Murry Stewart
CSS Shenandoah

The March meeting featured a presentation by Murry Stewart on the voyages of the famed CSS Shenandoah that circumnavigated the globe during the Civil War, devastating the Yankee Commercial Whaling Fleet. The Shenandoah’s flag was the last Confederate Flag flown during the conflict.

The May meeting will feature a presentation by Danny W. Harrelson entitled "A Geological Analysis of the Disappearance of the Civil War Cannon ‘Whistling Dick’." Mr. Harrelson is employed at the U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center in Vicksburg. The subject is taken from a paper Mr. Harrelson co-authored with two others.

Everyone come and bring guests, especially new recruits!

When: May 23, 2017, 5:30 pm.
Where: Municipal Art Gallery, State St., Jackson.

See you there!

Masters, give unto your servants that which is just and equal; knowing that ye also have a Master in heaven.
Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving;
Withal praying also for us, that God would open unto us a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in bonds:
That I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak.
Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time.
Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man.

Colossians 4:1-6 (KJV)

The following is a quote of a Confederate chaplain who remained with the wounded soldiers after Gettysburg:

“The Southern Army – is one which from its commanding generals to its lowest privates is pervaded with the sense of dependence upon God. The highest councils of its military leaders are opened with prayer for His divine guidance and benediction”

Read Colossians 4:2
Rebel Ramblings  
by Robert Murphree

We all are familiar with the mental turmoil General Lee endured before he decided to surrender in April, 1865, but I know General Lee had no way of knowing the influence his action might have on another general in the same situation some 77 years later. In April, 1942 General Edward King had inherited the command of the American and Philippine troops on the Bataan peninsula when General Wainwright, after McArthur had left, moved to Corregidor to take overall command. Before leaving McArthur left strict commands that there was to be no surrender. Out of supplies, his men weak from lack of food, on April 8, 1942 King considered his options. Keenly aware of the significance of the date, since he was the decedent of officers in the Confederate Army, King remembered how General Lee had reflected on his options on that date and had concluded "Then there is nothing left to do but to go see General Grant and I would rather die a thousand deaths." King decided if General Lee could endure that ordeal for the good of his men, he, King, with no other options, could also. The Americans and Philippine troops were surrendered but at the surrender ceremony, in response to King's request for guarantees for good treatment of the prisoners, all the Japanese commander would say was "The Imperial Japanese Army are not barbarians." This was not correct; the Imperial Japanese Army WERE barbarians.

Shy's Hill in Nashville is named for Col. William Shy, the commander of the 20th Tennessee Infantry, and his gallant stand on that site during the terrible battle of Nashville in December, 1864, that was the culmination of Hood's destruction of the Army of Tennessee. Killed in the battle, Col. Shy was buried at his family home near Franklin, Tennessee.

Fast forward to December 24, 1977. A headless body was discovered on top of a casket that had been dug up from behind the house that had been the Shy family home. Police suspected a murder and that the murder had been trying to hide the body in Col. Shy's grave when the foul deed was interrupted for some reason. The medical examiner described the corpse as a white male, some six feet tall, 175 pounds, about 26 years old, and estimated the victim had been dead about six to twelve months. The victim's head was found a short distance away and it appeared the deceased had died from a

(Continued on page 3)

Send changes in e-mail addresses to: csa4ever@att.net  
Include changes to physical (mail) addresses and telephone numbers as well.

DISCLAIMER: The views and opinions expressed by contributors to this newsletter are not necessarily the views or opinions of this editor, the Jefferson Davis Camp 635, or any member thereof.
Dear Friends and Compatriots:

Binding Up Wounds

Recently, I read in 1897 newspaper article from Brookhaven, Ms where a CSA famous spy, Belle Boyd, a spy under "Stonewall" Jackson and commission by General Lee as captain, spoke to ladies at Whitworth College, Brookhaven. "She paid a high tribute to valor of the soldiers of both armies". Proverbs 27:6 'faithful are the wounds of a friend..' which means God wants you to trust your friend and to seek Him to help bind up the wounds!

Sincerely,
Rev. Glenn D. Shows
Chaplain

“He who feels no pride in his ancestors is unworthy to be remembered by his descendants” Major David French Boyd, 9th Louisiana Infantry, Confederate States Army

Photo: Major David French Boyd, 9th Louisiana Infantry First President of Louisiana State University.
From the Facebook page of "Defending the Heritage"

Confederate Memorial Day Observance 2017

Preparations for Confederate Memorial Day began on a high note when compatriots were notified on Friday that Compatriot Emmett Eaton had arranged for all the cemetery clean-up to be completed during the work week making the annual Saturday morning effort unnecessary this year. The camp thanks Emmett and all those he enlisted in that effort.

