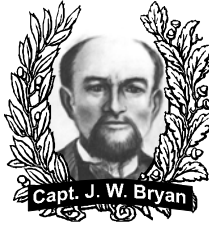


THE CALCASIEU GREYS



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



February 2005

*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. Thursday, 10 February, at Wayne Harper's Restaurant, 316 Iris St. in downtown Lake Charles, right across from Old City Hall. Please note the date was moved from our regular day due to the Mardi Gras holiday falling on our regular day. Also, Louviere's Restaurant, where we had been meeting recently, is closed. The program will be on the president of the northern states, Abraham Lincoln. You will learn fascinating facts about Lincoln that modern textbooks ignore.

Captain James. W. Bryan in 1892.



G. Scott Thorn, former Louisiana Division commander and former commander of Camp 1390, paid tribute to General Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson at the Lee-Jackson Banquet.

Lee-Jackson Banquet Report

James W. Bryan Camp 1390 in Lake Charles, the Louisiana Society of the Order of Confederate Rose, and the Major Jesse Cooper Camp of DeRidder, held the annual Lee-Jackson Banquet at the War Memorial Civic Center in DeRidder.

The Order of Confederate Rose prepared an excellent buffet supper for the event.

The guest speaker for the evening, Russell Darden of Courtland, Va., spoke on Yankee atrocities at Point Lookout, Maryland. In a two-year period, 52,000 Confederates were held at the prison and 14,000 died, Darden said.

He also played an audiotape of Cpl. Julius F. Howell, POW of Point Lookout. Howell lived to be 102 and made the sound recording in which he also told of his life in the Confederate army. Among other things, he strongly defended the Confederate cause, noting that

the Confederate soldier was fighting for "states rights" and constitutional liberty, not slavery.

Here is a summary of some of the Yankee atrocities at Point Lookout, from the Point Lookout Web site, <http://www.plpow.com>:

"Prison conditions were deplorable. Rations were below minimal, causing scurvy and malnutrition. Prisoners ate rats and raw fish. It's recorded that one hungry Rebel devoured a raw seagull that had been washed ashore.

Soap skim and trash peelings were often eaten when found. Lice, disease, and chronic diarrhea often resulted in an infectious death.

Prisoners were deprived of adequate clothing, and often had no shoes in winter or, only one blanket among sixteen or more housed in old, worn, torn, discarded union sibley tents. In the winter of 1863, 9,000 prisoners were crowded into 980 tents. Even the Point's weather played havoc with the prisoners.

Because of its location, it's extremely cold with icy wind in the winter and a smoldering sun reflecting off the blinding, barren sand in summer.

High water often flooded the tents in the camp area, resulting in knee-deep mud. The undrained marshes bred mosquitoes. Malaria, typhoid fever and smallpox were common. The brackish water supply was



Tommy Curtis, commander of Captain James W. Bryan Camp 1390, read a tribute to General Robert E. Lee at the Lee-Jackson Banquet.

contaminated by unsanitary camp conditions. There was a deadline about 10' from the approx. 14' tall wooden parapet wall. Anyone caught crossing this line, even to peek through the fence, was shot. Prisoners were also randomly shot by the guards during the night as they slept, or if they called out from pain."

Commander Tommy Curtis of Camp 1390 read a tribute to General Robert E. Lee. G. Scott Thorn, former Louisiana Division Commander and former Camp 1390 Commander, honored General Thomas J. Stonewall Jackson.

Mrs. Johanna Pate, president of the Louisiana Society Order of Confederate Rose, introduced Russell Darden.

Battle of Hickory Creek Reenactment This Month

DERIDDER — The Battle of Hickory Creek reenactment is scheduled for 25-27 February at Lakewood Farms on Ampacet Road in DeRidder.

Battles between the Blue and the Gray will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday and 1:30 p.m. Sunday. Camps will open to the public each day at 9 a.m.

There will be period demonstrations and impressions throughout both days.

Parking is \$2 per vehicle and admission is \$1 per person.

Pre-school children five and under are admitted free.

The Battle of Hickory Creek is a non-historical demonstration of the battles and skirmishes of "The Great Texas Overland Expedition in 1863.

