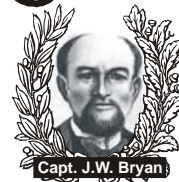


THE CALCASIEU GREYS



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



December 2005

Confederate Christmas Party

Captain James W. Bryan Camp 1390 will have its annual Confederate Christmas Party at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 13, at 2019 21st Avenue in Lake Charles. There will be plenty of food, entertainment and fellowship, so please come. If you'd like to bring a dish, call our food coordinator, Diane McCarthy, at 439-2788.

Confederate Flag Restoration Fund

I received word from Major Whitlock, Illinois National Guard regarding the cost for conserving the Madison Light Artillery Flag (a Louisiana Confederate flag captured in the War for Southern Independence). The Textile Preservation Association in Keedysville Maryland will vacuum, humidify, flatten and pressure mount the flag for \$3,152.00. Please help us bring this flag home by sending donations to:

Mary Pace
808 Royal Street
Lake Charles, La. 70607

Please make the check out to Louisiana Society Order of Confederate Rose. For more information, please call David Brewer at 318-574-9890.

Thank you,
Johanna Pate

New Orleans Confederate Museum Reopened

NEW ORLEANS — The Confederate Memorial Hall at 929 Camp St. has reopened on a limited, trial basis. People are advised to call before coming. The number is (504) 523-4522 phone. Anyone wishing to support the museum can join the Friends of Memorial Hall. Membership entitles you to free admission, newsletter subscription, 15 percent discount at the gift shop and invitations to special events. General membership is \$25 a year and Supporter status is \$50. Checks should be made out to Memorial Hall Foundation, 929 Camp St., New Orleans, LA 70130.

Confederate veterans of Louisiana founded Memorial Hall, also known as the Confederate Museum, in New Orleans in 1891 as a repository for their memorabilia from the War Between the States. These veterans and their families have donated more than 90% of the artifacts preserved and now exhibited in Memorial Hall. Ninety thousand of their war-related documents are housed on permanent loan at Tulane University and are available for research purposes. Thanks to the foresight of these men, their valuable relics and stories have been preserved for more than a century in this historic museum.

Christmas Eve At Vicksburg, 1862

Captain James W. Bryan and the 28th Louisiana Infantry were enjoying a festive Christmas Eve in 1862 in Vicksburg when the Yankees spoiled it all.

A Christmas eve ball was being hosted by Dr. William Balfour and his wife Emma at Balfour House. The scene couldn't have been more dramatic had it been written for a Hollywood movie. Maj. Gen. Martin Luther Smith, the commander at Vicksburg, in the midst of the revelry, was suddenly interrupted by a messenger. The general listened to the message, turned pale, and said to the gathering, "The party is at an end." He had just learned the Federals were moving down the river with a powerful invasion force to conquer Vicksburg by surprise, led by the "Great Arsonist," Union Gen. William T. Sherman.

While Smith had only 6,000 men on hand to defend the city, including the 28th Louisiana Infantry, he at least had time to occupy the formidable Chickasaw Bluffs, also called the Walnut Hills, before the Federals. He also had time to rush more reinforcements to the scene of combat.

The Yankee surprise attack was spoiled because, unbeknownst to the Federals, before the war a local planter had put up a telegraph wire 11 miles below Lake Providence on the Louisiana side of the Mississippi river and 42 miles north of Vicksburg. Now a lonely, isolated telegraph station manned by two Confederate soldiers, on Christmas eve a young black girl rushed into the room and alerted them there was boats on the river. The soldiers quickly went down to the river and saw Union gunboats and troop transports which were tied-up for the night at Milliken's Bend. They then raced back to their telegraph and sounded the alarm.

The message was received and deciphered by Phillip Fall at the DeSoto Point telegraph station. The message read, "Great God Phil, eighty-one gunboats and transports have passed here tonight." In spite of the proverbially "dark and stormy night," Fall then jumped into a row boat and rowed with difficulty across the Mississippi to Vicksburg to hand the message to Major General Smith at the Christmas Eve party.

In the coming battle, the 28th Louisiana would be in the division of Brigadier General Stephen Dill Lee, while Colonel Allen Thomas, commander of the regiment, would command the brigade, made up of the Second Texas, 28th Louisiana, 4th Mississippi, 42nd Georgia, and 31st Alabama infantry regiments. Lieutenant Colonel Joseph Octave Landry would have immediate command of Thomas' regiment in the battle. Reinforcements streamed in as the Federals began landing their men on Christmas day near the mouth of the Yazoo River. All the infantry except the 27th Louisiana Infantry were ordered to the bluff and swamps to the north of the city. On the 28th and 29th of

December the 27th Louisiana and the Mississippi batteries were all the troops left in the city. Thankfully for Lee, General Pemberton arrived from Grenada, Mississippi with the brigades of brigadier generals Seth Barton, John Gregg and John Vaughn. Lee would hold the right of the Confederate line, Barton was to his left and Vaughn on his left with Gregg in reserve. But on the morning of the 28th of December one Vaughn's regiments was sent to reinforce Lee and one to Barton, leaving him only one regiment to protect the immediate "rear door" to the city against the whole Union division of Brigadier General A.J. Smith. In fact, Sherman had surveyed that part of the line but it looked so formidable, he decided not to concentrate his attack there. The quick acting Confederates handed Sherman one of his most complete defeats of the war there at the Battle of Chickasaw Bayou.