Sunday’s memorial ceremonies had to be moved to the War Memorial Building due to inclement weather. Although we couldn’t assemble at the cemetery on the hallowed ground, the indoor ceremony reflected the respect and gratitude for the service of those men in grey. Our thanks to Emmet Eaton and his reenactment group for provided a color guard to accompany the battle flag. Thanks also to Compatriot Ricky Haynes for acting as flag bearer. Thanks to Compatriot Bob Davidson for provided trumpet solo renditions of “Dixie” and “Taps” and to Joe Tubb and Murry Stewart for providing other music, including another version of “Dixie.” Finally, thanks to Past Division Commander Allen Terrell for delivering the keynote address.

The ladies of the W.D. Holder Chapter UDC deserve their own nod for their participation in leading pledges and providing refreshments.

(Continued from page 2)

A few weeks later, after intensive laboratory analysis, authorities announced the body was Col. William Shy. It was in such a state of perfect preservation that some of the skin was still pink. The medical examiner explained "I got the age, sex, race, height and weight right, but I was off on the time of death by 113 years."
Whatever Happened to the Body of General Richard B. Garnett?

Well, it seems we have a bit of a mystery on our hands. Those of us who are captivated by the Battle of Gettysburg story know that Confederate General Richard B. Garnett was killed in the battle.

Garnett, as you probably know, was a brigade commander in George Pickett’s division...and led his troops in the ill-fated Pickett-Pettigrew Assault on July 3rd, 1863. There are a couple of eye-witness accounts of how he was killed.

Apparently, Garnett got within about twenty feet of the famous “angle” on Cemetery Ridge where he was shot in the head while waving his men forward with his hat. Soon after, his courier’s horse was also hit and fell on the dead general’s body. The courier in question, one Robert Irvine, pulled Garnett’s body from under the horse, and managed to retrieve his watch before moving on. This wasn’t shady or anything, later Irvine gave the watch to the brigade adjutant – or that’s at least how the story goes...

Now this is where things get sort of cloudy. First, there are conflicting reports as to whether or not the general’s horse made it back to the Rebel lines. Second, and more important, Garnett’s body was never recovered. More than likely, he was buried in a mass grave along with his men; which means we have a very probable resting place for Richard Garnett.

In the early 1870s, Ladies’ Memorial Associations were instrumental in reinterring the Confederate dead of Gettysburg in Richmond’s Hollywood Cemetery. Bodies were removed from mass graves and brought south (for a fee) where they would have a proper – Confederate – burial.

So many, including military historian Robert Krick, believe that Garnett is there. Probably, but we cannot be certain. In 1991, the Hollywood Memorial Association just flat out assumed he was there and erected a cenotaph in his honor. Nothing else has ever surfaced concerning Garnett, with one notable exception. Soon after the war, his sword turned up in a Baltimore pawn shop...where it was purchased by former Confederate general George H. Steuart.

*From the Facebook page of "Defending the Heritage"

Page administrator “Robert” added a comment:
Garnett should never have been in the charge. General Alexander tried to talk him out of it. He was injured and could not walk forcing him to ride and become a target.
Known during the Civil War as Private Bill Thompson, Lucy Matilda Thompson Gauss cut her thick hair and disguised herself by wearing her husband's suit and boarded a train for Virginia to fight alongside him during the early years of the Civil War. He never survived the war; but, "Private Bill" did and brought his body home for burial.

Lucy Matilda Thompson was born November 21, 1812 in Bladenboro, North Carolina. She was tall and masculine — though not without feminine charm — and she was a deft horsewoman, expert with a rifle and relished hunting.

In 1861, just as the war erupted, Thompson married Bryant Gauss who soon joined the Army of the Confederacy. Fearing he would be killed and lie unidentified, the new Mrs. Gauss oiled her squirrel musket and enlisted in Company D, 18th North Carolina Infantry, Confederate States of America. Neighbors and friends sympathized with her bravery and kept her identity secret. So did Captain Robert Tate and Lieutenant Wiley Sykes, who admired her ability with a rifle, her talent for jokes as well as her husky throated singing voice. They also prized her skill to nurse the camp's sick and wounded.

Masquerading as Private Bill Thompson, Lucy participated in a number of battles, receiving a head wound either at the First Battle of Manassas or the Siege of Richmond. In any case the wound — an iron shell scrape tore open her scalp from forehead to crown — sent her to a hospital for two months. Somehow she managed to conceal her identity and fled back to her unit as soon as she could.

Bryant Gauss was killed at the Seven Days Battle near Richmond. Lucy Gauss obtained permanent furlough and took him for burial. She bore her first child, Mary Caroline Gauss, on January 21, 1864.

After the war, the widow and small child moved to Savannah, where in late 1866, Lucy Gauss married union army veteran, Joseph P. Kenney. Together they had six children. Remarkably, Mrs. Kenney gave birth to their first at the age of 55 in 1868, and the last in 1881 at the age of 69! Lucy Matilda Gauss Kenney kept her military exploits a secret until 1914, when she told her story to her pastor. Fearing nothing at the age of 102 but God, Lucy's motto was "Hold your head up and die hard."