In the fall of that year, Union forces under the command of Major General Nathaniel Prentice Banks launched a massive overland invasion of western Louisiana, with the goal of seizing Texas. Previous attempts at invading Texas had failed at Galveston and Sabine Pass.

Banks boldly said he would "plant the flag in Texas" inside a week. But the Northern invader underestimated

the determination of the people of Louisiana and Texas to maintain their freedom from Yankee oppression.

The location of the reenactment of the Battle of Hickory Creek was part of a Confederate supply route during the war. In the regional area, General Richard Taylor, in command of the Army of Western Louisiana, had two supply depots, Carroll Jones' farm near Toro and James' Store closer to Natchitoches. These stockpiles included grain for horses and rations for the troops.

Spies, or Jayhawkers, had informed Banks of these depots and he had sent pickets ahead to try to capture them.

The Battle at Hickory Creek will recreate those battles and skirmishes between the Union and Confederate forces. These battles and skirmishes opened the door to the 1864 Red River Campaign.

Fitzhugh Lee Camp, S.C.V., Inaugurates Membership Drive

(From the Lake Charles Weekly American-Press 23 March 1923)

Mrs. Rena Champagne has been selected by Fitzhugh Lee Camp, S.C.V., to conduct a membership campaign in Calcasieu parish for the local organization.

The membership of the camp at present is approximately 100, and an effort will be made to increase this number to at least 500. There are many more than this number eligible. The initiation fee is but \$1 and the annual dues only \$2.

Among the purposes of the Sons of Confederate Veterans is to care for the old heroes of the lost cause, see that they have proper homes in the states, keep their cemeteries in the right condition, mark and keep up the last resting places of the veterans, and to use their influence in securing proper and adequate pensions. In addition, they make efforts at securing the publication of fair and historically correct accounts of the Civil war and, where this is not true, they endeavor to remove such books from the schools.

Commander L.L. Moss of the Louisiana S.C.V. is conducting an intensive state campaign for members along the same lines as Mrs. Champagne's work in Calcasieu parish.

Louisiana After Record For Camps of S. of C.V.

(From the Lake Charles Weekly American-Press of March 16, 1923)

NEW ORLEANS — March 13 — A Sons of Confederate Veterans camp must be established in every town and city in the state of Louisiana.

This was the decision reached at a conference between Lucius L. Moss, state commander of the Sons of Confederate Veterans and organizer for Louisiana; W. McDonald Lee, commander-in-chief of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, and Carl Hinton, adjutant general of the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

Mr. Moss left for his home in Lake Charles and will immediately begin the work of organizing the state, starting at Baton Rouge, Natchitoches, Alexandria and Shreveport and covering the state in a whirlwind tour during which he will point out to the sons and grandsons of Dixie's gray-clad heroes the responsibility that rests upon them in perpetuating the memory of their warrior forebearers. Commander-in-Chief Lee pointed out that within thirty days prior to the Confederate Veterans' reunion in Richmond a year ago, sixty new camps of Sons of Confederate Veterans were organized.

All of these camps are flourishing today and will be represented at the reunion in New Orleans the week of April 12.

"I am directed by the Sons of Confederate Veterans of Virginia," said Commander Lee, "to challenge the descendants of our gallant southern soldiers to equal the record set last year by Virginia in forming sixty new camps in thirty days."

The challenge has been accepted and Commander Moss believes that Louisiana will more than equal the mark set by the old dominion.

Commander Moss will appoint six official ladies to represent the state organization at the convention, a matron of honor, a chaperone, a sponsor-in-chief and three maids of honor. It is his intention to make these appointments with a view to having them as nearly as possible represent the entire state from a geographical standpoint."

"While the organization of more than 60 camps in thirty days seems like a difficult task," said Commander Moss, "Louisiana will never stand for Virginia surpassing her in enterprise. When the last New Orleans convention was held, there were fifty camps of Sons of Confederate Veterans in the state. We are going to drive home to every son and grandson of Confederate veterans the fact that it is up to us to lift from the weakening shoulder the proud standards of Dixie, the burdens that they have borne ever since they marched away to do and die for the cause they loved.

