

# Rebelle



Sons of Confederate Veterans  
Jefferson Davis Camp No. 635

\* Volume XXXVII \* War Memorial Building, Jackson, MS 39201 \* January 2008 \* Number 1 \*



## ○ January Meeting ○ 46th Mississippi Infantry

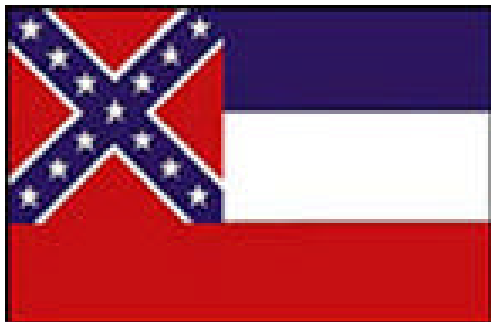
First Lt. Commander Randy Rogers reports that Ward Calhoun from Meridian will treat the camp to a presentation on the 46th Miss. Infantry. Ward is highly knowledgeable on this unit and I'm sure this program will be enjoyable to all.

Everyone come and bring a recruit!

**When:** January 22, 2008. 6:00 pm.

**Where:** Municipal Art Gallery, State St., Jackson.

*See you there!*



**L**ord, how are they increased that trouble me! many are they that rise up against me.

**M**any there be which say of my soul, There is no help for him in God. Selah.

**B**ut thou, O Lord, art a shield for me; my glory, and the lifter up of mine head.

**I** cried unto the Lord with my voice, and he heard me out of his holy hill. Selah.

**I** laid me down and slept; I awaked; for the Lord sustained me.

**I** will not be afraid of ten thousands of people, that have set themselves against me round about.

**A**rise, O Lord; save me, O my God: for thou hast smitten all mine enemies upon the cheek bone; thou hast broken the teeth of the ungodly.

**S**alvation belongeth unto the Lord: thy blessing is upon thy people. Selah.

Psalms 3:1-8  
(KJV)

## December Meeting Report

### Meeting a Week Early for Food, Fun, Fellowship

A moderately-sized group of compatriots assembled for our Christmas meeting. Plenty of food was provided as everyone brought far more than could be eaten. Since the Dixie Hummingbirds had apparently migrated south, Wayne Anderson did some songs.

### January 19th: Happy 201st Birthday General

Do your children know who Robert E. Lee was? His birthday falls during the same week of January as Martin Luther King. Both these men have, today, become American and International Heroes.

Some people call it a contradiction to remember the birthday of Robert E. Lee during the birthday week of Martin Luther King. But, Dr. Edward C. Smith, a respected African-American Professor of History at American University in Washington, D. C., has spoken in honor of both men. He said, in a 1995 Robert E. Lee birthday speech in Atlanta, Georgia, that "King and Lee were individuals worthy of emulation because they understood history."

Do we truly understand the history of our nation?

In 1907, on the Centennial of Robert E. Lee's birthday, Charles Francis Adams, Jr., a former Union Commander and grandson of US President John Quincy Adams, spoke in tribute of Robert E. Lee at Washington and Lee College's "Lee Chapel." His speech was published in Northern

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## In Memoriam Marion G. Pleasant

**Compatriot Pleasant passed away on January 5, 2008, at the age of 78. Our condolences to the Pleasant family.**

From the *Clarion Ledger* Obituaries:

Marion G. Pleasant, 78, died Saturday, January 5, 2008, at Hospice Ministries in Ridgeland. Visitation was held from 5 to 8pm on January 7 at Chancellor Funeral Home in Byram with funeral services 2pm January 8, 2008, in the funeral home chapel. Burial followed at Terry cemetery with full military honors.

A native of Terry, Marion was the son of the late Marion Grant and Lena Mae Pleasant. After graduation from high school, he entered the U.S. Army in 1946 and served for 22 ½ years. Following retirement from the military, he returned home and worked for Southern Vital Records Center of Flora. Marion enjoyed the simple things of life in his retirement and his greatest joys were his yard and garden, spending time with his family and friends, and attending military reunions with his army friends.

He is preceded in death by his parents and his brother, William D. Pleasant.

He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Vera McNerlin Pleasant; three children, Kathy Lucus, Bill Pleasant (Jenny) and Dianne Walker (Drew); his brother, Albert Pleasant (Gaylyn) and his sister, Frances Mitchell (Billy C.) and seven grandchildren.

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and Southern newspapers and is said to have lifted Robert E. Lee to a renewed respect among the American people.

Veteran actor Robert Duvall, a descendant of Robert E. Lee, played Lee in the 2003 movie "Gods and Generals." Duvall, in a 2003 CNN interview with Robert Novak, spoke of his Virginia roots and of his showing a half hour excerpt of the movie to Servicemen and women at Baltimore Airport on their way to the Persian Gulf and possible combat.

