



Lee's Dispatch



Captain Bob Lee SCV Camp 2198

Volume 2, Issue 3

www.captboblee.org

January 15, 2012

Commander's Report

By Doug Garnett

Here we are in 2013 with half of January already behind us. We have already had our first trash pickup and our first participation in a Bonham gun show. I want to thank everyone who stopped by and visited, and worked the recruitment table at the gun show. Our camp is only a year old but still we are growing slowly to be sure but we are growing. I realized we still have a publicity problem. Many local people stopped to visit with us at the gun shows that were unaware of a local camp of the SCV being in Bonham. We need to put our heads together and figure out how to get ourselves known to the public in a positive way.

Other projects our camp will be involved with are the assistance in the production of Texas Division Media group, and possibly the next Bonham Heritage day. We have been asked to assist in the following, an organizational meeting of a new 4th Brigade camp at noon on January 26th in Greenville at the Soulman's Bar-B-Q on I-30, re-dedication of Col Reeves grave Sunday, January 27th, at 2:00 pm. We have also been asked to assist as possible with the Division Reunion at Tanglewood resort in Pottsboro. There is more information later in this newsletter on the Reunion.

Our camp flag will be ordered in February. As discussed we want a black flag, with a round photo of Captain Bob Lee in the center with the words Captain Bob Lee above the photo and Sons of Confederate Veterans Camp 2198 below and below those the words Bonham, Texas.

As always we are here, as brothers, to honor all our ancestors who served the cause. Please spread the word and bring a friend to any of our activities and meetings.

Lee's Dispatch is the official newsletter for the Sons of Confederate Veterans Captain Bob Lee Camp 2198 and is intended for the sole purpose of keeping the camp members and friends of the camp informed to the activities and news of Camp 2198. Statements in this newsletter are those of the author and may not reflect the opinions of the Captain Bob Lee Camp, editor or the National Sons of Confederate Veterans. Within articles or quotes written by outside authors mistakes in spelling, grammar or sentence structure are strictly those of the author and may be left as is.



January 26th, Greenville Camp meeting at Noon
Soulman's Bar-B-Q on I-30 service road.

January 27th Grave re-dedication of Colonel Reeves

Events of 150 years ago

January 1863 – February 1863

December 31, 1862 – January 3, 1863 Battle of Murfreesboro, Tennessee

January 1st. The Emancipation Proclamation

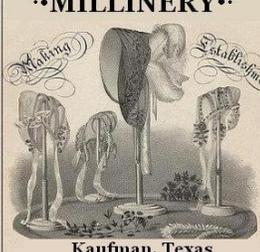
January 1st. The Battle of Galveston, Texas

January 8th. Battle of Springfield, Missouri

January 9-11 Battle of Hartville, Missouri

January 9-11 Battle of Arkansas Post, Arkansas.

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January 2012

**Get your Lady READY for
all your Events in 2012**

Ribbons & Nets, Mourning Caps
& Covers, Formal Head Dresses

Murfreesboro

December 31, 1862 thru January 3, 1863

“If a soldier ever saw lightning, and heard the thunder bolts of a tornado at the same time the heavens opened and the stars of destruction were sweeping everything from the face of the earth, if he was in this charge, he saw it.”

Leaving Perryville, Kentucky to Union Maj. Gen. Don Carlos Buell, Confederate General Braxton Bragg went to Harrodsburg, Kentucky where he was joined by Maj. Gen. Kirby Smith’s army of 10,000. This gave Gen. Bragg a veteran force of 38,000. Neither Buell nor Bragg attempted to move on the other. The invasion of Kentucky has been abandoned.

As Bragg’s combined army now renamed the Army of the Tennessee began to run low on supplies Bragg moved the Cumberland Gap, through Knoxville and Chattanooga then turned back to the Northwest to Murfreesboro, here he stopped.

General Bragg arranged his men in a defensive position northwest of Murfreesboro along the west fork of Stones River. Bragg then received orders from President Jefferson Davis to send Maj. Gen. Carter L. Stevenson and 7,500 men to assist in the defense of Vicksburg, Mississippi. After reorganization and Kirby Smith leaving for east Tennessee, Bragg’s Army of the Tennessee consisted of two Corps, one commanded by Maj. Gen. William J. Hardee with the divisions of Maj. Gens. John C. Breckinridge, Patrick R. Cleburne, and John P. McCown. The other corps was commanded by Maj. Gen. Leonidas Polk with the divisions of Maj. Gens. Benjamin F. Cheatham and Jones M. Withers, and a cavalry command under Brig. Gen. Joseph Wheeler.

President Jefferson Davis soon began to receive petitions from Bragg’s senior generals demanding Bragg be replaced by Brig. Gen. Joseph E. Johnson. President Davis refused to replace Bragg or his subordinate generals. This adversarial command continued throughout the war.

