



THE TELEGRAPH KEY

THE OFFICIAL DISPATCH FOR THE MAJOR THOMAS J. KEY CAMP #1920
KANSAS DIVISION, SCV • JOHNSON COUNTY, KANSAS

Volume 25, No. 2

February 2025

Major Thomas J Key Camp Officers



Commander - *Rick McPherson*



1st Lt. Commander- *Dan Peterson*



2nd Lt. Commander- *Larry Sumner*



Adjutant- *Walt Schley*



Chaplin - *Walt McKenzie*

Greetings to all compatriots and friends of the
Major Thomas J Key Camp #1920

There was no February Meeting due to the
Annual Lee-Jackson Banquet.

January was the 255th regular meeting of the
Major Thomas J Key Camp #1920



Due to the **Annual Lee-Jackson Banquet**, there was no February Key Camp meeting. Our next meeting will be **Thursday March 6th** beginning at 6:30 pm. Please come early and enjoy some BBQ and camaraderie.

Our previously announced speaker has had to cancel due to a health concern so **Compatriot Lane Smith** will be presenting "Normandy", based on his trip there this past year.

In addition, as March is Confederate Flag Month, **Past Commander Matt Sewell** will give a presentation of the Flags of the Confederacy.

Also, **Past Commander Walt Schley** will present the SCV War Service Medal to **Compatriot Josh Young**.

We look forward to seeing y'all on March 6th

Rick McPherson, Commander

News from the Meeting



The Key Camp has been contacted by a SCV member from Texas to assist in the placement of a relative's Confederate headstone. It turns out that soldier is also in **Cmdr McPherson's** lineage. The Key Camp will be planning a dedication service in the near future.



The Key Camp has received two membership applications. **Larry Meacham** and **Shayne Henre**, have submitted a membership application and are expected to join us at the March meeting.



Pre-Registration for the **Kansas SCV Division Reunion** is now open. A flyer and a registration form is available within this newsletter.
Division Commander Rener will appreciate all Key Camp members' attendance.



The **Mine Creek Battlefield Park Day** will be held Saturday April 26th. Key Camp Volunteers are needed to help spruce up our Confederate monument area as well as at the Visitors Center. We will meet there at 9:00 am.



Those interested in ordering a Key Camp polo shirt, we will have an order sheet available at our March 6th meeting. The shirts will be approximately \$35.00



A calendar for 2025 Key Camp activities is included in this newsletter. Please print it out or make note of dates of interest and participation.



Congratulations to **Past Commander Walt Schley**, (and current Key Camp Adjutant) who has assumed the duties of Kansas Division Adjutant. Thank you Walt for taking on this position.



The Key Camp has been approved to present the **"Granddaughter of a Confederate Veteran"** medal to Linda Curtis of Topeka. This award is due to the efforts of **Past Commander Walt Schley** and **Monet Keitzman** of the Ladies of the Plains UDC Chapter.



The guest speaker for the Kansas Division Reunion will be Past Commander of the Franklin Camp and our friend, **Bill Stoker**.



If you have not joined the **Major Thomas J Key Camp #1920 Facebook Page** as yet, by joining you will be able to see current postings of pictures and notices long before the publishing of the newsletter. You'll also find every copy of our previous newsletters in the files section.



Key Camp Web Page hits for last 30 days +31, Year to date +400



KANSAS DIVISION SCV REUNION

SATURDAY JUNE 21 8:30 AM – 2:30 PM

**KS MUSEUM OF THE NATIONAL GUARD
125 SE AIRPORT DR., TOPEKA, KS**

OUR GUEST SPEAKER: MR BILL STOKER



Mr. Bill Stoker

Bill Stoker is a Past Commander of the Franklin Camp, Sons of Union Veterans and a member of the Key Camp, Sons of Confederate Veterans. He has been a student of the Civil War since he was a child and has shared his love for its history through various speaking engagements and has a gift for telling "stories" that are sure to both entertain you and elicit strong emotions.



**Kansas Division
Commander Lawson
Rener invites you to the
26th Annual Kansas
Division Sons of
Confederate Veterans
Reunion**

**Lunch and refreshments will
be served**

**Registrations are \$30 SCV
members & \$20 guests**

**Registration 8:30 am
Meeting begins at 9:00 am**

**Make checks payable:
"Kansas Division SCV"**

SEND CHECKS TO:

**Walt Schley
13760 NW 74th Street
Parkville, MO 64152**

Deadline June 14, 2025

Sons of Confederate Veterans
26th Annual Kansas Division Convention/Reunion

Saturday June 21, 2025
8:30 am to 2:30 pm

Museum of the Kansas National Guard
125 SE Airport Dr. Topeka, KS

Registration Form

Pre-Registration is strongly encouraged for adequate planning

Name: _____ Title/Position _____
SCV Camp Name: _____
Personal Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip _____
Cell Phone: _____ Email: _____
Guest Name/s for Badges _____

Registration includes: Reunion on-site registration/checking at 8:30 am until 9:00 am at the Museum of the Kansas National Guard Meeting Room. Meeting convenes at 9:00 am to approx 2:30 pm on Saturday June 21, refreshments and lunch will be provided.

