



THE TELEGRAPH KEY

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

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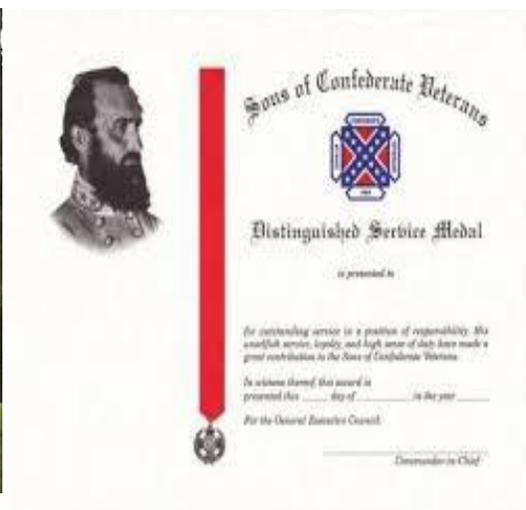
The Confederate Corner

By Rick McPherson

Greetings to all the members of the Major Thomas J. Key Camp. We have been blessed over the past few years by former Commander, Jim Thornton's publishing of *The Telegraph Key* but now it gives me great pleasure and a sense of duty to re-start this monthly publication. My intent is to make sure all of us are aware of the activities of the Camp and to post upcoming events.

Let me begin with our June meeting, once again held at Zarda's Bar-B- Q in Lenexa, Kansas. It was great to see a good attendance and to enjoy some BBQ and conversation. Commander Matt Sewell welcomed our members and guests back and began by remembering our informal campfire get together's over the summer at his home's backyard. There were always plenty of grilled brats, burgers and deserts, hardy discussions and even a bit of musical entertainment provided by Tim Peterman. And of course there was a hearty bonfire blazing.

In April, Commander Matt Sewell presented certificates of Distinguished Service Medals to Compatriot's Lawson Rener and Jim Thornton. Congratulations fella's and thanks for all you do.



In May, Bill Stoker demonstrated several of his vintage firearms and little Elsa Sewell sang Dixie for us, plus on a few occasions we were given some hot air balloon fly over's. But mostly we enjoyed getting together and looking forward to getting the whole group back together again.



During our most recent meeting held July 1st at Zarda's, Compatriot Jim Edgerton showed various slides and spoke of the battles fought in and around Prairieville, Kentucky in October 1862, where his great grandfather William was with the 50th Ohio and pitted Maj. Gen. Don Carlos Buell's Army of the Ohio against Gen. Braxton Bragg's Army of Mississippi. The battle was a Confederate tactical victory but Bragg's retreat effectively ended the campaign.



In Camp business, a motion was raised and approved for our camp to donate \$500 to the National SCV HQ to help defray the expense for the re-interment of the remains of Confederate General Nathan Bedford Forrest and his wife in Columbia, Tennessee which is planned for September 18, 2021. This event is open to all SCV membership.

There was a discussion regarding membership cards in which Commander Sewell said 2021 cards are being mailed out to those that are current with their dues. If you have not sent your dues as yet, please send a check for \$50 to Adjutant Lawson Rener, 4320 Wornall Road #402, Kansas City, MO. 64111. Please make payable to *SCV International Headquarters*, due August 1.

Finally, an update was given by Compatriot Carl Jowers on Col. Spike Speicher who has been battling illness at his home in Florida. Carl led those in attendance in prayer for Spike, his wife Cindy and their family.



Did you know that Chicago's notorious Camp Douglas, the prison camp established for captured Confederates, consisted of eighty acres of land formerly owned by Stephen A. Douglas? The official death toll there is listed as 4,454 Confederate prisoners and it was there that the term "80 acres of hell" was coined.





Kansas Division

Army of the Trans-Mississippi
Sons of Confederate Veterans



Because of the ongoing concerns over the Corona virus/COVID-19, the 2021 Kansas Division Reunion and Convention was cancelled for the second straight year. However, the National Convention will still be held July 21 – 24 in Jefferson Parish, Louisiana. Several of our camp members will be attending and will provide us a report following the event.



Major

Thomas J. Key Camp #1920

Johnson County, Kansas
Camp Activities



Upcoming 2021 Events

Pleasant Grove Cemetery and Confederate Monument

Tuesday July 13, 2021
Camden Point, Missouri
Memorial Service 4:30 p.m.

SCV National Reunion

July 21-24
Metairie, Louisiana

Heritage Day at Mine Creek Battlefield

Saturday August 7, 2021
Pleasanton, Kansas
10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

This event will feature cavalry, artillery and Civil War period demonstrations. We will need volunteers to represent the Major Thomas J Key Camp. Please let Commander Sewell know if you will be available to assist.

Lone Jack Battlefield Memorial Service

Saturday August 15
Lone Jack Battlefield
301 S Bynum RD. Lone Jack, MO. 64070
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

The Lone Jack Heritage Days has been canceled this year but the Historical Society will hold a brief Memorial Service for the Soldiers buried on the Battlefield. There will be a flag raising ceremony in front of the museum, a Ceremonial Civil War Honor Guard and a Memorial Wreath laying service.

Major Thomas J Key Camp Annual Picnic

September 11, 2021
Shawnee Mission Park
We will update this event soon

General Nathan Bedford Forrest Re-interment

September 17 - 18, 2021
SCV Headquarters
Columbia, Tennessee

Visitation will be from 9:00 AM until 5:00 PM on Friday. Funeral Services will be Saturday at 10:00 AM. You will need to register for security reasons. The website will be up soon on the front page of SCV.org but for those who wish to register now, you go to the site by using the following URL code: www.cicscv76.wixsite.com/forrestfuneral

35th Shawnee Indian Mission Festival

October 9 – 10, 2021
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 pm. Saturday
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sunday

Lee – Jackson Banquet

TBA
Abdullah Shrine Temple
5300 Metcalf Avenue
Overland Park, Kansas

Email Commander Sewell for more information on any events you are interested in.

NEXT MEETING

The Key Camp will meet on **Thursday August 5th** at Zarda's Bar B-Q on the southwest corner of 87th and Quivera in Lenexa, Kansas at 6 p.m. for dinner and conversation, with the official meeting at 7 p.m.

The Telegraph Key

The Telegraph Key is a newsletter published for the Major Thomas Key Camp #1920 of the Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCV). The SCV is a non-profit organization with a patriotic, historical, and genealogical orientation and is not affiliated with any other organization. Opinions in this newsletter reflect the views of the writers 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 Website Resources

Key Camp: www.MajorKey1920ksscvc.org

SCV National: www.SCV.org

Kansas Division: <http://www.ksscvc.org/>

Key Camp Officers

COMMANDER

Matt Sewell

1st LT. COMMANDER

John Weir

2nd LT. COMMANDER

Dan Peterson

ADJUTANT

Lawson Rener

CHAPLIN

Walt Schley

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Rick McPherson

Please remember that the little wooden bucket in our meeting room is to help pay for the room's rental fee. Your support is greatly appreciated.



If you have pictures/stories or both that you'd like to contribute to future issues of *The Telegraph Key*, please email to Rick McPherson at mcphersonsales@sbcglobal.net

Membership Renewal Dues Notice

Our annual membership dues are due and payable to SCV International Headquarters on August 1. Please remit to the camp adjutant your dues as indicated and outlined on your renewal form so we may forward the funds to International Headquarters in a timely fashion.

If dues are not paid by February 1, members are considered delinquent. An additional fee of \$5.00 will be required to be reinstated. Additionally, for those whose dues are not paid, the subscription to "The Confederate Veteran" magazine will be discontinued February 1.

