

**Official Newsletter of the BG Micah Jenkins
SCV Camp 1569**

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February 2009



Honoring the Gray

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Commander's Comments

At the beginning of the new year I hope this finds all of our members and their families in good health.

We lost one of our members last month, James Glenn. I pray his family will know that he is now in a better place.

Please inform me of any member that has illness or a death in their family. Call anyone you know that has missed our meetings and try to recruit new members when you have the opportunity. Invite friends to our meetings as they will probably enjoy the speakers we have each month.

Hope to see all members February 10th at the Mayflower.

"Recruit, Retain, and Relate"

Confederately yours,
Jim Floyd - Commander

Honoring the Gray
Editor
Jerry Brown
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Camp Meeting February 10th 2009

Regularly scheduled meeting at the Mayflower Seafood Restaurant @ 7:00 PM.

Come early join the fellowship and eat.

Our guess speaker will be Tommy Rollings. His topic is "What's All This Stuff" uniform and equipment used by the South Carolina soldier during the war.

Chaplain's Comments
February 2009 Compatriot Warfare

The apostle Paul says in Ephesians 6, "Finally be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might, put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand the evil day..gird yourself with **truth**...put on **righteousness**..taking **faith**..take **salvation**..take the **Spirit**..take the **Word of God**...pray at all times..keep **alert** constantly..make **supplication** for..all..." It is so interesting that Col Brig. Gen Micah Jenkins was with his leaders Adj-Gen Cato Seabrook and Col. Thomas Glover studying these very words the day of Second Manassas. Jenkins was explaining to Asbury Coward, who rode up and dismounted his horse, that he was commenting on Paul's soldier spirit to his leaders. At the end he said, "God grant at the end to both God and country, each one of us may be able to say with Paul the apostle 'I have fought a good fight, I have kept the faith'. When night fell upon that faithful field, Glover and five other South Carolinians were dead, Col Seabrook was slowly dying in the field hospital, and C.B.G. Micah Jenkins was having his sever wound dressed by surgeons. C.B.G. Jenkins had a simple, unquestioning faith in God's promises. He always had a copy of the Bible handy. At age twenty he had



committed his life to Christ in York, South Carolina at the Episcopal Church and remained a faithful servant until his death from friendly fire at the Wilderness.

As camp members let's make the same commitments to Christ and hold forth a life that exemplifies Christ and His faithful servant, C.B.G. Micah Jenkins. ***Our battles are not political but spiritual as C.B.G. Micah Jenkins shows!!***

Hope to see you in our camp meeting Tuesday evening.

Til' The Trumpet Sounds,
Dan Sipe

Prayer Closet: January 2009

- Pray for Lindsay Waldrop recovering from hip surgery.
- Pray for the family of James Glenn.
- Please continue to pray for our President & government leaders. The SCV, national, division and brigade.
- Pray for our children as they return to school.
- Pray for our service men and women protecting our freedom.
- Pray for the families of our troops.



Romans 1:9

"For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of His Son, That without ceasing I make mentions of you always in my prayers."



James Longstreet “Old Pete” (January 8, 1821 – January 2, 1904)

Born in Edgefield District, South Carolina, January 8, 1821, the son of a farmer, Longstreet spent his early years in Augusta, Georgia. On the death of his father he went with his mother to Somerville, Alabama. He entered West Point from Alabama, graduated in 1842, and was wounded at Chapultepec in Mexico during the Mexican-American War (1846-1848). With two brevets and the staff rank of major he resigned his commission on June 1, 1861, and joined the Confederacy.

Commanding a brigade, he fought at Blackburn's Ford and 1st Manassas before moving up to divisional leadership for the Peninsula Campaign. There he saw further action at Yorktown, Williamsburg, Seven Pines, and the Seven Days. In the final days of the latter he also directed A.P. Hill's men. Commanding what was variously styled a "wing," "command," or "corps," the latter not being legally recognized until October 1862, he proved to be a capable subordinate to Lee at 2nd Manassas, where he delivered a crushing attack, South Mountain, Sharpsburg, and Fredericksburg.