Confederate Ancestor Memorials: Have your Confederate ancestor's name/s listed in the reunion booklet (up to five names). These must be submitted by June 1st. Please include name, relationship, rank, company and unit on a separate sheet of paper.

Deadline to mail in Registration Form is Saturday June 14th, 2025

Reunion Registration is \$30 per SCV Member, \$20 per guest.

_____ SCV Members @ \$30 ea. = \$ _____
_____ Guests @ \$20 ea. = \$ _____
_____ Donation to KS Division \$ _____

There will be a Silent Auction Fundraiser during the Saturday meeting
Please bring items to donate to the auction
Questions? Call Adjutant Walt Schley @ 816-377-9438

Make Check Payable to: "Kansas Division SCV"

Mail Registration Form with payment to:
Kansas Division Adjutant, Walt Schley 13760 NW 74th Street, Parkville, MO 64152

For those interested in attending the SCV National Reunion in Houston, Texas



Sons of Confederate Veterans
130th Annual National Reunion
 Houston, Texas July 17-20, 2024



Name: _____

Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

SCV Camp Name: _____ Number _____ Division _____

Current Rank, Title, or Position: _____

Spouse Name (For Name Badge): _____

*Note: Please only provide your spouse's name if they are attending a Reunion Meal or Tour. Spouses **DO NOT** need to pay for registration.*

Date	Time	Event	Price	Qty	Total
SCV REUNION EARLY BIRD	REGISTRATION	ALL SCV MEMBERS MUST REGISTER (through May 31, 2025) includes medal & program	\$75.00		
SCV REGULAR REUNION	REGISTRATION	ALL SCV MEMBERS MUST REGISTER (June 1, 2025 through July 7, 2025) medal, program	\$85.00		
SCV REUNION	REGISTRATION	SCV MEMBERS REGISTERING AFTER JULY 7, 2025 (No Guarantee of medal, program, no meals)	\$100.00		
Thursday, July 17, 2025	12:00 PM	Heritage Defense Luncheon	\$48.00		
Thursday, July 17, 2025	1:45 PM	Battle of Galveston Tour/Dinner/Cemetery Tour	\$100.00		
Friday, July 18, 2025	7:30 AM	Chaplain's Breakfast	\$38.00		
Friday, July 18, 2025	12:00 PM	SCV Awards Luncheon	\$48.00		
Friday, July 18, 2025	1:45 PM	Battle of San Jacinto Tour	\$40.00		
Saturday, July 19, 2025	7:30 AM	Mechanized Cavalry Breakfast	\$38.00		
Saturday, July 19, 2025	8:30 AM	Ladies Tour to Galveston - Moody Mansion/ Lunch/ Museum	\$70.00		
Saturday, July 19, 2025	6:00 PM	Commander in Chief Reception	\$0.00		
Saturday, July 19, 2025	7:00 PM	SCV Banquet/Debutante Presentation/Grand Ball <i>Note: Dress Attire is Coat & Tie or Period Uniform</i>	\$80.00		
Ancestor Memorials ~ Each		<i>You Must Submit Ancestor Info on Separate Form</i>	\$10.00		
Extra Reunion Medal		Note: 1 Medal is included with your registration, order extras here	\$25.00		
Reunion Medal		Limited Edition - Numbered 1-100. Note: This medal is NOT included with registration.	\$100		
		FINAL TOTAL - Registration, Tours, Extra Medals			

Please Make Checks Payable to: "Texas Division SCV"
 Mail the Form & Check to **733 W 3rd Ave. Corsicana, TX 75110**

If I were to Die

Dying in battle and being laid to rest in an unmarked grave was a common fear of Civil War soldiers. A recent addition to the collection at Monocacy National Battlefield demonstrates one of the ways soldiers sought to ensure their loved ones would know their fate. The Monocacy battlefield in Maryland has a rare ID tag from a wounded Union soldier in the Civil War.

- The ID tag is from a soldier in the 138th Pennsylvania Infantry, who was wounded at the Battle of Monocacy on July 9, 1864.
- The soldier, Samuel Weigel, survived the wound and the war, and died in 1922.



