



# Reveille



Sons of Confederate Veterans  
Jefferson Davis Camp No. 635

\* Volume XXXVII \* War Memorial Building, Jackson, MS 39201 \* June 2008 \* Number 6 \*



## ○ June Meeting ○ To Be Announced

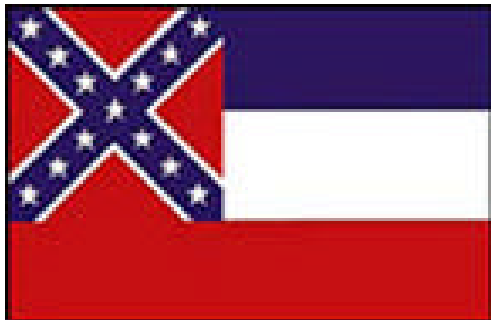
First Lt. Commander Randy Rogers has not yet reported what the program for the June meeting will be but I'm sure it will be something of interest.

Everyone come and bring a recruit!

**When:** May 27, 2008. 6:00 pm.

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

*See you there!*



**A** man that beareth false witness against his neighbour is a maul, and a sword, and a sharp arrow.

**C**onfidence in an unfaithful man in time of trouble is like a broken tooth, and a foot out of joint.

**A**s he that taketh away a garment in cold weather, and as vinegar upon nitre, so is he that singeth songs to an heavy heart.

**I**f thine enemy be hungry, give him bread to eat; and if he be thirsty, give him water to drink:

**F**or thou shalt heap coals of fire upon his head, and the Lord shall reward thee.

**T**he north wind driveth away rain: so doth an angry countenance a backbiting tongue.

**I**t is better to dwell in the corner of the housetop, than with a brawling woman and in a wide house.

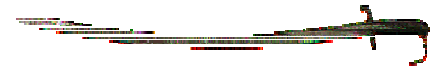
**A**s cold waters to a thirsty soul, so is good news from a far country.

Proverbs 25: 18-25  
(KJV)

## May Meeting Report

### Commander Emmett Eaton and Friends

Since this editor was not able to be at the May meeting, I cannot report first hand on the proceedings. I understand that Commander Emmett Eaton "volunteered" some of his reenactor friends to help with explanation and demonstration of the more mundane aspects of Confederate service, e.g., camp life, uniforms and accoutrements, drills and manual of arms.



### Welcome New Member

The camp welcomes new member Bobby D. DeLaughter, Sr. who joins on the service of his ancestor Robert Prine, Private, Companies D & F, 7th Mississippi Infantry.

*Welcome!*

## Reveille Dedication To the Confederate Soldier

*Dedication by Robert Murphree*

I dedicate this month's issue of the *Reveille* to the soldier in the ranks of the Confederate Army, whose reputation and motives are routinely scoured these days by politicians and the media.

Of course the modern-day assault on our Confederate heritage is a product of our nation's peculiar preoccupation with race; these days race is advanced as the reason for every problem and the explanation for a whole host of actions — or inactions. In this debate, facts, history and common sense are neither welcome or utilized, so it is no surprise in the present environment that our poor ancestors are condemned as having fought only to save slavery. (I wonder if this theory of history digests my great-grandfather's own explanation. After being captured at Fort Donelson he was marched through Indianapolis where a woman asked him, "Reb, what are you fighting for?" Murphree replied, "Madam, I am fighting for cheese; I love cheese better than anything else in the world.")

But was it always thus? I prize a book given to me by a friend written by John Ridpath in 1878 entitled A Popular History of the United States. Mr. Ridpath was a professor at Indiana University and certainly no Southern partisan. He devotes a chapter to the "Causes" of the war, listing 5 causes. The first cause, which the writer labels "the most general cause" was "the different construction put upon the national Constitution by the people of the North and South." This he explains as the feeling in the North that the central government was supreme and the states subordinate, with secession impossible, while the South felt just the opposite. Ridpath is honest enough to note that originally states rights was a doctrine created in New England, but "with the rise of the tariff question the position of the parties changed." He accurately relates "since the tariff...favored the Eastern States at the expense of the South it came to pass" that the thrifty New Englanders converted "to the advocacy of national sovereignty." What a diplomatic way to describe a conversion that occurred not on the road to Damascus, but on the road to the bank. It seems then, as now, our Northern brother seemed motivated more by his pocketbook than his principles.

