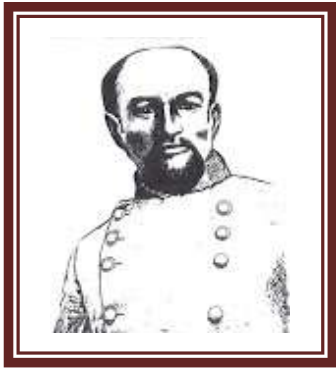


CALCASIEU GREYS

Volume 35, Issue 9 Sons of Confederate Veterans, Lake Charles, Louisiana September 2016



Captain James W. Bryan

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Captain James W. Bryan Camp 1390, Sons of Confederate Veterans, will be from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 13, at Joseph's Pizza and Pasta, 1601 Ruth St. in Sulphur. Our guest speaker will be compatriot Randy Jarreau of the Henry Watkins Allen Camp in Baton Rouge. His topic will be "The Pointe Coupee Battery of Captain Alcide Bouanchaud, CSA." The unit saw much action during the War for Southern Independence. Please make every effort to attend our September meeting for this outstanding program and excellent food and Confederate fellowship.

DUES NOW DUE

If you haven't already sent in your annual dues, please do so as soon as possible. Attacks on our Confederate Heritage are continuing with fury and we need every current member to grow our ranks as much as possible.

Please send your annual dues of \$42 to Camp Adjutant Luke Dartez, 908 Henning Road, Sulphur, La. 70665-7673. Thank you for your continued support.

The Louisiana Division SCV also encourages the following optional extra giving:

Division Operations – to help with division expenses.

Elm Springs Fund – for our own Confederate museum.

Large Flag Fund – for raising a large Confederate flag flying along Interstate 49 just south of Shreveport.

Camp Moore – for the largest Confederate wartime training camp in Louisiana with a large cemetery and museum.



SCV NEWS

By Mike Jones,
Camp editor/historian

CONDOLENCES

Our Long time Bryan Camp member Greg Newton lost his mother (Maxine McCool) Aug. 25 after a long illness. Per her wishes, there was no visitation or service. Please keep Greg in your thoughts and prayers.

SABINE PASS CEREMONY

SABINE PASS, Texas – The commemoration ceremony of the Battle of Sabine Pass will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 10, at the Sabine Pass State Park & Historic Site, 6100 Dick Dowling rd., Sabine Pass, Texas 77655.

There will be flags, speeches, cannon and musket salute and more. There will be a picnic afterward. Bring your own food and maybe some extra.

The Mechanized Cavalry will ride there. Please come and join in the commemoration of the brave men who stopped the Yankee invasion of Texas September 8, 1863.

For more information about Dick Dowling Camp 1295 and the history of the Battle of Sabine Pass, go to <http://csa.tripod.com/>,

DISASTER RELIEF FUND

Compatriots and friends:

We, the descendants of Confederates, are in a new battle. I am asking you to stop for a few moments and read this letter asking you for a donation to the SCV Relief Fund.

As we all watched the news over the past few weeks showing the devastations in Louisiana and Texas, you could be looking at the faces of our compatriots that live in those areas. Most in the area have lost something, some have lost everything. Just think this could be you. Now you have a chance to help compatriots across this devastated region.

Last year we helped seven SCV members with relief and went over budget by \$500. We have always been able to use what is budgeted. This year is different. I already have nine SCV members seeking relief and our resources are almost gone.

Our SCV Relief Fund is set up to be quick to get our members just a little money to get by until their insurance can kick in. We need for you to act now and spread the word so we can help as many members as we can.

As various disasters and catastrophic events occur and affect our membership, we must stand ready to assist our brothers and sisters in gray. We must prepare and distribute information on the level of relief we can provide based upon our available resources and the need to assist as many compatriots as possible in any given catastrophe. All levels of our organization must be made aware of the fund and its limitations. Assistance can only be provided as short term, stop gap measure and at the request of those needing the assistance.

If you give, your donation is tax deductible since we are a 501c 3 organization. Make checks payable to "Sons of Confederate Veterans" and in the memo section denote your donation for "SCV Relief Fund." Mail checks to:

Sons of Confederate Veterans
c/o SCV Relief Fund
P.O. Box 59
Columbia, Tennessee 38402-0059

Do not wait. Reach in your pocket and give to the SCV Relief Fund today. For more information, please contact me directly at danny@honnoll.com or 870-926-2985.
Yours sincerely/faithfully
W. Danny Honnoll

HISTORY AS IT HAPPEND

[Richmond Daily Dispatch, Sept. 2, 1862]

Battle of Manassas.



Gen. Robert E. Lee

Triumph of our forces.

