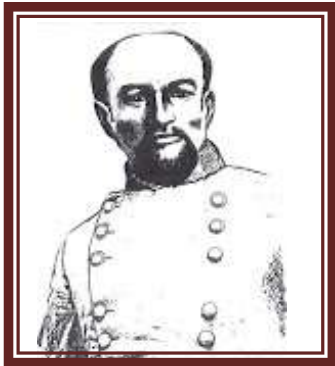


CALCASIEU GREYS

Volume 36, Issue 12, Sons of Confederate Veterans, Lake Charles, Louisiana, Dec. 2017



Captain James W. Bryan

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Captain James W. Bryan Camp 1390, Sons of Confederate Veterans, will be our Christmas party from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 12, at 2019 21st St. in Lake Charles. Tommy Curtis and his sister Phyllis will be our host and hostess. If you haven't already signed up to bring food for the party, please consider bringing a covered dish, dessert or soft drinks. We'll have great food in a traditional Christmas atmosphere. Mrs. Susan Jones will provide background music playing beloved Christmas carols on her viola.

LEE—JACKSON BANQUET 2018

Captain James W. Bryan Camp 1390's annual Lee-Jackson Banquet 2018 will begin at 6 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 20, with our social at Pat's of Henderson Restaurant, 1500 Siebarth Drive, Lake Charles. The program will get underway at 7 p.m. Our keynote speaker will be Shane Kastler, author of *Nathan Bedford Forrest's Redemption* (Pelican Publishing, 2010) and pastor of Heritage Baptist Church in Lake Charles. His timely topic will be on "The Ongoing Persecution of Lee & Jackson." He will talk on the current attacks on Confederates, what the goal of such attacks are, the danger of erasing history, as well as encouraging developments.

Compatriot Kastler is a native of Oklahoma and a graduate of Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (M. Div.) and Northeastern State University (B.B.A.). He writes a weekly column for the Linn County News (KS) and has appeared on the Church & State Program on KELB (100.5 FM) in Lake Charles. He is a member of (Banquet: Continued on Page 2, Col. 1)



COMPATRIOTS REMEMBERED

As we come to the end of 2017, it is time for Captain James W. Bryan Camp to remember our compatriots who passed to their eternal reward this year. We mourn the loss of Nathan Curtis on Nov. 16, James H. Fontenot on Nov. 10 and Jerry Ross on May 6. Nathan was very active in our camp and was the past chaplain as well and gave our camp much wise advice that was greatly appreciated by our members. He was also very active in local churches and community. Nathan, born Nathaniel Coleman Curtis Feb. 3, 1928 in Baton Rouge, was the son William Thomas Curtis Sr., and Maudine Alice Curtis (Tingle), both originally from Mississippi. After graduating from high school in 1945, he attended one year of college and then served in the Army on occupation duty in Korea from Jan. 1946 to July 1947 and was honorably discharged. After attending one more year of college at LSU, he started a long career in business in newspapers and insurance. Married to Joyce Broussard in 1953, they had three children, Tommy, Phyllis and April. The family moved to Lake Charles in 1962 and in 1972 established Curtis Insurance Agency. He was also very active in community activities and organizations. Nathan was an active church member and became well known in Lake Charles for his "Church and State" program on KELB radio. In addition to Tommy and Phyllis, he was also survived by his wife, Nancy Curtis, his grandson, Daniel Blake Curtis, step-daughters Staci Widcamp and husband Durwin, and Cindy Natali and husband Kevin, step-grandson, Fisher Natali, two step-granddaughters, Kaitlyn Opal and Hailey Opal. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Joyce Curtis, and (Remembered: Continued on Page 2, Col. 2.)

(Banquet, Continued from Page 1, Col. 1)

Captain James W. Bryan Camp 1390 in Lake Charles. He and his wife Erin have three children.

The cost of the banquet meal will be the same as last year, \$30, which includes the appetizer, entrée, dessert and iced tea and gratuity. Cocktails are not part of the price. Here is the menu:

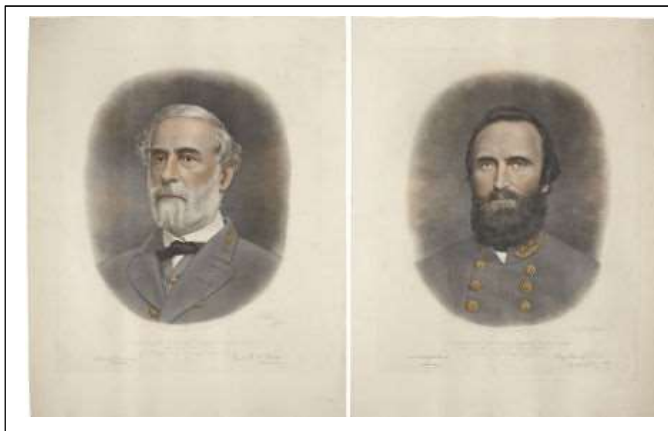
Appetizer: Bitesize
Catfish/Popcorn Shrimp
Main Entrée: (Select One)

Fried Shrimp
Crawfish Fettuccine
Stuffed Red Snapper
10 oz. Ribeye Steak (cooked medium)
Seafood Platter (fried Shrimp, Oysters, Catfish, Stuffed
Shrimp, Stuffed Crab & Frog Leg)

Dessert: (Select One)
Pecan Pie
Cheese Cake (topped with blueberries or strawberries)

The above menu is served with a baked potato, dinner salad, dinner rolls & soft drink or iced tea.