The other four causes are: (1) the different system of labor in the North and South — slavery; (2) the want of communication between the peoples of the North and South — the railroads and roads ran east and west, and between the sections there was little travel or exchange of opinion; (3) the publication of sectional books in which "the manners, customs, language and beliefs of one section were held up to the contempt and scorn of the other" and (4) the evil influence of demagogues, in both sections, who abused the common good to advance their own interests.

Here is an educated man who lived during those tumultuous times who describes slavery as a cause — as it surely was — but not the cause of the war. So you see, there was a time when our ancestors weren't all branded as racists for simply wanting to follow the example of their fathers and set up their own brand of self-government when the old system was deemed to be unacceptable. Our task of keeping their memory alive and defending the righteousness of their cause has never been so challenging as it is now, but if we don't do it, who will?

**Send address corrections to:  
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Visit the camp web site at: <http://www.scvcamp635.org>



## Calendar

**June 24, 2008**

Regular meeting of  
Camp 635 at the  
Municipal Art Gallery

**July 22, 2008**

Regular meeting of  
Camp 635 at the  
Municipal Art Gallery

**August 26, 2008**

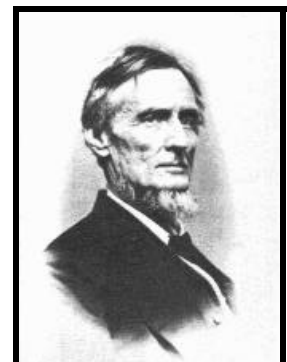
Regular meeting of  
Camp 635 at the  
Municipal Art Gallery

**September 23,  
2008**

Regular meeting of  
Camp 635 at the  
Municipal Art Gallery

**October 28, 2008**

Regular meeting of  
Camp 635 at the  
Municipal Art Gallery



**Reveille Dedication**  
**There is no dedication this month**



**Chaplain's Dispatch**

Here is a story to encourage those whose faith is weak. An old message worth repeating!

**JUST PUSH**

A man was sleeping one night in his cabin when suddenly his room filled with light, and God appeared. The Lord told the man he had work for him to do, and showed him a large rock in front of his cabin. The Lord explained that the man was to push against the rock with all his might

So, this the man did, day after day. For many years he toiled from sunup to sundown, his shoulders set squarely against the cold, massive surface of the unmoving rock, pushing with all his might! Each night the man returned to his cabin sore and worn out, feeling that his whole day had been spent in vain.

Since the man was showing discouragement, the Adversary (Satan) decided to enter the picture by placing thought into the weary mind: (He will do it every time)! "You have been pushing against that rock for a long time and it hasn't moved." Thus, he gave the man the impression that the task was impossible and that he was a failure. These thoughts discouraged and disheartened the man.

Satan said, "Why kill yourself over this? Just put in your time, giving just the minimum effort; and that will be good enough."

That's what the weary man planned to do, but decided to make it a matter of Prayer and to take his troubled thoughts to the Lord. "Lord," he said, "I have labored long and hard in Your Service, putting all my strength to do that which you have asked. Yet, after all this time, I have not even budged that rock by half a millimeter. What is wrong? Why am I failing?"

The Lord responded compassionately, "My friend, when I asked you to serve Me and you accepted, I told you that your talk was to push against the rock with all of your strength, which you have done. Never once did I mention to you that I expected you to move it. Your task was to push. And now you come to Me with your strength spent, thinking that you have failed.

But, is that really so? Look at yourself. Your arms are strong and muscled, your back shiny and brown; your hands are callused from constant pressure, your legs have become massive and hard. Through opposition you have grown much, and your abilities now surpass that which you used to have. True, you haven't moved the rock. But your calling was to be Obedient and to push and exercise your Faith and trust in My wisdom. That you have done. Now I, my friend, will move the rock."

*(Continued from page 4)*

Not to say it wasn't hot but we found enough shade, water and camaraderie to make it bearable. It was a good day to be Southern and the house has been restored beyond most expectations. It remains to be seen if the public will want to visit "Beauvoir — beautiful view" in the future.