By now promoted to be the Confederacy's senior lieutenant general, he led an independent expedition into southeastern Virginia where he displayed a lack of ability on his own. Rejoining Lee, he opposed attacking at Gettysburg in favor of maneuvering Meade out of his position. Longstreet, who had come to believe in the

strategic offense and the tactical defense, was proven right when the Confederate attacks on the second and third days were repulsed. Detached to reinforce Bragg in Georgia, he commanded a wing of the army on the second day at Chickamauga. In the dispute over the follow-up of the victory he was critical of Bragg and was soon detached to operate in East Tennessee. Here again he showed an incapacity for independent operations, especially in the siege of Knoxville. Rejoining Lee at the Wilderness, he was severely wounded, in the confusion, by Confederate troops. He resumed command in October during the Petersburg operations and commanded on the north side of the James. Lee's "Old War Horse" remained with his chief through the surrender at Appomattox.

After the war he befriended U.S. Grant and served as Grant's minister to Turkey. He also served as commissioner of Pacific Railroads under McKinley and Roosevelt, from 1897 to 1904. James Longstreet made three mistakes that have denied him his deserved place in Southern posterity: He argued with Lee at Gettysburg, in which he was right, and later joined the Republican Party. Criticized by many former Confederates, he struck back with his book, *From Manassas to Appomattox*. He outlived most of his high-ranking postwar detractors. He died on January 2, 1904, the last of the high command of the Confederacy. He is buried in Gainsville Georgia.

The Battle of Rivers Bridge February 2-3, 1865

Gen. Sherman's march through South Carolina began in late December 1864. By March 9, 1865, his troops had passed out of the state into North Carolina - leaving behind a path of total destruction 100 miles wide and extending the entire length of the state.

Advancing into South Carolina in the waning days of the Civil War, General William Tecumseh Sherman's Union troops clashed with Major General Lafayette McLaws Confederate soldiers defending the Salkehatchie River at a place called Rivers Bridge. The greatly outnumbered Southerners held the crossing for two days before they were forced out of their breastworks. The battle of Rivers Bridge was the only major resistance encountered by Sherman's army on its destructive march through the state.

The campaign began in late November 1864 even before the surrender of Savannah, but due to the strong resistance by Gen. Wheeler's Cavalry, Sherman's first troops did not cross the river into South Carolina until January 15, 1865. The winter of 1865 was especially cold - one of the coldest ever on record - and wet - It rained, sleeted, or snowed practically the entire months of January and February. Charleston even had 2 inches of snow, which stayed, on the ground for over a

week. The rain and snow from above, coupled with the low country swamps made it a "very cold day in hell" for Sherman's troops. Men climbed trees to sleep or stood knee deep in freezing water all night. Many of the men were found dead from the cold in the mornings.

"Again at the hospital I see the horrid results of every battle. Men mutilated in every shape conceivable, groaning, begging for assistance and gasping in death. Many of our wounded will have to lie all night in that horrid swamp, it being impossible to find them and carry them out on the narrow footbridge that has been made. Many have had their heads propped up out of the water where they lay to keep them from drowning." - Lt. Col. Oscar L. Jackson, 63rd Ohio Infantry, after the Battle of Rivers Bridge.

In 1876 the Confederates killed at Rivers Bridge were reburied in a common grave not far from the battlefield, beginning a tradition of memorializing the battle that comes to this day. That tradition led to the preservation of the battle site as a South Carolina state park.

Portions of the movie, "Battle of Aiken" were filmed at the annual Reenactments of River's Bridge and Broxton Bridge.



