



THE TELEGRAPH KEY

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

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January 2024

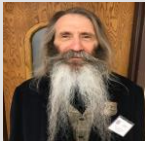
Major Thomas J Key Camp Officers



Commander - *Walt Schley*



1st Lt. Commander- *Dan Peterson*



2nd Lt. Commander- *Paul Allen*



Adjutant- *Lawson Renner*



Chaplin - *Walt McKenzie*



Communications- *Rick McPherson*

THE CONFEDERATE'S CORNER

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

The January 2024 meeting was attended by 15 members.
and 3 guests. This was the 244th regular meeting of the
Major Thomas J Key Camp #1920



Lynn Langemeier put on a great presentation on Pittsburg Landing, aka Shiloh which included numerous graphics and photos. But most impressive was Lynn's note free recall of names, dates, and events. Lynn received numerous congratulations from attendees for his presentation.

News from the Meeting



Commander Walt Schley opened the meeting with the opening prayer by **Chaplain Walt McKenzie**, followed by the *Pledge of Allegiance* led by **Lt. Cmdr Dan Peterson**, *The Flag Salute* by **2nd Lt. Paul Allen** and *The Charge* led by **Adjutant Lawson Rener**.



The **Key Camp** welcomed 15 members and 3 guests to our January meeting.



Adjutant Lawson Rener gave the Camp Financial Report reporting a balance of \$7646.15 prior to expenses and auction income from the upcoming Lee-Jackson.



Those being uplifted from their health issues were **Susan Peterson**, **Steve Crawford**, and **Mrs. John Atherton**.



The Camp remembered the son of **Compatriot Keith Phillip**, **Benjamin Carsen Phillips**, who passed away in December. An application has been submitted by Keith to add Ben as a member of the SCV and Key Camp.



Compatriot McPherson brought up the renewal cost of \$355.75 for the Key Camp's web page (www.majorthomasjkeycamp1920.com) that is scheduled to be renewed in March 2024. **Compatriot Peterson** motioned that it be extended for another year, 2nd by **Compatriot McKenzie**. The motion passed by voice.



Brief discussions on the upcoming 20th anniversary of the Mine Creek Monument and next year's **25th Anniversary** of the camp were mentioned and tabled for future discussion.



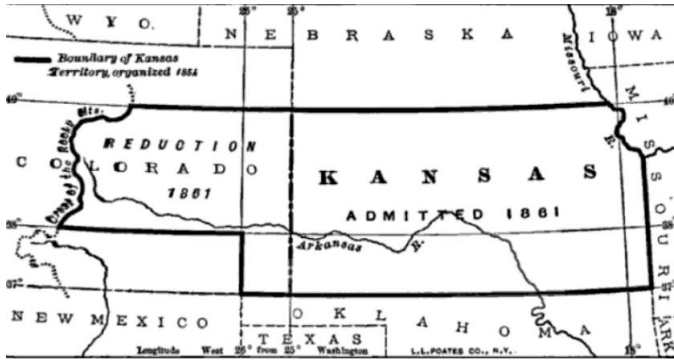
Ms. Elsa Sewell entertained the camp with her singing of Lee Greenwood's, *Proud to be an American*.