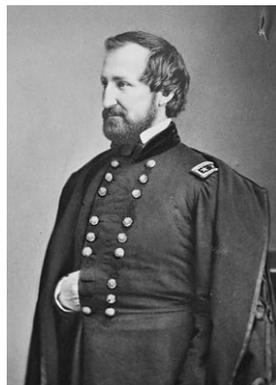
The Union was also having problems with their command as well. Maj. Gen. Buell was very slow and hesitant about his pursuit of Bragg. Lincoln having become frustrated with him replaced him with Maj. Gen. William S. Rosecrans. Rosecrans had some come to Lincoln’s attention with recent victories at luka and Corinth. Rosecrans moved his XIV Corps, which was soon renamed the Army of the Cumberland, to Nashville. He was warned by Lincoln that he too would be replaced if he was not aggressive against the Confederates.

Rosecrans took his time to resupply and train his men. He moved on December 26th to find and engage Bragg. During the time Rosecrans was training, Confederate Col. John Hunt Morgan was dispatched to the area north of Nashville to harass Rosecrans lines of supply and communications.

Rosecrans had his own cavalry under Brig. Gen. Samuel P. Carter to raid the upper Tennessee valley. The actions of neither cavalry had any significant influence on the coming action.

When Rosecrans moved south he did so in three columns; he left about half of his men behind to guard his supply lines and his base of operations from the harassment by Confederate cavalry. The left column of 14,500 men, commanded by Maj. Gen. Thomas L. Crittenden, paralleled the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad. The right column of 16,000 men, commanded by Maj. Gen. Alexander M. McCook, marched south along the Nolensville Turnpike to Nolensville, south to Triune, and then eastward to Murfreesboro. The center column of 13,500 men, commanded by Maj. Gen. George Henry Thomas, moved south along the Wilson Turnpike and the Franklin Turnpike, parallel to the Nashville and Decatur Railroad, then eastward through Nolensville then same route used by Crittenden south of the Nashville and Chattanooga.

Union cavalry under Brig. Gen. David S. Stanley, a single cavalry division under Col. John Kennett preceded each of the three columns. The separation of the wings was designed to conduct a turning movement against Hardee at Triune. When the Federal march began, Bragg moved Hardee back to Murfreesboro to avoid a confrontation.



Maj. Gen. William S. Rosecrans



General Braxton Bragg

Gen. Bragg decided on the area around Murfreesboro because of the political influence and the understanding that no Tennessee land be surrendered to the Federals. The land chosen was primarily flat with some areas of lime stone outcroppings and dense cedar forest which was in places more impenetrable to infantry than the Wilderness. Portions of the land were close to the intersections of the Nashville Pike and the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad.

Rosecrans arrived at Murfreesboro on December 29th. By his arrival Bragg had been in place for almost a full month. Also on December 29th, Confederate cavalry under Brig. Gen. Joseph Wheeler and 2,500 of his men rode completely around the Union army, destroying supply wagons and capturing reserve ammunition in Rosecrans's trains. They captured four wagon trains and 1,000 Union prisoners.

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Rosecrans had about 41,000 men when he deployed at Murfreesboro and Bragg about 35,000. Bragg also had the support of the detached cavalry commands of Forrest and Morgan. Part of Rosecrans delay in leaving Nashville was to train his inexperienced cavalry.

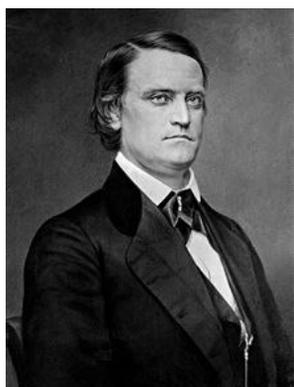
December 30th was spent by both sides scouting their opposite's disposition. If Bragg had not been screened by the Confederate cavalry Rosecrans would have seen that an immediate attack on Bragg's right flank would have allowed him to break through and turn into Murfreesboro. Oddly enough, both Bragg and Rosecrans developed the same plan of attack; to crush the opponent's right flank and cut the enemy off from their base and supplies.

Gen Bragg had placed Gen. Leonidas Polk's command on the west bank of Stones River and Gen William J. Hardee's men on the east bank. Bragg had expected Rosecrans to attack on the 30th when the attack did not materialize Bragg decided to push his cavalry under Brig. Gen. John A. Wharton deep into the Union rear. Bragg kept Gen. John Breckinridge's division in reserve. Breckinridge was on high ground east side of the river.

Rosecrans ordered Maj. Gen. Thomas L. Crittenden to cross the river and attack the heights on the east side. These heights would ideal for Union artillery placement. From these heights Union artillery could bring all of the Confederate lines under fire. Maj. Gen. Alexander M. McCook, commanding troops on Crittenden's right, was not informed of the orders had, however, anticipated the attack to start with Crittenden. McCook had extra camp fires started to give an impression of greater strength and also a false sense of where his men actually were. Maj. Gen. George H. Thomas was ordered to make a limited attack to position his command as a pivot point for Crittenden's unit to wheel on to the heights.