On The Eve Of Remembrance Day, A Preservation Victory At Gettysburg Farm and Ranchland Protection Program Grant Helps Safeguard Historic Daniel Lady Farm

Gettysburg, PA - Just before Thanksgiving, the supporters of the historic Daniel Lady Farm in Gettysburg have every reason to be thankful. The property, once the headquarters for a Confederate cavalry unit and the location of several artillery batteries and hospitals, will receive a Farm and Ranchland Protection Program matching grant in the amount of \$180,000. The grant will be used to place a conservation easement, a legal agreement that permanently limits development, on the 145-acre property.

The successful preservation of the property was made possible through cooperation and partnership between various groups, including the Gettysburg Battlefield Preservation Association (GBPA), the Land Conservancy of Adams County (LCAC), and the Civil War Preservation Trust (CWPT). LCAC and CWPT contributed money to help meet the match required by the Farm and Ranchland Protection Program grant.

At a news conference convened at the farm on the eve of Remembrance Day, supporters cheered the preservation victory. "It is with humble gratitude that I thank each person who has helped with funding the conservation easement for the Daniel Lady Farm," said Kathi Schue, president of GBPA, which owns the farm. "It has been a long and hard road, and much remains to be accomplished with restoration/preservation of the site."

In 1999, the GBPA acted swiftly and decisively to buy the farm, which includes a stone farm house built in the 1820s and a barn dating from 1842, at auction. Commercial development – school construction, malls, housing developments – was overtaking the area adjacent to the property, located at 986 Hanover Rd. The farm was occupied by Confederate forces on July 1, 1863 and was critical to the three-day battle of Gettysburg. Also a staging area for Confederate troops and a hospital for the wounded on both sides, the farm house still bears blood stains on its wide plank floors and its exterior wood beams show marks of Union artillery shrapnel. In addition, several battle-related burials were recorded on the property.

Because of mounting development pressures on the Gettysburg Battlefield, the news of the grant was particularly welcome. Since 2002, more than \$2 million in Farm and Ranchland Protection Program grants have been awarded for Civil War battlefield land throughout the United States, and 1,900 acres have been rescued as a result – including 305 acres in and around Gettysburg.

According to James Lighthizer, president of the Civil War Preservation Trust, the historical significance of Gettysburg does not stop at the edges of the national park. "The Daniel Lady farm was of tremendous importance to the battle. Because of the grant we're announcing today, we're able to ensure that this hallowed piece of American soil will appear just as it did in 1863, so generations of Americans can experience Gettysburg in an authentic and rewarding way."

State Representative Harry A. Readshaw (D-Allegheny) said, "The interesting challenge for the Gettysburg Battlefield Preservation Association, in its tireless work for the historic preservation of the Daniel Lady Farm, continues to be financial assistance to reach its goals. It is with deep thanks that I acknowledge The Land Conservancy of Adams County, which negotiated the agreement with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm and Ranchland Protection Program, the Civil War Preservation Trust, and the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development. They are all to be commended."

Sidney Kuhn, Land Conservation Coordinator of the Land Conservancy of Adams County, said, "What better way to commemorate Remembrance Day and Lincoln's Gettysburg address than to receive a grant that will protect such an important part of Gettysburg history –the Daniel Lady Farm. Thanks to all the many supporters who made this day possible."

Also on hand Friday was Barry Frantz of the Pennsylvania branch of the National Resources Conservation Service, the U.S. Department of Agriculture division that oversees the Farm and Ranchland Protection Program.

About the Gettysburg Battlefield Preservation Association (GBPA)

GBPA was founded in 1959 as the first public/private partnership to protect the battlefield at Gettysburg. Over the years, the all-volunteer GBPA has played a continuous role in purchasing endangered battlefield land. GBPA's website is located at www.gbpa.org.

About the Land Conservancy of Adams County (LCAC)

LCAC is a member-supported nonprofit land trust, comprised nearly entirely of volunteers. The mission of LCAC is to permanently preserve the rural lands and character of Adams County, Pa. LCAC's website is located at www.lcacnet.org.

About the Civil War Preservation Trust (CWPT)

CWPT is a 75,000-member nonprofit battlefield preservation organization. Its mission is to preserve our nation's endangered Civil War battlefields and to promote appreciation of these hallowed grounds. CWPT's website is located at www.civilwar.org.