Key Camp Web Page hits last 12 months: 417 +26 for the past month

There will be no February Camp Mtg

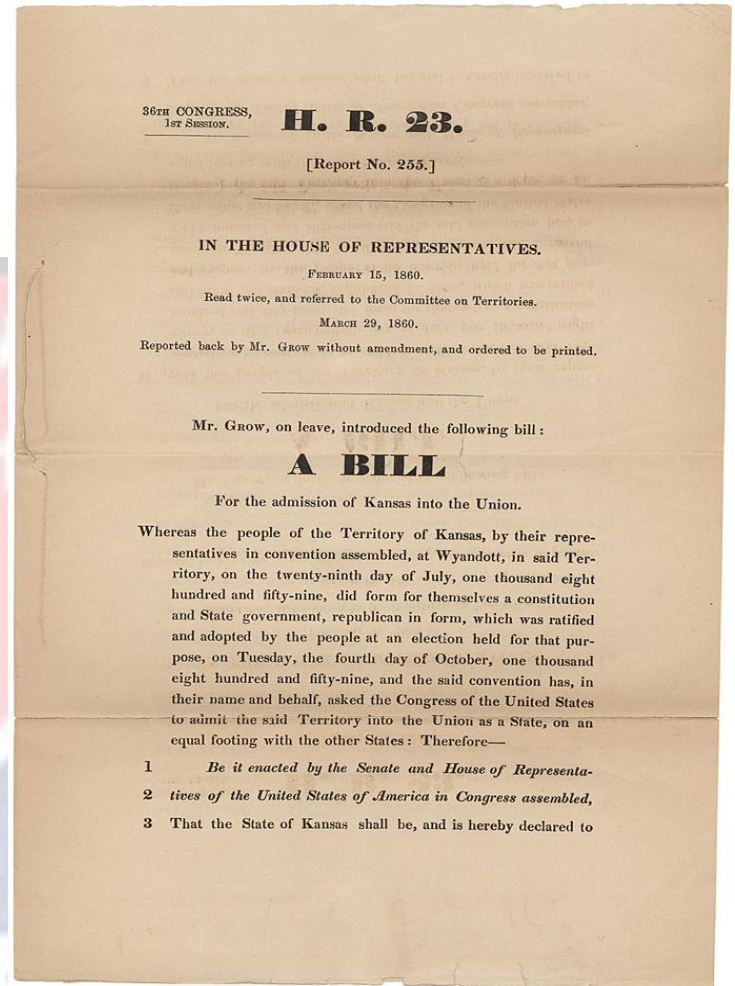
Kansas enters the Union



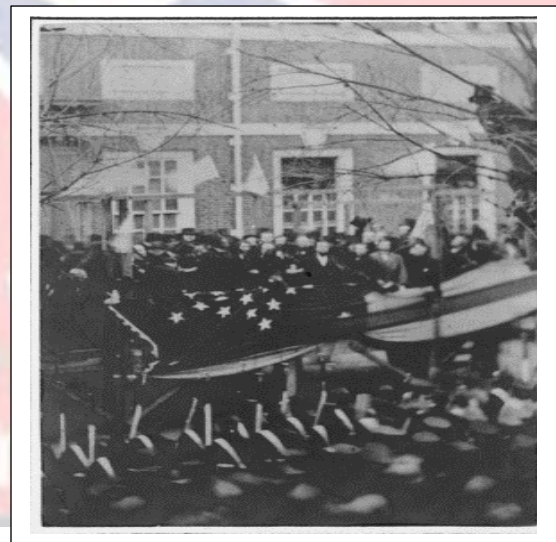
On **January 29, 1861**, Kansas is admitted to the Union as free state. It was the 34th state to join the Union. The struggle between pro- and anti-slave forces in Kansas was a major factor in the eruption of the Civil War.

In 1854, Kansas and Nebraska were organized as territories with popular sovereignty (popular vote) to decide the issue of slavery. There was really no debate over the issue in Nebraska, as the territory was filled with settlers from the Midwest, where there was no slavery. In Kansas, the situation was much different. Although most of the settlers were anti-slave or abolitionists, there were many pro-slavery Missourians lurking just over the border. When residents in the territory voted on the issue, many fraudulent votes were cast from Missouri. This triggered the massive violence that earned the area the name "Bleeding Kansas." Both sides committed atrocities, and the fighting over the issue of slavery was a preview of the Civil War.

Kansas remained one of the most important political questions throughout the 1850s. Each side drafted constitutions, but the anti-slavery faction eventually gained the upper hand. Kansas entered the Union as a free state; however, the conflict over slavery in the state continued into the Civil War. Kansas was the scene of some of the most brutal acts of violence during the war. One extreme example was the sacking of Lawrence in 1863, when pro-slavery forces murdered nearly 200 men and burned the anti-slavery town.



The House Bill recognizing Kansas as the 34th State in the Union.



Abraham Lincoln Raising a Flag at Independence Hall, Philadelphia, in Honor of the Admission of Kansas to the Union on Washington's Birthday.

January Camp Mtg Pics



2024 SCV Calendar (Tentative)

January

- 4 SCV Camp Meeting
Wreath pickup
- 20 Lee Jackson Banquet

February

No meeting

- 25 Bleeding Kansas Speaker Series

March

- 7 Camp Meeting - Rick Manfredi (Did Missouri secede from the Union)
- 16 Clean graffiti upon Shelby Monument (weather permitting)
- 23 Confederate Flag Day

April

Confederate History Month

- 4 Camp Meeting - Lynn Lofthouse (WWII Gordon Lippman)
- 6 ATM- Mansfield, Louisiana
Mine Creek Battlefield Clean-up
20th Anniversary of Mine Creek Battlefield Confederate Marker Celebration
Fort Scott Encampment
- 29 Confederate Memorial Day

May

- 2 Camp Meeting - Matt Archambault, (Shiloh)
Lane Smith presentation to Baxter Springs SCV Camp (date pending)
Lone Jack Battlefield - Missouri History Day w/8th Graders

June

- 1 Southern Women's Historical Association - Fayetteville, Arkansas
- 1 Confederate Memorial Day - Higginsville, Missouri
- 6 Camp Meeting - Hugh Mills
- 14, 15, 16 Battle of Carthage Re-enactment
- 15 Kansas Division SCV Reunion - Topeka, Kansas

July

- 4 Camp Meeting - Lane Smith**
- 12 Camden Point Memorial Service - Camden Point, Missouri
- 16-21 SCV National Reunion - Charleston, South Carolina

