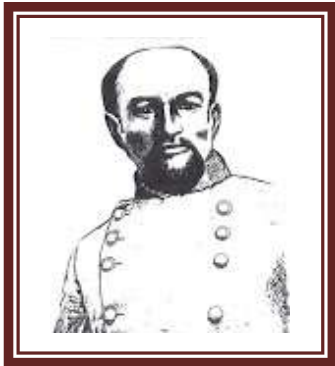


CALCASIEU GREYS

Volume 37, Issue 6 Sons of Confederate Veterans, Lake Charles, Louisiana June 2018



Captain James W. Bryan

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Captain James W. Bryan Camp 1390 will be from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, June 12, 018 at Ryan's Buffet, 4051 Ryan St., Lake Charles, La. The program will be a report on the outstanding 2018 La. Div. Reunion held in Lafayette. There was much good news coming from the event.

CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL DAY PLANS

One of the most important days of the year for the SCV is Confederate Memorial Day. In Louisiana, it is an official state holiday and falls on June 3, which is the birthday of President Jefferson Davis. Please attend our official ceremony at The South's Defenders Monument at 6 p.m. Saturday, June 2, at the Calcasieu Parish Courthouse. Here are our other plans:

We plan to put out memorial flags in the West Calcasieu area cemeteries beginning at 7 a.m. Friday, June 1, at Farquah Cemetery (east Dave Dugas Road). We will then proceed to Big Woods and Antioch, hopefully around 8 a.m., followed by Niblett's Bluff. We will need the majority of help at Big Woods, Antioch, and Niblett's Bluff.

We will meet again Saturday evening, June 2, at 6 p.m. at The South's Defenders Monument. After a short ceremony, we'll then proceed to Graceland-Orange Grove Cemetery on Broad Street, then Corporate, Bilbo, Sallier and Catholic cemeteries to put out memorial flags. We encourage as many members as possible to participate. Let's show unity, strength and honor for the sacrifice our ancestors made. – God Save Our Southland



SCV NEWS

By Mike Jones, camp editor

Members of Captain James W. Bryan Camp 1390 were busy over the past month presenting the Hunley Award and Capt. J.W. Bryan Camp History Awards to school students throughout Southwest Louisiana. These camp members making the presentations deserve an extra special THANK YOU for taking so much time from their busy lives to do this for our camp and Confederate heritage. Spreading goodwill with activities such as this are a major part of defending and advancing our heritage. The following pictures document these presentations:



Pictured is Christian Parish, center, receiving the Bryan Award at Starks High School. Presenters are Archie Toombs, left, former Camp 1390 cmdr. and Rev. Ben Lyons, chaplain of Camp 1390.

Award pictures continued on Page 2, Col. 1.

(Continued from page 1-AWARDS)



Hallie Guidry at South Beauregard High School is seen here receiving the Bryan Award from Camp Adjutant Luke Dartez, left, and Archie Toombs.



Cadet Sergeant Jillian Grace Deville, second from left, received the Hunley Award at South Beauregard High School. Shaking her hand is instructor SFC Rayford Jackson. At left is Camp Quartermaster Archie Toombs and at right, Camp 1390 Cmdr. Scott Fusilier.



Brooks Beddoe, W.W. Lewis Middle School, received his Bryan Award from Luke Dartez and Father Ben Lyons.

REMEMBER OUR CONFEDERATE DEAD

The lines written below were found penciled upon a scrap of paper which was discovered inside a jack pocket on the body of a Confederate Soldier. Unfortunately his name, age and Regiment were not recorded, nor was the date or battlefield. He is known only to God and his verses have become known as:

A Confederate Soldiers Prayer.

I asked God for strength, that I might achieve.
I was made weak, that I may learn to humbly obey.
I asked for health, that I might do greater things.
I was given infirmity, that I might do better things.
I asked for riches, that I might be happy.
I was given poverty, that I might be wise.
I asked for power that I might have the praise of men.
I was given weakness, that I might feel the need for God.
I asked for all things, that I might enjoy life.
I was given life, that I might enjoy all things.
I got nothing that I asked for, but got everything that I hope for. Almost despite myself, my unspoken prayers were answered. I am, among all people, most richly Blessed.



UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNE 2018

Saturdays and Sundays • Port Hudson State Historic Site, Jackson - Guided Museum Tour, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Take a guided tour of the museum, with the site historian, and explore the highlights of the Port Hudson artifact collection. For more information call 888.677.3400 toll free or 225.654.3775 locally.

6/2/2018 • Port Hudson State Historic Site, Jackson - Clinton, LA and the Fight of Pretty Creek, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. *"Bigger than a skirmish and smaller than a battle."* This indoor presentation will examine the events of Colonel Benjamin H. Grierson's June 3-7, 1863 Union raid on Clinton, Louisiana, and the crushing Confederate victory which led to the memorable federal troop response to this attack. For more information call 888.677.3400 toll free or 225.654.3775 locally.

6/16/2018 • Port Hudson State Historic Site, Jackson - Priestcap Battlefield Tour, 9:30 a.m. Join a park historian on a rare guided tour of the Priest Cap battlefield, which was heavily fought over on the May 27 and June 13, 1863 discouraging and deadly frontal assaults resulting in thousands of casualties among the Union troops. This portion of the battlefield is outside the park's property and is privately owned. For more information call 888.677.3400 toll free or 225.654.3775 locally.

236 Hwy. 61
Jackson, LA 70748



Maj. Gen. Camille de Polignac, the last surviving Confederate major general.

6/9/2018 • Mansfield State Historic Site, Mansfield - Prince Camille De Polignac, Confederate General, 2 p.m. A presentation on the fascinating of Prince Camille Armand de Polignac of France who led a brigade of Texas troops in the Battle of Mansfield. A unique personality who would go down in history as "The Lafayette of the South." For more information call 888.677.6267 toll free or 318.872.1474 locally.

15149 Highway 175
Mansfield, LA 71052

Museum Dedication Ceremony Changes

Compatriots,

As part of the 123rd National Reunion in July 2018, we initially planned for the opening ceremony on Wednesday 18 July. Significant delays in construction due to Middle Tennessee weather have stretched that to where we will no longer have an opening ceremony, but rather a dedication ceremony. We are also changing the date to Friday 20 July 2018 at 2pm. The date change was made to provide an opportunity for more members to attend this ceremony. For those members who have made, or are preparing to make, reservations to attend on Wednesday, please consider this change for your schedules and take appropriate action. The reunion website page is being updated to reflect this change. Thank you and we look forward to seeing y'all at the reunion and museum dedication.

Deo vindice!

Michael L. Landree
Executive Director
Sons of Confederate Veterans

CIVIL WAR TRUST MEMBERS OPPOSE REMOVING CONFEDERATE MONUMENTS

The Civil War Trust, the oldest and largest battlefield preservation group, ran a survey among its members and printed the results in its magazine, *Hallowed Ground*. The main take away was that 83 percent do not favor removing Confederate monuments.

An even larger percentage agreed with this statement: "Robert E. Lee was a product of his time, a Mexican War hero, and a top Army officer of his day. Even though he fought for the Confederacy, he still exhibited many honorable traits, and sought to heal the wounds of division after the Civil War. He is still worthy of respect today."

In addition, less than 9 percent of the members agreed with a statement disparaging the honor of Robert E. Lee.

Also, almost 83 percent with a statement that the people of the Confederacy were a product of their own time and people today should not rush to judgment based on 21st Century standards.

Civil War Trust is made up of members from all over the nation.

SABINE PASS BATTLEGROUND

Sabine Pass Battleground State Historic Site south of Port Arthur Texas is a well maintained battlefield that is probably the closest War For Southern Independence battlefield park to Southwest Louisiana. And to top it all, it was a major Confederate victory that stopped a Yankee invasion of Texas and gave the Confederacy a big morale boost in late 1863, when one was sorely needed.

