# CALCASIEU GREYS

Volume 38, Issue 7 Sons of Confederate Veterans, Lake Charles, Louisiana July 2019



Captain James W. Bryan

#### NEXT MEETING

### [Web Site: calcasieugreys.blogspot.com]

The next meeting of Captain James W. Bryan Camp 1390, Sons of Confederate Veterans, will be from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, July 9, at Joe's Pizza and Pasta Restaurant, 1601 Ruth St., Sulphur, La. Our guest speaker will be Ruth Andrus who will speak about her Confederate ancestor and the United Daughters of the Confederacy. Please come and join in with us for great food and Confederate fellowship.

#### **UPCOMING GUN SHOW**

Captain James W. Bryan Camp 1390 will have an informational table at the Don Rich Gun & Knife Show, August 24-25 at the Lake Charles Civic Center, promoted by our friends at Gator Gun & Knife Store in Sulphur.

We always need help with manning the table on Saturday and Sunday. Please consider volunteering whatever amount of time you can spare for this event on either or both days. This is a prime opportunity for us to get out our positive message about Confederate heritage and contact potential new members.

The hours for Saturday, Aug. 24, will be 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. There are usually food vendors on site, plenty free parking and restroom facilities.



# SCV NEWS

# Mike Jones, editor/historian

Captain James W. Bryan Camp 1390 Compatriot Houston Middleton has had two excellent articles published by The Abbeville Institute on contemporary events and how they impact Southern history and heritage. Check them out at:

#### https://www.abbevilleinstitute.org/blog/author/hmiddleton/

The Abbeville Institute is a scholarly defender of the "The Southern Tradition." It was formed in 2002 at the University of Virginia by a group of scholars in history, literature, philosophy, religion and other disciplines. Its purpose is to preserve was is true and valuable about the Southern Tradition. It conducts summer schools for college students and graduates, conferences for academics and educational programs for the public. You can check it out for yourself at abbevilleinstitute.org.

Also, among the recent activities of members, compatriots Archie Toombs and Luke Dartez recently went to Burr's Ferry and installed seven new flags there. The new flags replaced were worn out and tattered flags. A recent picture of the new flags, courtesy of Luke Dartez, can be seen on the following page of this newsletter. I've also included a history of Burr Ferry on Page 2.

The sad story of the ongoing campaign to wipe out Southern history and heritage continued last month when the magnificent double equestrian statue of Robert E. Lee and a young Confederate soldier, which was shamefully auctioned off and sold for over \$1.4 million, was disgracefully loaded on a tractor trailer truck and carried off to destinations unknown, and for a purpose unknown. We can only hope that the new owner has more respect for the memory of General Lee, than the disgraceful, dystopian city of Dallas has. The city is now in the process of removing another Confederate monument from a cemetery there.

We must redouble our efforts by supporting the SCV's National Confederate Museum and Make Dixie Great Again campaign.

## **CONFEDERATE NEWS**



New flags recently put up at the SCV's Burr Ferry Historic Site in Vernon Parish. (Courtesy of Luke Dartez)

#### **BURR FERRY HISTOR SITE**

By Mike Jones

BURR FERRY -- Tucked away in the piney woods of western Vernon Parish is an out-of-the-way spot that the adventurous traveler and history buff alike will find fascinating, Burr Ferry.

Outlaws, runaway slaves, pioneer log cabins and an old Confederate fort give Burr Ferry a colorful past. The Sabine River and Pearl Creek, teeming with bass and white perch, entice fishermen looking for a great catch.

The property is now owned by the Louisiana Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans. The SCV has maintained and improved the site with volunteers. It was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2004. The site has original Confederate earthworks, a historic monument and a Confederate flag display.

White settlers moved in shortly after the Louisiana Purchase in 1803, and established the ferry as one of the main crossings of the Sabine River into Texas.

In that period, both Spanish and U.S. authorities agreed to keep their armies out of the area. It was a haven for outlaws one step ahead of the law, or fugitive slaves being pursued by slave catchers. Many of the slaves fled into Spanish Texas.

In the early 1800s, the first Burr settled in the area. This was Timothy Burr, said to be a cousin of Aaron Burr, the vice president under President Thomas Jefferson and who killed Alexander Hamilton in a famous duel in 1804.

In the years before the War Between the States, Burr Ferry became an increasingly important crossing point to and from Texas for both people and livestock.

The standard ferry fee was 20 cents for a wagon and team, 10 cents for a man and horse and five cents for a person on foot.

After the war started in 1861, the ferry was an important strategic point for the Confederacy for moving men and supplies across the river from Texas.

When the Union Army invaded western Louisiana in the fall of 1863, work was begun on an earthen fortification to defend the ferry.

Although constantly busy, the only war action there was a skirmish with Union cavalry scouts. Members of Co. D, Spaight's Battalion Texas Volunteers manned the ramparts there.

One section of the fortification is well preserved and can be seen today in a fenced memorial park just off Hwy. 8, a few hundred yards east of the Sabine River Bridge. Between the fort and the river is the site of the old Burr mansion, which burned about five years ago. Still standing is a massive barn believed to be well over 100 years old.

After years of searching, the site of the old ferry was found and a number of artifacts dug up, including the endless pulley that was used to pull the ferry across the river. The site is just south of the bridge.

Possibly the most priceless historical treasure of all is the old Lile family log cabin, which dates to the early 1800s. It is a true log cabin, built with hand hewn logs and cypress shingles. The cabin is on private property and not open to the public.