Saturday, January 19, 2008, is the 201st Birthday of a great American Soldier, Educator, Christian Gentleman, Husband and Father---Robert E. Lee.

Did you know that Booker T. Washington, America's great African- American Educator, wrote in 1910, "The first white people in America, certainly the first in the South, to exhibit their interest in the reaching of the Negro and saving his soul through the medium of the Sunday-school were Robert E. Lee and 'Stonewall Jackson'?"

What is your church or synagogue doing to remember Gen. Lee?

During the week of Robert E. Lee's birthday in 1899, Bishop Morrison, of Atlanta, Georgia's First Methodist Church, eulogized General Robert E. Lee to a standing room only crowd that included soldiers who fought with Lee.

But, why do some people want to hide history?

Why were Soldier Memorial Plaques, which included a quote by Gen. Robert E. Lee, removed from the Texas Supreme Court Building in Austin, Texas?

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Send address corrections to:  
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**Jefferson Davis Camp #635, SCV**  
**1737 Bridgers Drive**  
**Raymond, MS 39154**

Visit the camp web site at: <http://www.scvcamp635.org>



## Calendar

### January 22, 2008

Regular meeting of Camp 635 at the Municipal Art Gallery

### February 26, 2008

Regular meeting of Camp 635 at the Municipal Art Gallery

### March 25, 2008

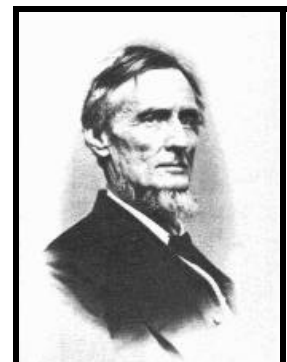
Regular meeting of Camp 635 at the Municipal Art Gallery

### April 22, 2008

Regular meeting of Camp 635 at the Municipal Art Gallery

### May 27, 2008

Regular meeting of Camp 635 at the Municipal Art Gallery



## Reveille Dedication

### There is no dedication this month

### Chaplain's Dispatch

Does your faith waver at times? Here is an article for your contemplation. It is entitled, *Selling Cattle*, by Howard Hendricks.

Shortly after the Dallas Seminary opened in 1924, it almost folded. It came to the point of bankruptcy. All of the creditors were ready to foreclose at twelve noon on a particular day. That morning, the founders of the school met in the president's office to pray that God would provide. In that prayer meeting was Harry Ironside. When it came his turn to pray, he said in his refreshingly candid way, "Lord, we know that the cattle on a thousand hills are Thine. Please sell some of them and send us the money."

Just about that time, a tall Texan in boots and an open-collar shirt strolled into the business office. "Howdy!" he said to the secretary. "I just sold two carloads of cattle over in Fort Worth. I've been trying to make a business deal go through, but it just won't work. I feel God wants me to give this money to the seminary. I don't know if you need it or not, but here's the check," and handed it over.

The secretary took the check and, knowing something of the critical nature of the hour, went to the door of the prayer meeting and timidly tapped. Dr. Lewis Sperry Chafer, the founder and president of the school, answered the door and took the check from her hand. When he looked at the amount, it was for the exact sum of the debt. Then he recognized the name on the check as that of the cattleman. Turning to Dr. Ironside, he said, "Harry, God sold the cattle."

Sincerely,  
Hubert W. Miazza  
Chaplain

In the fall of 1865, Lee was offered and accepted the presidency of troubled Washington College in Lexington, Virginia. The school was renamed Washington and Lee in his memory. Robert E. Lee died of a heart attack on October 12, 1870. He is buried in Lee Chapel on the school grounds with his family and favorite horse, Traveller.

Sir Winston Churchill called Lee "one of the noblest Americans who ever lived."

Lest we forget our nation's heroes!!

By: Calvin E. Johnson, Jr.

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In another four months, it was over. There would be no Christmas in the Confederate states in 1865. For twelve more years Christmas would be held under radical reconstruction governments.

We can barely imagine the hardships our ancestors had to endure during this era 1861-1865. May none of us ever have to.

Deo Vindice  
Emmett Eaton,  
Camp Commander

Who was Robert E. Lee?

Robert E. Lee was born at Stratford, Westmoreland County, Virginia on January 19, 1807. The winter was cold and fire places were little help for Lee's Mother, Ann Hill (Carter) Lee who suffered from a severe cold.

Ann Lee named her son "Robert Edward" after her two brothers. Robert E. Lee undoubtedly acquired his love of country from those who had lived during the American Revolution. His Father, "Light Horse Harry" Lee, was a hero of the Revolution and served as governor of Virginia and as a member of the United States House of Representatives. Members of his family also signed the Declaration of Independence.