Our information is such as to give encouragement to the hope that the sacred soil of Virginia will soon be rescued from the hands land divested of the polluting tread, of the Yankee invader. The great battle of Saturday last, fought on the memorable and classic ground of Manassas, resulted in the overthrow of the combined armies of the Federal Government, with a loss that is perhaps unequalled in the annals of the present war. We write without particulars; but the dispatches received by the President, and now given to the public, warrants the belief that our triumph is complete and glorious, and that the Confederate army is probably to-day within hauling distance of the Federal capital.

The first dispatch received yesterday morning represented that the enemy had made several attempts to break through our lines, which intercepted their retreat towards Alexandria, but were repulsed each time with heavy loss. No mention of the casualties on our side was made, except that Gens. Ewell and Trimble were badly wounded, but not mortally, and Gen. Taliaferro slightly wounded.--A large number of prisoners were said to have been captured by our troops. This fight occurred in the vicinity of Manassas Plains. The indefinite character of this dispatch created some anxiety, and although it was stated that the enemy had been repulsed, still some uneasiness was felt, and some apprehensions entertained, for the safety of the gallant corps that, to the public, seemed to be between the two armies of the foe. These apprehensions were dispelled, however, by the later and more authentic intelligence of the day.

Late in the afternoon, a dispatch was received by the President from Gen. Lee, conveying information which left no grounds to question the glorious success of our arms. This dispatch stated that on Thursday Gen. Jackson's corps repulsed Gen. Pope; Gen. Longstreet repulsed

(Continued Page 3 Col. 1)

McClellan on Friday, and that on Saturday Gen. Lee attacked the combined forces of McClellan and Pope, utterly routing them with immense loss. Our army, it was stated, was still pursuing them, but in what direction we did not learn. If it be true, as previously represented, that our forces had gained the rear of the enemy, and repulsed their attempts to recover their intercepted lines we do not understand by what route they are now endeavoring to affect their escape. Large supplies of valuable stores were captured, some of which were destroyed by our troops. Our loss is represented to be heavy in valuable officers, though no names are given.

Lt. Col. G.A. Fournet,
Highest Ranking Confederate
Buried in Lake Charles

The highest ranking Confederate veteran buried in Lake Charles is Lt. Col. Gabriel Antoine Fournet, formerly of the Consolidated 18th Louisiana Infantry and the Yellow Jacket Battalion. He is buried in the Old Catholic Cemetery on Common Street.

Fournet was born Oct. 7, 1840 in St. Martinville to Valsin A. Fournet and Pauline Briant. He grew up there and his father sent him to Georgetown College in Washington, D.C. for his higher education. With the outbreak of the War for Southern Independence, he returned home to join his father's unit, the 10th Battalion Louisiana Infantry, better known as the Yellow Jacket Battalion with the rank of major.

His unit saw extensive combat in the Bayou Lafourche Campaign of the Fall of 1862, as well as the Bayou Teche Campaign in the Spring of 1863. The Yellow Jacket Battalion was consolidated with the 18th Louisiana Infantry Regiment in November, 1863 and Major Fournet was elevated to lieutenant colonel of the new Consolidated 18th Louisiana and Yellow Jacket Battalion. Since the 18th Louisiana already had a lieutenant colonel, Joseph Collins, Fournet was detached to the staff of Brig. Gen. and Gov. Henry Watkins Allen, who led state militia forces in the Battle of Mansfield and other battles of the Red River Campaign of 1864.

Fournet was paroled at the end of the war June 6, 1865 at Natchitoches, La.

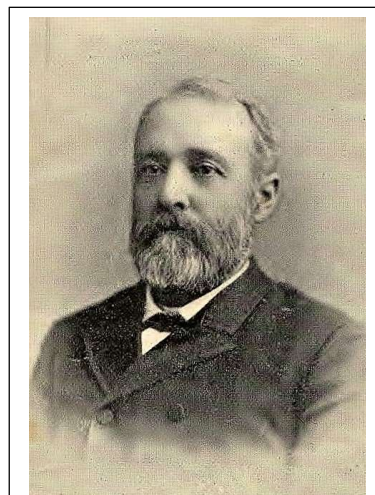
After returning to civilian life, Fournet entered into the practice of law at St. Martinville. He also married Miss Philomene Blanche Gary, daughter of Pierre Gary and Heleine Briant, on Nov. 14, 1865. The couple had six children. The family moved to Lake Charles in October, 1880.

In Lake Charles, he practiced his profession for a

number of years. A.P. Pujo studied law under Fournet and after being admitted to the Louisiana bar, became Fournet's law partner. The law partnership was very successful and only dissolved when Fournet was elected to a judgeship. Pujo went onto became a U.S. Congressman from this district, and a charter member of the first Sons of Confederate Veterans camp in Lake Charles in 1911.

