

The



# Rebelle



**Sons of Confederate Veterans**

Jefferson Davis Camp No. 635

\* Volume XLI \* \* PO Box 16945, Jackson, MS 39236 \* \* June 2012 \* \* Number 6\*



**June Meeting  
Grady Howell:  
New Civil War Novel**

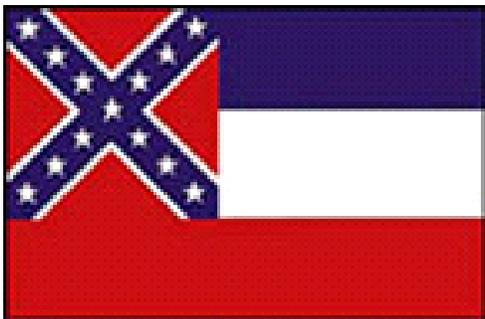
The program for the June meeting will be presented by Grady Howell who will talk on his new novel set in the WBTS which features Colonel McClung.

Everyone come and bring guests, especially new recruits!

**When: June 26, 2012. 5:00pm.**

**Where: Municipal Art Gallery, State St., Jackson.**

*See you there!*



**I** know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot.

**S**o then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.

**B**ecause thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:

**I** counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.

...  
**B**ehold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

*Revelation 3:15-18,20  
(KJV)*

## *May Meeting Report*

**Brig. Gen. Samuel  
Wragg Ferguson**

The May meeting program was presented by Compatriot Peter Miazza who spoke on the life of BG Samuel Wragg Ferguson who spent the bulk of his lifetime in Mississippi.

Compatriot Dan Duggan presented "This Day (May 22) in the War Between the State."

The meeting was attended by two employees of Mississippi Public Broadcasting who are working up a multi-part television program in conjunction with the Civil War Sesquicentennial. The program will deal primarily with the war in Mississippi and with how it affected Mississippians fighting in other states. They need period photos especially Confederate images, and examples of war time artifacts. Anyone with such items that is willing to share can contact a camp officer and get the contact info for the MPB personnel.

The camp gave a "long time no see" greeting to Rick Richardson and Jerry Brooks. They provided music for the camp's enjoyment.

## Rebel Ramblings

by Robert Murphree

By now the readers of this column know your humble correspondent will never let a slight to the boys in gray go unanswered. The other day the Wall Street Journal had an article about the origin of the song "Taps." In the article the writer remarked that during July, 1862 the Army of the Potomac was "resting at Harrison's Landing, Va., after its grueling victory in the Seven Days Battles." In no time flat I had an "letter to the editor" on the way pointing out that the "grueling victory" consisted of being run by Marse Robert from Richmond back to the James River, and that McClellan "rested" so long Gen. Lee had time to go teach Pope some manners. That ought to show 'em.

Two weeks ago I was in Franklin, Tenn. going over the battlefield where in November, 1864 Hood started the destruction of his army that he completed a short time later at Nashville. The campaign was doomed from the start since a couple of months earlier Private Thomas Martin Murphree, the pride of the 4th Mississippi, had gotten tied up with the business end of a mule and ended up with a broken leg. More than once I have had reason to reflect that but for the kick of a contrary mule old RSM might never have seen the light of day.

Anyhow, I toured the Carter House with a young guide who knew as much about the war as I do about nuclear engineering. Ours was a small group, consisting of three people from Illinois and two from Ohio, and me. Some of the questions from the others indicated little familiarity with the battle (Example: "Did Confederates or Union men fight in this house?") One of my new friends from Ohio asked the guide why, if the Confederates controlled the battlefield later, after the fighting, the Confederates didn't burn down the house since the Yankees had used it during the battle. The guide told the man that generally the armies didn't bother civilian property, though the Union forces would destroy forts and other "military buildings." Well, you know me enough to know I couldn't swallow that wholesale, and when the guide went to see when we could get in the basement I filled my friend from the Buckeye State up but good on how gentle and caring the Yanks were with our property. I only declared a "cease fire" when I saw the "why me" look begin to creep into the poor man's eyes.

In five hours of fighting we suffered over 7,000 casualties. All because Hood wouldn't bother to listen to Forrest's offer to take a division of infantry and his cavalry and flank the Yankees out of their earthworks in two hours. In Lee's Lieutenants, the great work that Douglas Southall Freeman produced, the author argues that by late 1864 the lead-

*(Continued on page 3)*

Send address corrections to:  
**Wayne B. Anderson, Mailing Coordinator**  
**Jefferson Davis Camp #635, SCV**  
**1737 Bridgers Drive**  
**Raymond, MS 39154**

Visit the camp web site at: <http://www.scvcamp635.org>  
**A new web design program has been obtained that will run on newer computers so the web site has recently been updated for the first time in about a year.**



## Calendar

**June 26, 2012**

Regular meeting of Camp 635 at the Municipal Art Gallery

**July 24, 2012**

Regular meeting of Camp 635 at the Municipal Art Gallery

**August 28, 2012**

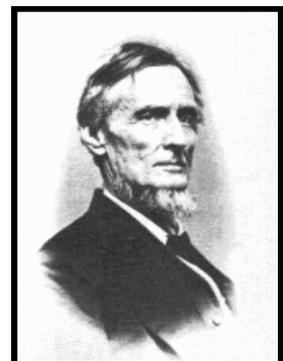
Regular meeting of Camp 635 at the Municipal Art Gallery

**September 25, 2012**

Regular meeting of Camp 635 at the Municipal Art Gallery

**October 23, 2012**

Regular meeting of Camp 635 at the Municipal Art Gallery



# Chaplain's Dispatch

Dear Friends and Compatriots:

Dr. Billy Graham tells of having a friend who during the Depression lost his job, a fortune, a wife, and a home. But he tenaciously held to his faith—the only thing he had left. One day he stopped to watch some men doing stonework on a large church. One of them was chiseling a triangular piece of stone. "What are you going to do with that?" asked my friend. The workman said, "See that little opening away up there near the spire? Well, I'm shaping this down here, so it will fit in up there."