- The tag is a metal disk that was customized to provide information about Weigel.
- The tag was donated to the museum by Matt Borders, who found it on eBay while searching for items related to the 138th Pennsylvania Infantry.
- The tag helps the park explore the cost of the battle, the efforts of soldiers to ensure their loved ones knew their fate and medical care during the Civil War.
- Before the United States military provided standard issue identification tags – often called “dog tags,” -- soldiers had to find their own way to ensure their bodies could be identified.

The Battle of Monocacy fought on July 8th, 1864 is considered the battle that saved Washington. Although a Confederate victory, it delayed the Southern Troops’ advance on Washington so that enough Union soldiers could be put in place to defend the Capital City.



2025 Key Camp Calendar

2025 SCV Key Camp Calendar

February

No Camp Meeting This month

March

6 Camp Meeting 6:30 Lane Smith, Normandy
SCV Shirt order form will be available

23 **Confederate Flag Day**

April

Confederate History Month

3 Camp Meeting 6:30 Teresa Miller, Linn Country Historical Society

26 **Mine Creek Battlefield Clean-up** 9:00 - 3:00
Fort Scott Encampment

26 **Confederate Memorial Day**

May

1 Camp Meeting 6:30 Speaker Dan Cudnek, Author

17 **Lone Jack Battlefield - Missouri History Day** w/8th Graders

June

1 **Confederate Memorial Day** - Higginsville, Missouri

5 Camp Meeting 6:30 Speaker Chris Harris, Liberty Arsenal

7 Southern Women's Historical Association - Fayetteville, Arkansas

21 **Kansas Division SCV Reunion** - Topeka, Kansas

July

10 Camp Meeting 6:30 Speaker Parker Van Sickle

13 **Camden Point Memorial Service** - Camden Point, Missouri 4:30pm

16-20 **SCV National Reunion** - Houston, TX

August

1 Annual Camp Dues

7 Camp Meeting 6:30 Speaker Monet Keitzman

September

4 Camp Meeting 6:30 Speaker Bill Stoker

13 **3rd Annual Spike Speicher Picnic**

20 **Mine Creek Heritage Day**

October

2 Camp Meeting 6:30 Speaker Todd Stetner

- **Shawnee Indian Mission Fall Festival**

November

6 Camp Meeting 6:30 Speaker Dick Titterington

December

4 Camp Meeting 6:30 Speaker KS Division Commander Lawson Renner

14 **Wreaths Across America**, Ft Leavenworth, Higginsville

***Note July Camp Meeting will be the 2nd Thursday due to July 4th**



Major Thomas J. Key Camp

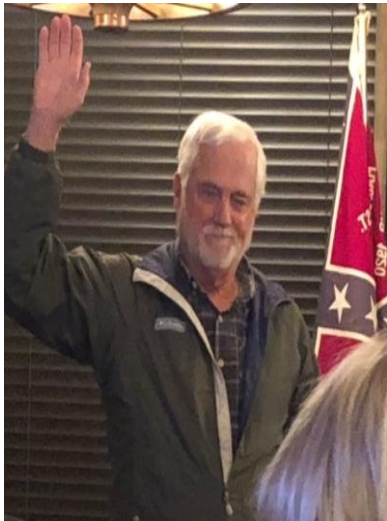
#1920

Johnson County, Kansas
Camp Activities



*****NEXT CAMP MEETING*****

The Key Camp will meet on Thursday March 6th at Zarda's Bar B-Q on the southwest corner of 87th and Quivira in Lenexa, Kansas with the official meeting starting at 6:30 p.m. You are invited to arrive early (6:00 p.m.) for BBQ, conversation, and camaraderie.