Why Rebels Wore Ragged Clothes:  
 Confederate Veteran Magazine, February 1913, page 58)

"The legislators of Indiana and Governor Morton, with their wives and daughters, went on a visit of inspection to the prisoners in Camp Morton in 1864. The Confederates were called out for dress parade and were made to look as well as possible. This distinguished body rode in fine carriages. One lady had her carriage stopped about ten feet from the line. Opening the side door of the carriage and pushing her head out, she asked: "Why do you Rebel soldiers dress so poorly?"

Crockett Hudson of Eagleville, Tennessee replied: "Gentlemen of the South have two suits---one that they wear among nice people, and one that they wear when killing hogs, and that is the one in which we are dressed to-day."

She ordered the carriage to move on.

Deo Vindice  
 Emmett Eaton,  
 Camp Commander

At times, when we hear a word from God, we tend to use our own intellect to decipher what He wants, when actually what God wants is just simple obedience and faith in Him.

By all means, exercise the Faith that moves mountains, but know that it is still God Who moves the Mountains.

When everything seems to go wrong.....Just P.U.S.H.  
 When the job gets you down.....Just P.U.S.H.  
 When people don't do as you think they should...Just P.U.S.H.  
 When your money is 'gone' and the bills are due. Just P.U.S.H.  
 When people just don't understand you..... Just P.U.S.H.  
 P = Pray R= Until S = Something H = Happens

Pass this on to all your loved ones and friends who may need it; they may get it just in time. 'Though no one can go back and make a brand new start, anyone can start from now and make a brand new ending.

Sincerely,  
 Hubert W. Miazza  
 Chaplain

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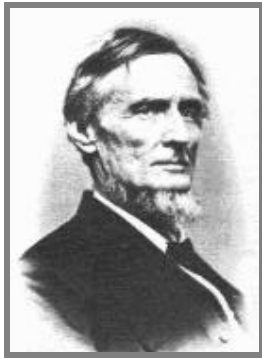
**Trivia Question:**

This month's question asks:

Where did the largest cavalry battle of the war take place?

May's question asked: Who was the only Jewish member of the group that functioned as a cabinet for Confederate president Jefferson Davis?

The answer:  
Judah P. Benjamin



# Commander's Column

## TO MY FELLOW COMPATRIOTS:

Another meeting under our belts! For those not in attendance you missed a good program given by a fellow re-enactor from Brandon, Mr. Charles Tucker, aided and abetted by myself, past commander Bert Green and our Mr. Sandy Jackson. We did manage to put a few to sleep but for the most part the program was well received. The program is our interpretation, based on reenacting and research, of what the common soldier had to endure and was subjected to during our "most recent unpleasantness".

We accepted into our ranks a new member, Judge Bobby DeLaughter. Welcome to Jefferson Davis Camp #635, Sons of Confederate Veterans.

Compatriot Steve Colston has offered to the camp a panoramic picture taken of Jackson, Ms. in 1869, 4 years after the war. Much of the war damage has been repaired but you can still see much of why Jackson was referred to as "Chimneyville"! Thanks Steve — I'm sure we can put the picture to good use.

It is time for changing of the guard. The camp executive council will prepare a nomination list for presentation at the next meeting. Please consider serving if asked to do so.

Happy Birthday, Jefferson F. Davis!

Months ago I was asked to participate, as a reenactor, in the ceremony at Beauvoir to honor Jefferson Davis' 200th birthday and the grand re-opening of Beauvoir House. I was obviously flattered to be asked to be a part of such an historical event. But I also was worried about attendance of not only reenactors but also the general public. Let's face it June 3, 2008 was a Gulf Coast, Tuesday morning, anticipated to be "African hot". My misgivings were misplaced.

There were several state color guards represented — 3 artillery pieces and over 25 infantry (not counting the "Big Bugs"). The crowd in attendance was impressive with a count of approximately 1500. I understood from watching news clippings that by days end over 4000 good folks had gone through the house. Quite impressive.

A number of dignitaries spoke, including Lt. Gov. Phil Bryant and the MS Dept. of Archives & History's Kane Ditto, as well as Bertram Hayes-Davis (Jeff Davis' GG-grandson!). Also speaking were: Larry McCluney, Division CIC, AOT Comdr. Kelly Barrow, and representatives of the UDC, OCR, C of C, & MOSB. Mr. Rick Forte led the ceremonies. A number of people showed in period dress. A period band entertained with music of the era.

*(Continued on page 3)*

**Jefferson Davis Camp #635  
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