"Tears filled the eyes of my friend as he walked away, for it seemed that God had spoken through the workman to explain his ordeal through which he was passing, 'I'm shaping you down here, so you'll fit in up there.'"

Is there a similarity between the life of Dr. Graham's friend and your life or the life of someone close to you?

Sincerely,  
Hubert W. Miazza  
Chaplain

**A Belated  
HAPPY BIRTHDAY  
To  
The Confederacy's only President  
Jefferson Finis Davis**

*(Continued from page 2)*

ership pool that Lee--and the other Confederate leaders--had to chose from was thin indeed. My nomination for Exhibit A to that argument would be John Bell Hood. Surely there was some middle ground available to President Davis between Johnson, who wouldn't ever fight, and Hood, who insisted on fighting constantly despite odds and circumstances.

## Why You Should Reject the "Battle Hymn of the Republic"

Our columns were a bit short this month, leaving this space to fill. I thought I'd reprise a item published two or three times before but deserving of repetition.

Each Independence Day, churches celebrate American independence in Sunday services. Frequently, the "Battle Hymn of the Republic" (sometimes known by its first line, "Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory") is on the congregational hymn list. For reasons you'll read below, this song should be rejected by true Christian churches and by those who respect their Southern and Confederate heritage.

About ten years ago, James C. Murray Jr., of Augusta, GA responded to a news article and his letter was published on the internet. Here are his comments which explain the anti-Christian, anti-Southern nature of the "Battle Hymn" in a concise fashion.

*To understand what the song is about, learn about the character of its author. While the song uses religious and Christian elements, Julia Howe was no Christian and she openly rejected the fundamental beliefs of Christianity.*

*Her biography by Deborah Clifford clearly reveals what she believed. Ms. Howe did not believe that Jesus was the son of God. "Christ was merely a great teacher with no higher claim to pre-eminence in wisdom, goodness and power than many other men."*

*She did not believe in hell or that Christianity was the only pathway to God. "Christianity was but only one of God's plans for bringing all of humanity to a state of ultimate perfection."*

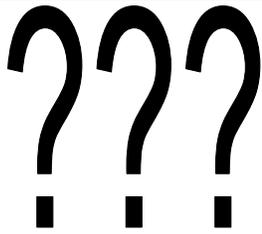
*Ms. Howe believed that man was characteristically good, and he could redeem himself by his own merits without any help from the savior.*

*The fact that she hated Southerners is well documented as is her hero worship of John Brown, the Kansas murderer and terrorist. In short, she may have been religious, but hardly a Christian in the sense we understand the term.*

*I'm sorry, religious words do not make a godly song, even if it is in your hymnal with the proper capital letters. This anthem rallied (Gen. William T.) Sherman and his like to kill Southerners.*

I think it was past member Tom Waggoner who remarked that the tune to "Battle Hymn" (and to "John Brown's Body") was taken from an old Scottish Presbyterian hymn. So if you hear it played instrumentally without lyrics, just think of it as an old Christian hymn. If someone starts in with the lyrics, reject it.

—Editor



**Trivia Question:**

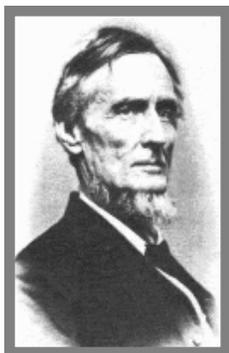
This month's question asks:

Who was the only officer in the Confederate Army who spoke Mandarin Chinese? (Suggested by Robert Murphree)

May's question asked: What was a "havelock"?

The answer:

A flap of linen or cotton sewn inside the back of a kepi or forage cap to be used to protect the neck from the sun when folded down.



**Jefferson Davis Camp #635  
Sons of Confederate Veterans  
PO Box 16945  
Jackson, MS 39236-6945**

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# Commander's Column

Compatriots,

In history there are two examples of democracy. The Grecian Form and the Pirate Form. Yes, the pirates were very democratic. One person, one vote—and they voted a lot. They voted on where to sail, who would be the "prize," how to split the take, and, perhaps the most important of all, who would be installed as their "leadership." A leader could be voted in or out as decided by the numbers. 51% was the magic number. It decided everything, and it became the "law", the "pirate law." Some would even say, "There is honor among pirates," and others, "You have got to be kidding." Whichever way you look at it, pirates took democracy seriously—nearly as seriously as we in the United States do. After all, politics is a serious business, and we all know that 51% takes all. Not only that, but recently the common "pirates" here in the U.S. have discovered something. They can vote themselves in, and then they can vote to take over. Pretty amazing the importance of that 1% majority in the vote and how it tallies. Our forefathers had some definite ideas about democracy, but the "Bottom Line" will still prevail.

**Bottom Line:** Democracy as we know it in the United States of America will be lost when the "pirates" vote themselves a raise.

2012 will be the year to see if what our forefathers made into a reality will totally disappear.

Deo Vindice,

Mike Rodgers, Commander  
Forward the Colors

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