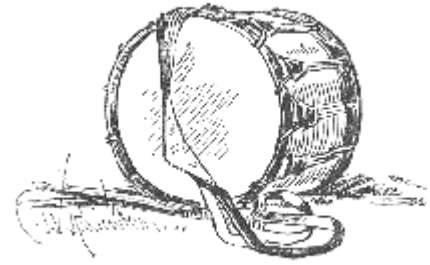
Reenactors at Broxton Bridge

Stop the Wilderness Walmart

Walmart is planning on building a 141,000 sq. ft. Superstore next to the Wilderness and Chancellorsville Battlefields. If you want to help preserve the site Micah Jenkins was killed please contact the Civil War Preservation Trust at www.civilwar.org.

Do you have an article for *Honoring the Gray?*

If so, please send to Jerry Brown at boston96@comporium.net or call Jerry at 803-327-2834. Articles may be funny or serious as long as it reflects the ideals and purpose of the SCV. Please limit the size of articles to one page for mailing purposes.



Roll of Honor

This month we honor Jack Morton's Confederate ancestor Pvt. A.O. Pittman of Co. A 17th South Carolina Volunteer Infantry

Residence Chester County SC; 17 years old
Enlisted as a Private (date unknown)

He also had service in:
"A" Co. SC 17th Infantry

Engagements:

John's Island SC
Malvern Hill VA
Rappahannock Station VA
2nd Manassas VA
South Mountain MD
Sharpsburg MD
Kinston/Goldsborough Bridge NC
Jackson Siege MS
Charleston SC
Savannah GA

Bermuda Hundred VA
Ware Bottom Church VA
Petersburg Siege VA
Battle of the Crater VA
Ft. Stedman VA
Lewis Farm VA
Gravelly Run VA
Five Forks VA
Saylor's Creek VA
Appomattox Court House VA

History of the 17th South Carolina Volunteer Infantry:

The SC 17th Infantry Regiment was formed early in 1862 with men from Barnwell, York, Chester, Lancaster, and Fairfield counties. It served on the coast of South Carolina, then moved to Virginia. During the war it was brigaded under Generals Evans, Elliott, and Wallace. The regiment saw action at Second Manassas, South Mountain, and Sharpsburg, and later fought at Kinston, North Carolina, and Jackson, Mississippi. Returning to South Carolina, the 17th became part of the garrison at Fort Sumter and during the spring of 1864 rejoined the Army of Northern Virginia. It continued the fight in the Petersburg trenches north and south of the James River and in various conflicts around Appomattox. This unit lost sixty-two percent of the 304 at Second Manassas, forty-three percent of the 141 at South Mountain, and thirty-two percent of the 59 at Sharpsburg. In September, 1863, it contained 324 effectives, and there were 135 casualties at the Petersburg mine explosion. Many were disabled at Saylor's Creek and 9 officers and 110 men surrendered in April, 1865.

Sources:

- Index to Compiled Confederate Military Service Records
(c) Historical Data Systems, Inc. @ www.civilwardata.com
The War for Southern Independence-South Carolina
<http://www.researchonline.net/sccw/unit149.htm>



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The South Was Right

"The secession of a state from the Union depends on the will of the people of such state. The people alone as we have already seen, hold the power to alter their constitution. The constitution of the United States is to a certain extent incorporated into the constitutions of the several states by the act of the people. The state legislatures have only to perform certain organical operations in respect to it. To withdraw from the Union comes not within the general scope of their delegated authority. There must be an express provision to that effect inserted in the state constitution. This is not at present the case with any of them, and it would perhaps be impolitic to confide it to them.

The people of the state may have some reason to complain in respect to acts of the general government, they may in such cases invest some of their own officers with the power of negotiation, and may declare an absolute secession in case of their failure. Still, however, the secession must in such case be distinctly and peremptorily declared to take place on that event, and in such case-as in the case of unconditional secession, the previous ligament with the Union, would be legitimately and fairly destroyed. But in either case, the people is the only moving power.

A View Of The Constitution by William Rawle, LL.D 1825
Secession As Taught At West Point