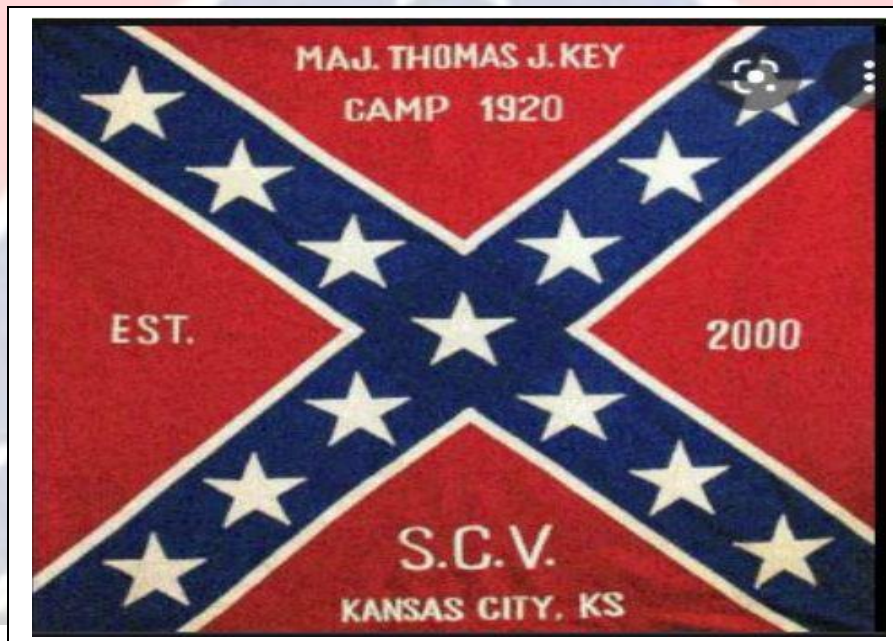


Our March guest speaker will be **Compatriot Lane Smith**

Lane has served as the President of the Civil War Round Table and various positions within the Key Camp but is perhaps best known for his portrayal as General Robert E Lee as well as a trial lawyer in the Trial of Jefferson Davis

Lane grew up in Ridgeway, Missouri and attended NW Missouri State University, graduating in 1966. He retired from the insurance industry in 2006.

A Veteran of the US Army, lane has been very active in both the SCV and with the SUV. Lane is one whom we affectionately refer to as a "SOB".



As always, we encourage your participation in your Camp's activities.

*Email **Commander McPherson** for more information on any events you are interested in assisting.*

Key Camp Web Page: www.majorthomasjkeycamp1920.com

Email: Commander McPherson @ mcphersonsales@sbcglobal.net

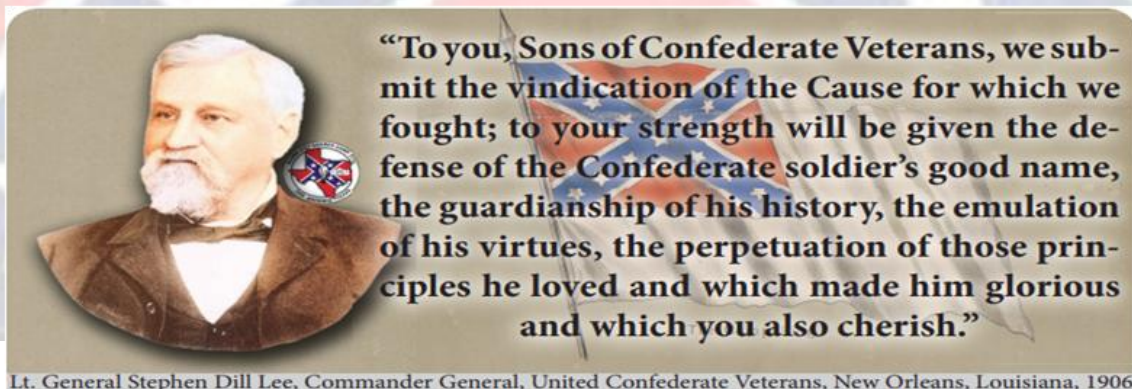
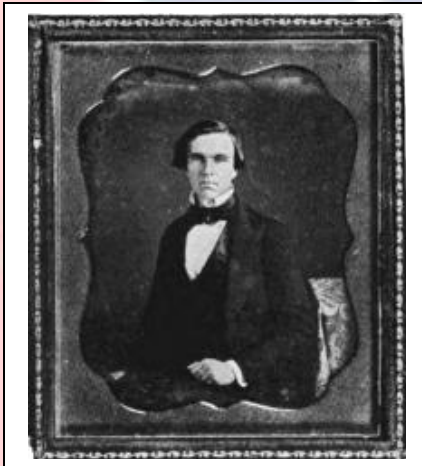
**Key Camp Facebook Page:
Major Thomas J Key Camp #1920**

National SCV Web Page

www.scv.org

The Telegraph Key

The Telegraph Key is a newsletter published for The Major Thomas J Key Camp #1920 of the Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCV). The SCV is a non-profit organization with a patriotism historical and genealogical orientation and is not affiliated with any other organization. Opinions in this newsletter reflect the views of the writers and contributors and are not necessarily a statement of the views of the SCV, the Kansas Division, the Kansas Brigades, nor any other camp. Comments and articles are solicited.



Lt. General Stephen Dill Lee, Commander General, United Confederate Veterans, New Orleans, Louisiana, 1906

*Individuals attending events hosted by the **Major Thomas J Key Camp #1920** and the **Sons of Confederate Veterans**, by virtue of their attendance, agree to the usage of their likeness in the any Camp Newsletter, any **SCV/Camp** website and/or on any **SCV/Camp** Social Media outlet, or any other **SCV/Camp** material.*

Follow us on Facebook - Enter - Major Thomas J Key Camp