Pennsylvania Voters Oppose Casino Near Historic Gettysburg Battlefield

Statewide public opinion poll reveals that two-thirds of Pennsylvania voters oppose plans for a casino near the Gettysburg Battlefield

Gettysburg, PA - A public opinion poll commissioned by the Civil War Preservation Trust (CWPT) reveals that Pennsylvania voters overwhelmingly oppose plans for a 42-acre casino complex near the historic Gettysburg Battlefield. According to the poll, 65 percent of those surveyed indicated opposition to a casino at Gettysburg.

"The statewide poll removes all doubt – Pennsylvanians do not want a casino at Gettysburg," remarked CWPT President James Lighthizer. "Keystone state voters clearly recognize that America's most hallowed battleground is no place to build a casino."

In the telephone survey, Pennsylvania voters were asked several questions related to the proposed casino near the Gettysburg battlefield. In nearly every case, a majority expressed strong opposition to the casino plan. In addition to the 65 percent who opposed a casino at Gettysburg, 55 percent indicated that they would oppose a casino near an unnamed historic site in Pennsylvania.

In Central Pennsylvania, where the proposed casino would be located, the opposition was even more pronounced. According to the survey, 68 percent of Central Pennsylvania voters opposed building a casino near an unnamed historic site in the Keystone State. Less than one-quarter of mid-state respondents expressed support for building a casino near historic sites.

When Central Pennsylvanians were asked specifically about the 42-acre casino complex planned for Gettysburg, more than three-quarters (78 percent) declared their opposition to the proposal. Only 16 percent expressed support for the concept, with just 6 percent of mid-state voters undecided.

The poll also reminded voters of a recent statement made by Governor Ed Rendell, who said in appearance on the Pennsylvania Cable Network program Pennsylvania Newsmakers: "if that proposal is anywhere near the historic area of Gettysburg, I would oppose it." More than two thirds of those surveyed (67 percent) indicated support for the Governor's statement.

Voters were also asked if they would be more likely or less likely to vote for a candidate who advocated building casinos near Pennsylvania historic sites like the Gettysburg Battlefield. More than half (51 percent) indicated they would be less likely to vote for such candidates; only 5 percent stated they would be more likely to vote for candidates who advocated building casinos near historic sites.

Many Pennsylvania voters also indicated they would hold both the Governor and State Legislature responsible for any decisions made by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board. When asked who they would consider responsible for approving a casino near a historic site, 43 percent of voters identified the governor and state legislature. Another 35 percent indicated the gaming control board, and 13 percent stated they would blame both equally.

"No Casino Gettysburg could not be more pleased with the results," noted Susan Paddock, spokesperson for the

group, which is leading the effort against a casino at Gettysburg. "Pennsylvania voters realize that a casino is incompatible with the character and history of Gettysburg."

The poll was conducted by Mason-Dixon Research, Inc. from October 27-29, 2005. A total of 625 registered voters were interviewed statewide by telephone. For verification or questions concerning methodology, contact Brad Coker at (904) 261-2444. Margin of error is +/- 4 percentage points.

With 75,000 members, CWPT is the largest nonprofit battlefield preservation organization in the United States. Its mission is to preserve our nation's endangered Civil War battlefields and to promote appreciation of these hallowed grounds.

From the SCV Website:

SSgt Jeffrey Holliday writes from Iraq:

I am a member of SCV General Richard H. Anderson Camp 47 out of Beaufort, S.C. and a U.S. Marine. We flew the Betsy Ross Flag yesterday on our small staff that is out on our flight line. The aircraft in the background is a AH-1W Super Cobra and we also have the UH-1N Huey. These two helicopters keep things very quiet. Western Iraq is not Dixie, nor is it home. We have quite a few Southern Americans like myself that are proud to be from Dixie. I am the only Sons of Confederate Veterans member in my unit. My plan is to send more photos with different Southern Flags as time goes on. Being from South Carolina there are many to choose from. We have a main staff that we only fly Old Glory from. If you would like your American Flag flown here, send it.

SSgt Jeffrey "Doc" Holliday, Sr.
United States Marine
A Son of Confederate Veterans

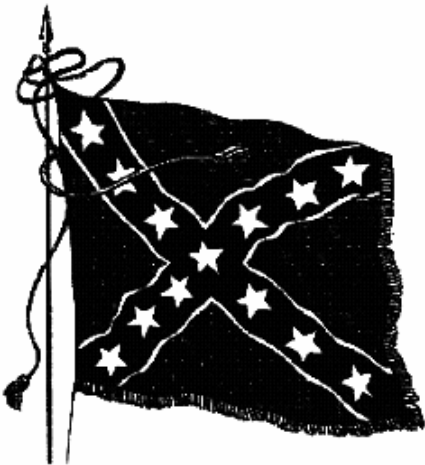
SSgt Holliday, J.L.
HML/A-167 M/C
UIC 77021
FPO AE 09509-7021





Merry Christmas!

Michael D. Jones, Editor
Calcasieu Greys
P.O. Box 1318
Iowa, LA 70647



**FLY THE
FLAG!**



The South's Defenders