A few others came back to Italy in 1868 and formed themselves in Company H as guerrilla fighters for their former bourbon king, in exile in Rome.

The fighters were flying a Confederate battle flag. The Italian press of the time branded them as "Bandits" (Briganti).

Recognition as former bourbon soldiers were never given. My gg grandfather did not take part in the guerrilla war and settled down to civil life. He left a diary where he reported the units he belonged to, some dates, many pages are missing, an old kepi and an 1863 Confederate war bond.

He fought for the SOUTH, here in Italy and in the Confederacy. You may contact Chris Caravella of the "San Bartolomeo society of New Orleans, and ask since they vindicate their ancestors belonging to Confederate army. They could claim membership in the SCV. Capt Bradford Smith Hoskiss served in Dreux Cavalry in the beginning and afterwards joined Jeb Stuart in Virginia, where he died at the battle of Spotsylvania.

As My gg grandfather said: The cause is neither lost or forgotten and Co. H of 22 La Inf. rgt has yet not surrendered.

My regards to all members of our camp.
P.L. Rossi

Review

The Horrors of Andersonville Prison: The Trial of Henry Wirz

The History Channel cable channel recently debuted "The Horrors of Andersonville Prison: The Trial of Henry Wirz." While the one-hour documentary touched on how Maj. Henry Wirz was "railroaded" at a post-war "War Crimes Trial" by a military tribunal, it mainly concentrated on the "horrors" part of the story without adequately explaining either part.

The Confederate Prisoner of War facility called "Camp Sumter," in the South Georgia community of Andersonville, was brought about by the Union

government stoppage of the prisoner exchange program that had been a humane solution to the problem both sides had with caring for large numbers of captured soldiers.

The problem at Camp Sumter was that captured Union prisoners had to be sent there before the facility was ready. Soon it was overwhelmed and a humanitarian disaster occurred. By the time it closed, some 13,000 prisoners had died of diseases.

Confederate authorities did everything in their power to alleviate the suffering, but the Union government refused every overture to save their own men. Perhaps to cover up their own complicity, the vengeful Northerners tried to lay all the blame on Maj. Wirz, and put him on trial in what just about all historians agree was a travesty of justice. Wirz was hanged in November 1865 in Washington, D.C.

The History Channel documentary was wholly inadequate in explaining this tragic and unjust episode of the war.

If you'd like to know the true, complete story on Andersonville, get a good book on the subject from the Sons of Confederate Veterans gift shop, "*The True Story of Andersonville Prison*" by James Madison Page. The author was a Northern prisoner of war at Andersonville. He contends that Maj. Wirz was unjustly lynched and states that the Federal government is responsible for the conditions at the prison. The book is just \$12.

Henry Wirz is the recipient of the Confederate Medal of Honor because he refused to save his own life in order to falsely implicate President Jefferson Davis and General Robert E. Lee. A monument honoring this noble Southern martyr is located in the town of Andersonville.

News Of United Confederate Veterans, Calcasieu Camp 61

(From newspaper reports of Oct. 24, 1929)

Lake Charles will be represented at the annual reunion of Confederate veterans of Louisiana, to be held in Lafayette, beginning tomorrow and continuing through Friday.

Among those who are scheduled to go from Calcasieu parish, Camp No. 61, are H.C. East, commander; Nathan Clifton, adjutant; Emile LeBlanc, W.H. Buford and John J. Hayes of Iowa and S.T. Seagraves of DeQuincy.

In addition to these veterans, Mrs. N.G. Clifton, Mrs. M.R. Fournet and Lucius L. Moss, will represent the Sons and Daughters of the Confederacy. Mr. Moss is a major on the staff of Gen. Laester of Shreveport, state commander.

Gathering Today

LAFAYETTE, La. Oct. 23 — Louisiana's Confederate hosts of the gray were assembling here today for the opening officially tomorrow of the annual reunion of the veterans.

The city took on a gala appearance with the placing of Confederate flags, national colors, and other decorations.

The veterans will assemble at the Elks home in the morning for their opening session when a welcome will be extended by Mayor J. Gilbert St. Julien, and the response made by General W.L. Stephens. Major General W.T. Laseter, commander of the Louisiana division, will preside and an address on "The Confederacy" will be delivered by Hon. Zack B. Broussard.

The Rotary and Kiwanis clubs will join in a luncheon honoring the veterans, at the Terrace Hotel Thursday, while the matrons and sponsors will be entertained at a luncheon at the Evangeline hotel, tendered by General Alfred Mouton chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy of this city.

Thursday night a reception and ball will be staged at the Elks home, and Friday morning the second and closing session of the reunion will take place, with resolutions and election of commander among the business to occupy the attention.

The veterans then will be guests of Stanley Martin Post of the American Legion, at a fish dinner near Lafayette, where Dr. G.A. Martin, local city judge, and Roland B. Howell, of Thibodaux, commander of the Louisiana department of the Legion, will speak.

Committees in charge of arrangements include one from the chamber of commerce, which organization is sponsoring the program, with A.A. Gaidry as chairman, and one composed of members of General Aldred Mouton chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy, headed by Mrs. L.L. Judice, chapter president.

Port Hudson Boosts Yankee Invaders

While Port Hudson State Historic Site in Zachary has obstinately blocked preserving a historic monument honoring Port Hudson's Confederate defenders, in October the State Park gave a tour highlighting the book of one of the vile Yankee invaders who took part in the military subjugation of our sovereign state.

The tour was called, "*A Connecticut Yankee at Port Hudson*," and visitors were invited to tour the site to view places mentioned in the book, "*A Volunteer's Adventures*," by 12th Infantry Regiment Captain John William DeForest.

The Siege of Port Hudson took place in May-July 1863, when some 30,000 Northern vandals infested the Confederate bastion on the Mississippi River, which was defended by some 7,000 Confederate defenders.

The out-numbered Southern heroes held off repeated assaults on Port Hudson, inflicting enormous casualties on the invaders, before surrendering on 9 July, when they got word that Vicksburg had surrendered 4 July, thus making their position untenable.

State Parks has repeatedly blocked the generous offer of the 74-year-old Port Hudson Defenders Monument, at no cost to state taxpayers, where it could

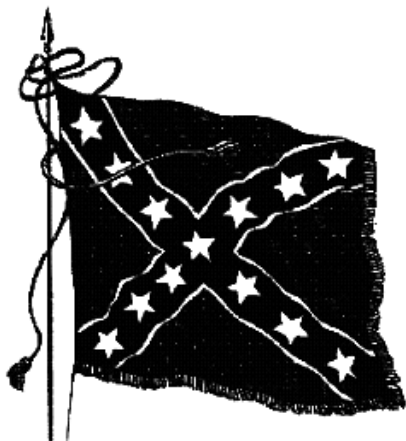
be best preserved and honored, while giving as an excuse that someday they may buy an old abandoned cemetery, a mile and a half from the park, and some day accept it and put it there -- no doubt at great cost to the taxpayers.

The truth is, State Parks is just using this as an excuse not to accept the monument, and is obviously censoring state history to appease the "thought police" of the political correctness movement, because the monument honors the Confederate defenders.



Confederate monument in new New Braunfels, Texas.
Photo taken by Mike Jones.

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**FLY THE
FLAG!**



The South's Defenders