Two cemeteries in the area are of particular historical interest. The Old Burr Cemetery contains tombstones dating to 1828 and is where the earliest settlers are buried.

The "Plunk Away" Cemetery, is reportedly said to have received its unusual name as the result of an outlaw shootout. One of the dying outlaws, when asked where he wanted to be buried, is supposed to have said, "Just plunk me away over there."

(Continued on Page 3)

(Continued from Page 2)

In the cemetery are a number of "unknown" graves of travelers who died along the trail to Texas, wounded Confederate soldiers trying to get home to Texas and outlaws who died in shootouts.

#### How to get there:

The best way to reach Burr Ferry from Lake Charles is to take La. 27 to Singer; turn west onto La. 110 to Merryville and there take U.S. 190 north and continue north on La. 111 to Burr Ferry, which is located at the intersection with La. 8.

# NATIONAL CONFEDERATE MUSEUM AT HISTORIC ELM SPRINGS

COLUMBIA, Tenn. – Please donate to the National Confederate Museum fund at:

Send checks to: Sons of Confederate Veterans c/o TCM Building Fund P.O. Box 59 Columbia, TN 38402

Or you can call 1-800-MY-DIXIE to pay by credit card.



#### "MAKE DIXIE GREAT AGAIN"

Greetings Compatriots,

The Southern Victory Campaign and its motto, "Ma Dixie Great Again," is taking the fight to our adversar It is the movement for the Sons of Confederate Veter to take back the narrative from the Cultural Marxists of Cultural Cannibals that have declared war on the Sout We have been on the defensive for too long during the Second Reconstruction. It is time to hoist the colors hand deliver the truth about our History... our Heritage the general public.

Getting that message out has an advertising exper In order to place traditional & digital ads in markets the will ultimately activate our fellow Southerners, we need money to pay for those ads-thus, the Confederate Legion The Confederate Legion is a volunteer group of peop SCV and non-SCV members, who donate a minimum \$50 per year to the Cause. These funds will be used to for the SCV's on-going PR campaign. No less than 90 of the funds collected will be used to buy pro-South a and point the general public to our web site for more information.

With ads purchased by the Confederate Legion pl those purchased by local camps for their local stations SCV will cover the South with positive news about or honorable heritage. This will have a positive impact of political establishment that up to now has had little to from us-but with your help that will change!

Join the Confederate Legion today!

Or if you would rather use traditional mail for che etc., Send them to:

MAKE DIXIE GREAT AGAIN

Confederate Legion

www.makedixiegreatagain.org

P.O.Box 59, Columbia, TN 38402 800-My-Dixie (800-693-4943)

000 My Blate (000 0

A soldier in the Cause,

Brian McClure

National SCV Deputy

of Communications & Networking





#### SCV EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Commander-in-Chief -- Paul C. Gramling Jr — 318-294-1563.

Lt. Commander-in-Chief--Larry McCluney--662-453-7212

Chief of Staff--Charles Evans Lauret--337-826-1622

Adjutant-in-Chief--<u>Douglas Wilson Nash Jr</u>.--<u>910-635-</u> <u>9700</u>

Judge Advocate-in-Chief--Scott D Hall--865-428-9900

Chaplain-in-Chief--Herman White--336-431-3810

Chief of Heritage Operations--Walter D (Donnie)
Kennedy--318-982-5072

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### **JULY 2019**

7/7/2019 • Port Hudson State Historic Site,
Jackson - Firepower!, 1 p.m. - 2 p.m. Demonstrations
of Civil War era weapons. The program will start with a
cannon demonstration followed by small arms;
muskets, rifles, carbines, and pistols concluding with
firing of the park's always popular 42-pounder cannon.
For more information call 888.677.3400 toll free or
225.654.3775 locally.

First Saturday of the Month • 7/7/2019 to 12/7/2019
• Port Hudson State Historic Site, Jackson - First
Saturday of the Month Hike, 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. A guided
hike of Commissary Hill. Explore the stories of Hot Hill,
Lower Commissary, and Upper Commissary "The High
Ground" of the Confederate defenses of the men from
Arkansas, Tennessee, and Mississippi. It is
recommended that participants wear closed-toe shoes,
bring drinking water, bug repellent, and a hat. For
more information call 888.677.3400 toll free or
225.654.3775 locally.

7/20/2019 • Port Hudson State Historic Site,
Jackson - Summer Dialogue:After the Most Desperate
Struggle, 11 a.m. An indoor presentation to discuss
the Confederate attack against Fort Butler and the
unexpected defense by the Northerners in soldier and
sailor blue. For more information call 888.677.3400 toll
free or 225.654.3775 locally.

7/13/2019 • Mansfield State Historic Site,
Mansfield - Civil War Medicine, 2 p.m. A Civil War
surgeon's field kit will be on display and the
instruments contained in it will be used to
illustrate how battlefield wounds were treated.
Also discussed will be the various diseases and
illnesses contracted by soldiers in the field and
how these were addressed by doctors. For more
information call 888.677.6267 toll free or
318.872.1474 locally.

7/20/2019 to 7/21/2019 • Mansfield State Historic Site, Mansfield - Civil War Soldier Encampment, Saturday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.; Sunday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m A Civil War encampment, complete with authentically uniformed soldiers and equipment. Members of the Trans-Mississippi Hellcats reenactment unit will be portraying Civil War soldiers in a typical encampment setting, which will include camp life, drill, musket-firing demonstrations and daily soldier life activities. For more information call 888.677.6267 toll free or 318.872.1474 locally.