Lee was educated in the schools of Alexandria, Virginia. In 1825, he received an appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York. He graduated in 1829, second in his class and without a single demerit.

Lee was commissioned as 2nd Lieutenant of the United States Engineer Corps. His first assignment was at Cockspur Island, Georgia to supervise the construction of Fort Pulaski.

Robert E. Lee wed Mary Anna Randolph Custis on June 30, 1831, two years after his graduation from West Point. Robert and Mary had grown up together. Mary was the daughter of George Washington Parke Custis, the grandson of Martha Washington and adopted son of George Washington.

Mary was an only child; therefore, she inherited Arlington House, across the Potomac from Washington, where she and Robert raised seven children. Arlington House was transferred to the National Park Service in 1933 and in 1955 the mansion was designated as a memorial to Robert E. Lee.

In 1836, Lee was appointed first Lieutenant. In 1838, with the rank of Captain, he distinguished himself during the War with Mexico.

Lee was appointed superintendent of West Point in 1852.

President Abraham Lincoln, through Secretary Francis Blair, offered Lee command of the Union Army, but he refused. He said, "I cannot raise my hand against my birthplace, my home, my children."

War was in the air. The country was in turmoil of separation. For days Lee wrestled with his soul. He had faithfully served in the United States Army for over 30 years. Lee reluctantly resigned his commission and headed home to Virginia.

Lee served as adviser to Confederate President Jefferson Davis and then commanded the legendary Army of Northern Virginia.

After four years of death and destruction, Gen. Robert E. Lee met Gen. Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox Courthouse, Virginia, and ended their battles.

Lee was called Marse Robert, Uncle Robert and Marble Man.

A prolific letter-writer, Lee wrote his most famous quote to one of his sons in 1852:

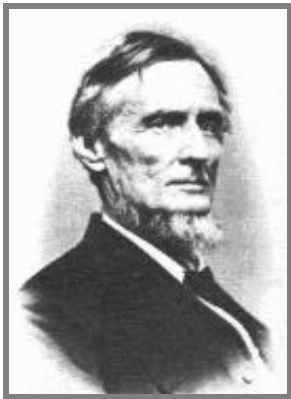
"Duty is the sublimest word in our language."

???

**Trivia Question:**

This month's question asks:  
What general frequently strolled about camp handing out Sunday school leaflets?

November's question asked:  
Where did Gen. Thomas Jonathan "Stonewall" Jackson die?  
The answer:  
At Guinea Station, VA



# Commander's Column

TO MY FELLOW COMPATRIOTS:

I truly hope that all have had a blessed Holiday season. May we all enjoy a prosperous and healthy 2008. The camp had its usual Christmas gathering, potluck supper. Thanks to all that made the effort and the food! We had a great time. Wayne Anderson provided us with some of his Irish folk tunes and some of his just plain old tunes. We had some new potential compatriots come by to check us out. I think we made a good impression and should have some new members. Let's all try to recruit some new folks in this upcoming year.

As we stood around eating, drinking and having a good time, I tried to imagine what it must have been like for our ancestors in winter quarters during Christmas time. Cold, hungry, lonely and for many a long, long way from home. No insulated clothing. No good rain gear. Carpet remnants for a blanket. What was Christmas like in the Confederate States?

The holiday varied with the war situation at the time. When the war was going well, good cheer and plentiful food was the order of the day. When the war flagged, parents and elders put on good faces for the children, but had dark thoughts about their own futures.

Christmas 1861 should have been the happiest of times. The secession of the Confederate States from the Union was an accomplished fact. The South had a functioning government with a strong chief executive, Jefferson Davis, who was based in the national capital, Richmond, located in the dominant and most politically sophisticated of all the Southern states, Virginia.

Christmas 1862 saw Lincoln and his wife visiting wounded soldiers at several Washington hospitals. President Davis was upset with Union Gen. Benjamin Butler, military governor of New Orleans. Davis branded Butler "a felon and an enemy of mankind" and suggested "immediate execution" should Butler be seized by Confederate forces. Eastern theater battles went well, Western theater battles did not.

By Christmas 1863, the war was all but won by the North. Vicksburg had fallen July 4, opening the entire Mississippi River to Union control. Gettysburg resulted in enough casualties to bring sadness to homes in every state, and the Confederacy was running out of soldiers.

Christmas 1864: a nerve-racking time in the Confederate states. The food riots in Richmond in 1863 clearly spelled trouble on the home front. Inflation had hit -- hard. Wages had increased about 55 percent while prices had risen 300 percent.

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