When Fournet retired from his judgeship, he practiced law for a few more years when old age and health compelled him to retire from his profession. He was an active member of Calcasieu Camp 62 of the United Confederate Veterans. He died Sept. 18, 1911. Funeral services were held at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church and he was buried in his family lot in the Old Catholic Cemetery.

His lengthy obituary in the Lake Charles Daily Times concluded, "The least that could be said of Judge Fournet would be a tribute to be coveted by the best, and a legacy worthy of a life and history in connection with his past. He was an honest man, square in all dealings, a good citizen, a brave soldier, and a loving father and husband."



Lt. Col. Gabriel A. Fournet
(Maude Reid Scrapbook,
McNeese Archives)

[Article by Mike Jones, Calcasieu Greys editor]

THE BLOODIEST DAY IN AMERICAN HISTORY

Sept. 17, 1862—The Battle of Sharpsburg

[Excerpted from *Confederate States Rangers of the 10th Louisiana Infantry* by Michael Dan Jones]

The fatigued men of the Confederate States Rangers got little rest the night before the battle. Sporadic skirmishing throughout the night made sleep very difficult. The two advance brigades of General J.R. Jones' division were those of his own brigade, under Colonel Bradley Johnson and the Stonewall Brigade under Colonel A.J. Grigsby—both on the west side of the [Hagerstown Pike] fence. Behind them were Captain J.B. Brockenbrough's Baltimore battery and in support of the artillery were Starke's and Taliaferro's brigades. On the east side of the fence in the field was Lawton's (Ewell's) division. To the south of Stonewall Jackson's position were Longstreet's divisions. About 12,000 Federals were massed for the assault on Jackson's line on the Confederate left. Hooker's corps was massed to the north of the North woods. Their immediate target was the Dunker Church on the west side of the Hagerstown Pike, just south of where Starke's brigade was located in the West Woods.

The battle started shortly before 6 o'clock with a massive artillery barrage cutting across the Confederate positions. The Confederate artillery returned fire but was heavily outgunned. The advance brigades of Jones' and Lawton's divisions absorbed the first blows and returned fire until overwhelmed. General Jones was stunned by an overhead artillery burst and had to be removed from the field. General Starke assumed the command of the division, and with his sword and battle flag in hand, rallied the retreating Confederates. But Starke was soon pierced by three bullets through the body and fell from his horse, dead. Colonel Grigsby then took command of the division.

The 1st Louisiana Brigade, under Brigadier General Harry T. Hayes, was part of Lawton's division and took part in the fighting in the Miller Cornfield east of the pike. The brigade had only 550 men going into the battle and suffered heavy losses, 323, before it was relieved by Hood's Texas Brigade.

As the battle rolled back to where Starke's [2nd Louisiana Infantry] brigade was located, Colonel Stafford, who assumed command of the brigade when Starke was called upon to replace the wounded General Jones, received orders at 7 o'clock to move out of the woods in a counterattack on the advancing Federals. As soon as they emerged from the woods, they found themselves practically "face-to-face" with the enemy in close musket range. They charged through the murderous shower of



The 2nd Louisiana Infantry Brigade at the Hagerstown Pike fence in the Battle of Sharpsburg. (Battles & Leaders)

bullets coming their way but found it all but impossible to get any further than the sturdy rail fence along the Hagerstown Pike. They were battling mainly, again, with Gibbon's "Iron Brigade" of Abner Doubleday's division. These were the same Mid-Westerners with whom they fought at Brawner's Farm at the Second Battle of Manassas. The Iron Brigade was reinforced in the firefight by the 2nd U.S. Sharpshooters, 14th Brooklyn and Battery B, 4th U.S. Artillery. The men of both sides loaded and fired at a blistering rate.

Colonel Edmund Pendleton of the 15th Louisiana, said in his report on the battle, "The men, being formed along this fence, kept up an accurate and well-sustained fire, which visibly told upon the enemy's ranks; and, although we suffered greatly, as well from musketry in front as from a battery on our left, which enfiladed us with grape and canister, still, not a man was seen to flinch from the conflict. By some mistake or misapprehension, the troops which were intended, as I have since been informed, to support us on the left, failed to get in position as early as was expected, and, our left being unprotected, we were outflanked, when the order to retire was given and obeyed, the men withdrawing in tolerable order, and fighting as they fell back." Stafford reformed the men in the woods. Determined to counterattack the enemy, Stafford gave the order to charge and the Louisianians, determined to "win or die," then hurled themselves against the exulting Yankees and drove them from the field. "The enemy being thus completely repulsed on his right, did not again offer to renew the combat on that portion of his lines during the day," Pendleton said.

[The Confederates had a total of 10,316 casualties and the Federals 12,410, making it an overall total of 22,726—The bloodiest day in American history.]