"We have a solemn duty to perform, to see that history is not bungled, that the great deeds of valor which they performed in the face of overwhelming odds are not belittled by those who have no sympathy for the ideas and the ideals that impelled them to struggle through those five long years of terrible conflict. Louisianians will be found equal to the occasion.

"Every town and city must be organized and they will be organized before the convention next month. Then watch our representatives come down here and back New Orleans in the fight to have the Crescent City made the permanent headquarters of the Sons of Confederate Veterans."

Civil War Preservation Trust To Reveal Most Endangered Battlefields

Country Music Sensation Darryl Worley will join CWPT at News Conference

(Washington DC) - The Civil War Preservation Trust (CWPT) will release an investigative report on the status of the nation's battlefields at a news conference on Thursday, February 24, 2005. The report, entitled *History Under Siege: America's Endangered Civil War Battlefields*, will identify the most threatened Civil War sites in the country and what is being done to rescue them.

The annual report is composed of two parts: the first section identifies the 10 most endangered battlefields in the nation, with a brief description of their history and preservation status; the second section lists 15 additional "at risk" sites that round out the top 25 endangered battlefields in the U.S.

CWPT President James Lighthizer will emcee the news conference.

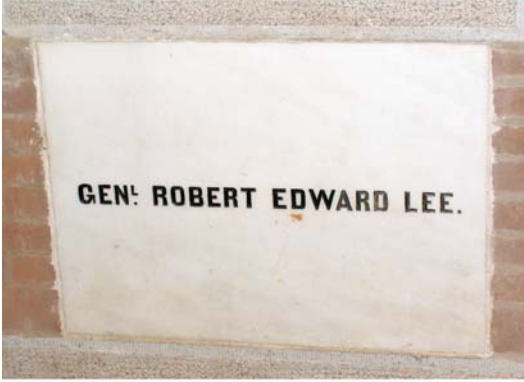
He will be joined by Country music sensation and historic preservationist Darryl Worley. Darryl was named top new male vocalist in 2002 by the Academy of Country Music, and his hit "Have You Forgotten?" earned him numerous honors throughout the entertainment industry. His latest single, "Awful, Beautiful Life," has skyrocketed to number 3 on the Billboard country music charts.

Museum Executive Director Defines Modern Relevance Of Lee At Virginia State Capitol

In an impassioned speech to the public on Sunday, January 16, The Museum of the Confederacy's Executive Director Waite Rawls explained how the leadership qualities of General Robert E. Lee guide him as he confronts the dilemma of the museum's future. On behalf of the Robert E. Lee Memorial Association (which owns Lee's birthplace, Stratford Hall), Shelley deButts invited Rawls to speak on the occasion of Lee's birthday at the annual ceremony in the Virginia State Capitol Hall of Delegates.

Rawls's remarks presented the case for Lee as a continuing inspiration for all Americans in: doing the right and honorable thing, fighting for what you believe in, working strategically toward the future rather than bemoaning the cards you were dealt, and embracing all people as your equal.

The complete text of Rawl's speech is on the Museum of the Confederacy Web site, <http://www.moc.org>.



Clockwise from top left:

1. The Lee Chapel at Washington-Lee University in Lexington, VA, which was built during Lee's presidency there.

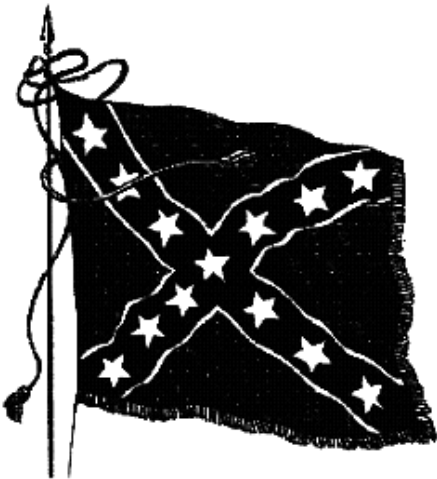
2. "Lee in Repose" statue, behind the pulpit in the chapel.

3. Lee's crypt, which is beneath the chapel across from the museum. Other members of his family are buried here, too.

4. Traveller's grave, right outside the chapel exit.

Pictures were taken by Keith Coleman while on vacation in June, 2004.

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The South's Defenders