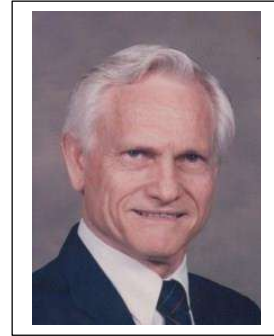
Please make your remittance by check payable to SCV Camp 1390. Mail the check to Luke Dartez, 908 Henning Road, Sulphur, La. 70665-7673, by Jan. 16 so he can give the restaurant a notice of how many to expect. We are not set up to take debit or credit cards. Again, the price is all inclusive of meal, drink and gratuity.



General Robert E. Lee

Gen. Stonewall Jackson

(Remembered, Continued from Page 1)



Nathan Curtis

his second wife, Margaret Curtis, and a daughter, April Curtis. He was buried with military honors at Prien Memorial Park.

Compatriot James H. Fontenot was a member of Captain James W. Bryan Camp 1390 and a generous benefactor of our camp for many years. He was born James Hardy Fontenot March 17, 1942 and was the founder and owner of James H. Fontenot Construction Inc. for over 40 years. He was a member of the Homebuilders Association of Lake Charles and was a member of the Glad Tidings Assembly of God. He was also a lifetime member of the National Rifle Association. He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Sharon Corely Fontenot; son Ryan Fontenot and wife Nikki; daughter-in-law, Raneé Corbello and husband Jason; and five grandchildren, Andrew, Audra, Maci, Ellie Kate, and Kendall. He is preceded in death by his parents, Rev. D.W. Fontenot and Myra Fontenot Daniels; son, James H. Fontenot Jr. "Jimbo"; brother, Buddy Fontenot; and sister, Bonita Blair. Compatriot Fontenot was laid to rest at Prien Memorial Park.



James H. Fontenot

(Remembered, Continued on Page 3, Col. 1)

(Remembered, Continued from Page 2)

Compatriot Jerry Donald Ross was born on May 11, 1946 and was a lifelong salesman. He also worked for the Calcasieu Parish Sheriff's Office as a bailiff and court room security team members. He was married to his wife, Barbara, for 48 years. Besides his membership in the SCV, he was also an Eagle Scout, a 32nd Degree Mason, Shriner and Jester. Compatriot Ross was also a Navy veteran and was active in many worthy community endeavors. Among his proudest achievements was being named "Outstanding Member" by the Lake Charles Young Men's Business Club in the early 1970s.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Alton and Isabelle (Lockwood) Ross, an infant son and an infant granddaughter. He leaves to cherish his memory, his wife of 48 years, Barbara Lane Ross; son, Russ Ross (Rebecca); daughters, Terri Ross and Kelli Ross Bridges(Bart); brother, Jim Ross(Cindy); "Pappy" to nine grandchildren; 10 great grandchildren as well as numerous nieces, nephews and extended family.



Jerry D. Ross

Their complete obituaries can be found at the web sites of: Hixson Funeral Home for Nathan; and Johnson Funeral Home for James and Jerry. Keep their families in your prayers.

CAPTAIN BRYAN CAMP 2018 OFFICERS

Capt. James W. Bryan Camp 1390 elected its 2018 officers at the November camp meeting. They are listed below:

Camp Commander: Charles Richardson
Color Sergeant: Kevin Guillotte
1st Lt. Commander: Scott Fuselier
2nd Lt. Commander: Gregg Holder
Adjutant: Luke Dartez
Quartermaster: Archie W. Toombs
Chaplain: Rev. Ben Lyons III
Judge Advocate: J.W. Hellums
Surgeon: Dr. Michael Bergeron
Historian: Mike Jones

The officers will be installed at the Lee-Jackson Banquet Jan. 20, 2018 at Pat's in Lake Charles.

BATTLE OF FREDERICKSBURG

One of the greatest Confederate victories of the War for Southern Independence was the Battle of Fredericksburg, Dec. 11-15, 1862. Below is the summary of the battle from the National Park Service:

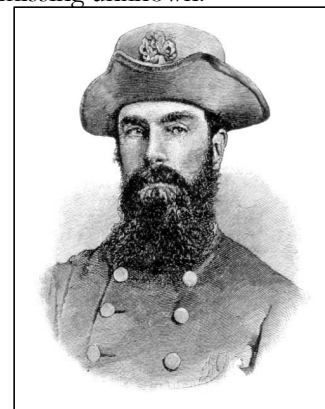
On November 14, Burnside, now in command of the Army of the Potomac, sent a corps to occupy the vicinity of Falmouth near Fredericksburg. The rest of the army soon followed. Lee reacted by entrenching his army on the heights behind the town. On December 11, Union engineers laid five pontoon bridges across the Rappahannock under fire. On the 12th, the Federal army crossed over, and on December 13, Burnside mounted a series of futile frontal assaults on Prospect Hill and Marye's Heights that resulted in staggering casualties. Meade's division, on the Union left flank, briefly penetrated Jackson's line but was driven back by a counterattack. Union generals C. Feger Jackson and George Bayard, and Confederate generals Thomas R.R. Cobb and Maxey Gregg were killed. On December 15, Burnside called off the offensive and recrossed the river, ending the campaign. Burnside initiated a new offensive in January 1863, which quickly bogged down in the winter mud. The abortive "Mud March" and other failures led to Burnside's replacement by Maj. Gen. Joseph Hooker in January 1863.

Location: Spotsylvania County and Fredericksburg, Va.

Principal Commanders: Maj. Gen. Ambrose Burnside (U.S.); Gen. Robert E. Lee (C.S.).

Forces Engaged: U.S.—100,007; C.S.—72,497.

Casualties: U.S.—12,653 [1,284 killed; 9,600 wounded; 1,769 captured or missing. C.S.—4,201 [408 killed; 3,743 wounded; captured/missing unknown.



Gen. Maxey Gregg, killed at the Battle of Fredericksburg

BATTLEFIELD PARKS: ECONOMIC BOOSTERS

[News release from Civil War Trust]

On Veterans Day each year, the nation honors the men and women who serve, and have served, in the U.S armed forces. The day is an annual testament to every American who has worn their country's uniform.

The Civil War Trust is proud and privileged to honor America's servicemen and women every day through preserving the battlefields where soldiers fought and fell. Our preservation of these storied sites directly benefits the local communities that steward these places from the Civil War, Revolutionary War and War of 1812.

This week, the Trust is pleased to release an exciting new look at the nature and scale of these benefits in geographically diverse locations ranging from Virginia to Hawaii and battlefields from Gettysburg to Little Bighorn. These historic sites support jobs, attract visitors, create opportunities for local business, and contribute to state and local coffers.

Battlefields' benefits pack a wallop, directly affecting residents and enterprises nationwide, said Michele Archie, a principal and economic analyst at The Harbinger Consulting Group.

At the request of the Civil War Trust, Harbinger reviewed academic research and survey data, analyzed trends, crunched numbers and collected anecdotes to determine how Civil War and other battlefields affect local economies across the country. Its ["Battlefields Mean Business: Economic Benefits of Battlefield Preservation"](#) study highlights more than 20 battlefield parks from the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, Indian Wars, Mexican War, Civil War and World War II, examining 10 of them in depth.

"Battlefield tourism is better known in Europe, where people take guided tours to commemorative sites from two world wars, but is also vibrant in the United States," Archie said. "American battlefield sites deliver a major economic boost, and our findings clearly prove that."

Nationally, the report found that one in three out-of-town guests to battlefield communities said seeing the battlefield park was their main reason for traveling to the area. Further, the study revealed the extent of cultural tourism's economic benefits in such places.

In 2015, the study's 10 focal battlefields hosted 9.7 million visitors. Tourism at the 10 sites generated \$569 million in sales in local communities, supported nearly 6,800 local jobs and added \$15 million in state and local tax revenue.

In Virginia, prior research by other analysts determined that Civil War sites attract visitors who stay longer and spend twice as much as average tourists.

"From April to September, visitors are here primarily for the battlefields," John Mitchell, owner of Fredericksburg's Made in Virginia Store, told Archie. "We help them make a personal connection with the Civil War."

The Harbinger report summarizes the economic rewards of visitation to those 10 American battlefield parks, by visitor numbers, local sales, jobs, and hotel and sales taxes.

"Heritage tourism is a prosperous business," Civil War Trust President James Lighthizer said. "It focuses national attention on towns and counties and delivers dollars to localities without requiring more spending for schools, housing and infrastructure.

"Preservation efforts are key to growing that economic impact," Lighthizer said. "The more travelers have to see and do, the longer they will stay in a historic community, increasing the economic footprint of their visit."

The "Battlefields Mean Business" report illuminates what enhances the economic benefits of battlefield tourism — engaging with visitors; collaborating with businesses and other historic sites; commemorating events and anniversaries; supporting rural areas; and preserving the story-telling landscapes.

Finally, the report demonstrates that when more land is preserved, the more powerful an economic engine such sites can become.

Richmond National Battlefield, for instance, has grown from 754 acres in 1996 to 3,700 acres in and around Virginia's capital today. The additional land — and the multi-faceted tales it tells — has transformed Richmond from a "windshield park" that was just a quick stop or drive-by visit to a more interactive, dynamic experience that draws and interests many more people, Superintendent Dave Ruth said. Preservation has helped make Richmond a bigger travel destination, the report shows. The park's visitation has more than doubled, from 78,000 in 1996 to 184,000 in 2015.

[Editor's note: Confederate monuments are part of most of the WFSI battlefield parks and should also be preserved and protected wherever they are.—
M.J.]