August

- 1 Camp Meeting - Jonathan James (Moonlit Mayhem)
- 1 Annual Dues
Mine Creek Historical Day

September

- 5 Camp Meeting - Robt James (Failed attempt to steal the General)
2nd Annual Spike Speicher Camp Picnic
- 30 - Oct 4 Gettysburg Battlefield visit

October

- 3 Camp Meeting
Shawnee Indian Mission Fall Festival
Baxter Springs Encampment

November

- 7 Meeting/Key Camp Election of Officers

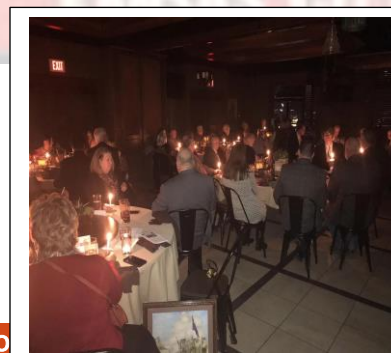
December

- 5 Camp Meeting
Wreaths Across America, Ft Leavenworth, Higginsville

2024 Lee - Jackson Banquet

One of the largest turnouts (56) in recent years took place at The 180 Room in Olathe, KS on January 20th as the Key Camp held its 22nd annual Lee-Jackson Banquet. The event, led by Commander Walt Schley and the officers of the Key Camp, featured entertainment by the Fine and Dandy Band, our annual auction which funds the camp's activities, a plentiful BBQ dinner and our featured speaker, Mr. Darrell Maples, Chief of Staff of the SCV's National Headquarters. Guests included members of the Camps from Baxter Springs and Leavenworth and Ladies of the UDC.

The most enjoyable part of the evening was the announcement of the **2023 Key Battery Award** winner, which recognizes the Compatriot that has shown outstanding service to the Key Camp and the SCV. This year, that honor was bestowed upon **Compatriot Lane Smith**.







Major **Thomas J. Key Camp** #1920
Johnson County, Kansas
Camp Activities



**The next Camp meeting will be March 7th, 2024.
Compatriot Rick Manfredi is scheduled to speak**

*As always, we encourage your participation in your Camp's activities.
Email **Commander Schley** for more information on any events you are interested in assisting.*

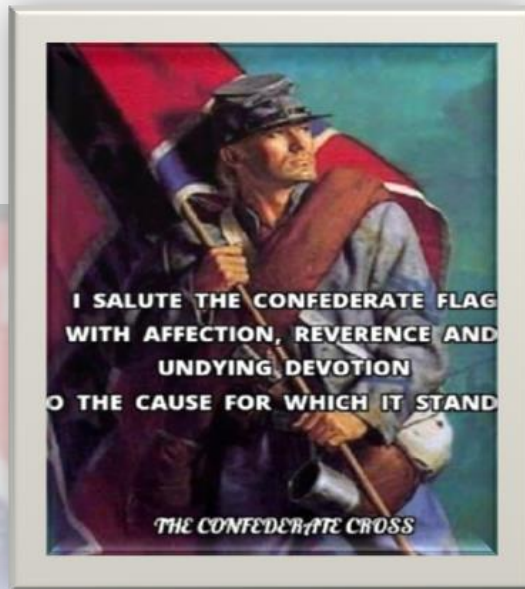
*******NEXT CAMP MEETING*******

The **Key Camp** will meet on **Thursday March 7th** 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.

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.



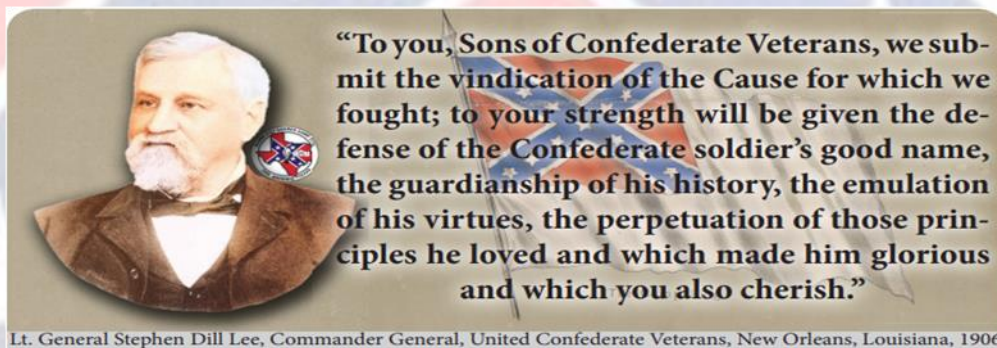


Key Camp Web Page: www.majorthomasjkeycamp1920.com

Email: Commander Walt Schley: gunnerschley@gmail.com

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

National SCV Web Page
www.scv.org



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.