The park is located at 6100 Dowling Rd., Port Arthur, TX 77641. Its hours of operation are 8 a.m.-5 p.m. daily, with extended hours May 1-Aug. 31 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Admission is free.

Facilities include a magnificent statue and monument of Lt. Richard W. "Dick" Dowling, who commanded the Confederate troops in the battle. There is also an informational kiosk that gives loads of information on the battle with beautiful color illustrations and maps. Historic plaques and state historic markers that give plenty of additional information on the battle and the units that served there. The site also has two World War II-era ammunition magazines there. There are also two shaded picnic tables with grills and restrooms. Additional unshaded picnic tables are available. Alcohol is not permitted on the site.

[Here's a history of the Sabine Pass Battleground from the Texas Historic Commission Web Site:](#)

On September 8, 1863, the battle of Sabine Pass turned back one of several Union attempts to invade and occupy part of Texas during the Civil War. The U.S. Navy blockaded the Texas coast beginning in the summer of 1861, while Confederates fortified the major ports. Union interest in Texas and other parts of the Confederacy west of the Mississippi River resulted primarily from the need for cotton by northern textile mills and concern about French intervention in the Mexican civil war. In September 1863, Gen. Nathaniel P. Banks sent 4,000 soldiers by transport from New Orleans under the command of Gen. William B. Franklin to gain a foothold at Sabine Pass, where the Sabine River flows into the Gulf of Mexico. A railroad ran from Sabine Pass to Houston and opened the way into the interior of the state. The Western Gulf Blockading Squadron of the U. S. Navy sent four gunboats mounting 18 guns to protect the landing of the transport troops. The Union commander, Lt. Frederick Crocker, formed a plan for the gunboats to enter the pass and silence the Fort Griffin guns so the troops could land.

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At Sabine Pass, the Davis Guards—a Confederate Army unit composed of 45 enlisted men, one engineer, and one surgeon, all Irish and all in their 20s or younger—manned Fort Griffin, which was constructed by 500 conscripted slaves. The fort consisted of an earthwork that mounted six cannons, two 24-pounders and four 32-pounders.

The U.S.S Clifton shelled the fort from long range between 6:30 and 7:30 a.m. on September 8. The Confederates remained under cover because the ship was out of reach for their cannons. Behind the fort, Confederate officers gathered reinforcements, although their limited numbers would make resistance difficult if the federal troops landed.

At 3:40 p.m. the Union gunboats began their advance through the pass, firing on the fort as they steamed forward. Under the direction of Lt. Dowling, the Confederate cannoneers emerged to man their guns as the ships came within 1,200 yards. One cannon in the fort ran off its platform after an early shot, but the artillerymen fired the remaining five cannons with great accuracy. A shot from the third or fourth round hit the boiler of the U.S.S. Sachem, which exploded, killing and wounding many of the crew and leaving the gunboat without power in the channel. The following ship, the U.S.S. Arizona, could not pass the U.S.S. Sachem and withdrew from the action. The U.S.S. Clifton, which also carried several sharpshooters, continued up the channel near the Texas shore until a shot from the fort cut away its tiller rope. That left the gunboat without the ability to steer and caused it to run aground, where its crew continued to exchange fire with the Confederate gunners. Another well-aimed projectile into the boiler of the U.S.S. Clifton sent steam and smoke through the vessel and forced the sailors to abandon ship. The U.S.S. Granite City also turned back, thus ending the federal assault.

The Davis Guards fired their cannons 107 times in 35 minutes of action, a rate of less than two minutes per shot, which ranked as far more rapid than the standard for heavy artillery. The Confederates captured 350 Union prisoners and two gunboats. Gen. Franklin and the Union forces turned back to New Orleans, although Union troops occupied the Texas coast from Brownsville to Matagorda Bay later that fall. The Confederates, who suffered no casualties during the battle, received the gratitude of the Confederate Congress for their victory. Careful fortification, range marking and artillery practice had produced a successful defense of Sabine Pass.