She lived in various parts of Georgia before she died in Nicholls, Georgia at the remarkable age of 112 years, 7 months and 2 days. Lucy Gauss Kenney is buried in the Meeks Cemetery near Nicholls. Joseph Kenney died September 7, 1913 at the age of 107 years 5 months and 1 day.

Photo: Private Bill Thompson, aka Lucy Matilda Thompson Gauss at the age of 107 via Connie Latta to “Defending the Heritage”

*Taken from the Facebook pager of "Defending the Heritage"*
"The monument to the 'Unknown Confederate Dead' marks the final resting place of approximately 3,000 unknown Confederate soldiers who died during the Atlanta campaign in 1864. In 1869, the Atlanta Ladies Memorial Association had the 'battlefield dead' soldiers that had been buried in hastily-dug trenches near the battlefields brought to Oakland [cemetery] and independently reinterred in the square guarded by the Lion of Atlanta...

Taken from the Facebook page of "Defending the Heritage."

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A Day of Remembrance for the Confederate Dead?

THE RECONSTRUCTION MILITARY GOVERNOR HAD THREATENED TO SHOOT ANYONE WHO GATHERED TO MEMORIALIZE OUR CONFEDERATE DEAD IN 1866...and they wonder why resentment lingers 150 years later.

In North Carolina May 10th, the date of the death of Gen. Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson, was originally named by the members of the Wake County Ladies' Memorial Association as the day of remembrance.

On that first Confederate Memorial Day, the citizens of Wake County secretly made their way to Raleigh's Oakwood Cemetery, since the Reconstruction military governor had threatened to shoot anyone who gathered for such a purpose. Nevertheless, Raleigh citizens assembled then, as they have every year since, to honor North Carolinians who wore the Confederate uniform.

Taken from the Facebook page of "Defending the Heritage."
Jackson and the Power of Prayer

As a general in the Confederate Army, “Stonewall” Jackson had a profound influence over his men. It was his holy and prayerful example that contributed to the great revival among the Southern troops.

By mid-summer of 1863, revival had spread to all the Confederate armies. A chaplain of the 26th Alabama Regiment said that his unit alone averaged 100 converts a week for several weeks. During this same time another chaplain declared that, “modern history presents no example of an army so nearly converted.” A third of all soldiers in the field were men of prayer and members of some fellowship. J. W. Jones suggested that 150,000 conversions took place in Lee’s Army alone.

It was this revival that no doubt prepared the South for the humiliation that was to follow their eventual defeat, but best of all the revival prepared thousands of young and old alike to meet Christ in eternity. Truly, General Jackson impacted our history through the power of prayer.

*Taken from the Facebook page of “Defending the Heritage.”*

*Image: “In the Hands of Providence” by Dan Nance*

*Editor’s note: This piece contained quoted sections in the original as though portions were taken from someone else’s words; however, no reference as to the original source was provided. I have, therefore, removed those quote marks.*

**WORDS OF WISDOM…**

"Read history, works of truth, not novels and romances. Get correct views of life, and learn to see the world in its true light. It will enable you to live pleasantly, to do good, and, when summoned away, to leave without regret." Robert E. Lee


*Link to free e-book: https://books.google.com/books?id=WzwwAQAAMAAJ*  
*Photo: https://fineartamerica.com/featured/robert-e-lee-war-is-hell-store.html*

*Taken from the Facebook page of “Defending the Heritage.”*
**Trivia Question:**

This month’s question asks: Companies within regiments were given letter identifiers, “A” through “K” with “J” being skipped. Why?

April’s questions asked: What is/was “My American Cousin” and what is its significance? The answer: It was the play featured at Ford’s Theater when the Lincolns attended. Being an actor, John Wilkes Booth frequented theaters and his presence raised no concern. However, Booth reportedly fired a shot into Lincoln’s head at short range then leaped to the stage from the viewing box to make his escape, breaking a leg in the process.

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**Commander’s Column**

Commander Jackson has no column this month.

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**THE QUINTESSENTIAL SOUTHERNER**

SHELBY FOOTE ANSWERS INTERVIEWER: Had you been alive during the War, would you have fought for the Confederates?

FOOTE: No doubt about it. What’s more, I would fight for the Confederacy today if the circumstances were similar. There’s a great deal of misunderstanding about the Confederacy, the Confederate flag, slavery, the whole thing.

The political correctness of today is no way to look at the middle of the nineteenth century. The Confederates fought for some substantially good things. States’ Rights is not just a theoretical excuse for oppressing people. You have to understand that the raggedy Confederate soldier who owned no slaves and probably couldn’t even read the Constitution, let alone understand it, when he was captured by Union soldiers and asked, “What are you fighting for?” replied, “I’m fighting because you’re down here.” So I certainly would have fought to keep people from invading my native state.

There’s another good reason for fighting for the Confederacy. Life would have been intolerable if you hadn’t. The women of the South just would not allow somebody to stay home and sulk while the war was going on. It didn’t take conscription to grab him. The women made him go.

You would not believe how liberals and Yankees assaulted Shelby for his answer to this question.

*Taken from the Facebook page of “Defending the Heritage.”*