Maj. Gen. Alexander M. McCook



Gen. John Breckinridge

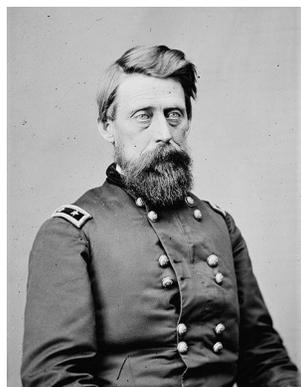
The two armies were only 700 yards from each other on the night of the 30th. The respective bands began to play. A battle of the bands began. The battle ended into a joint playing of *Home Sweet Home* with thousands of soldiers from both sides joined their voices to the music.

Rosecrans battle plans called for his attack right after breakfast while Braggs called for his attack at dawn, before breakfast. This was the third major battle, after Fort Donelson and Shiloh, in which an early morning attack caught a Union army by surprise.

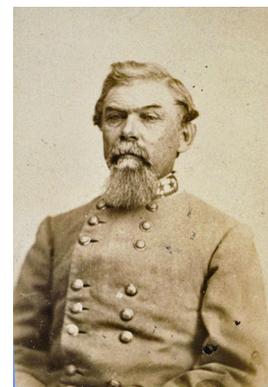
As the first glimmer of light came on the Morning of December 31st, 1862 Gen. Hardee struck with 10,000 men of Maj. Gen. John P. McCown's, division. Many of the Union troops under the command of Brig. Gen. Richard W. Johnson's did not get to finish their breakfasts. McCook's campfire deception had caused the inexperienced McCown to drift further to the left than needed leaving a dangerous gap in the attacking wave. The gap was quickly filled by the division of Maj. Gen. Patrick R. Cleburne.

Many Union artillery batteries were taken without firing a shot. Johnson's division suffered more than 50% casualties. The Union division under Brig. Gen. Jefferson C. Davis, to Johnson's left was able to slow the attack but only briefly. By 10:00 AM Hardee had pushed the Union back 3 miles to the railroad and the Nashville Pike. Here Johnson was able to rally his men and stop the Confederate advance.

Brig. Gen. Horatio P. Van Cleve's division crossing the river at 7 AM to open Crittenden's attack. Rosecrans was slow to understand the danger on his right believing McCook would be able to handle and attack by Hardee. At last Rosecrans called off Crittenden's attack and then rushed reinforcements to his right flank to the aid of Johnson.



Brig. Gen. Jefferson C. Davis

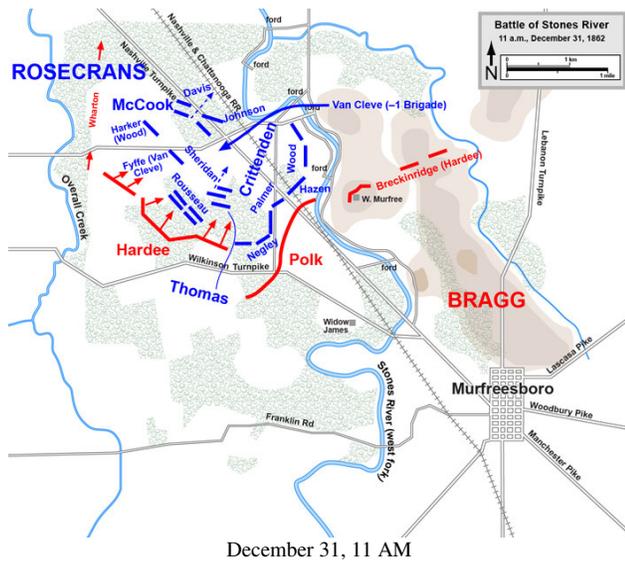


Maj. Gen. William J. Hardee

The Confederate 2nd wave was by Leonidas Polk Corps by divisions of Maj. Gens. Jones M. Withers and Benjamin F. Cheatham. Union Maj. Gen. Philip Sheridan had received reports of confederate troops moving across his front in what appeared to be an attempt to flank them. Sheridan turned his men too at 4 AM. Withers's attack was repulsed, by Sheridan's tired but unsurprised men, three times. Then in a combined attack Cheatham hit Sheridan's front while Cleburne hit Sheridan's right flank. Cheatham's assault was slow and piecemeal. Though Sheridan's men slowed the enemy advance they took heavy casualties in doing so. In four hours all three brigade commanders were dead and

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December 31, 11 AM

The ground on which Sheridan's men were fighting was one of the dense cedar forest areas. Surrounded on three sides this area became known as "The Slaughter Pen". By 10 AM many of the Confederate goals had been achieved. Twenty eight pieces of artillery captured along with 3,000 Union prisoners.

Breckinridge failed to realize that Crittenden's assault had been called off and refused to release two of his brigades as reinforcements to the main attack. When ordered to move at last he was very embarrassed to find no Union troops facing him. About this same time Bragg got a false report of Union reinforcements moving toward him from the north east. Bragg halted Breckinridge's support thus weakening the main assault.

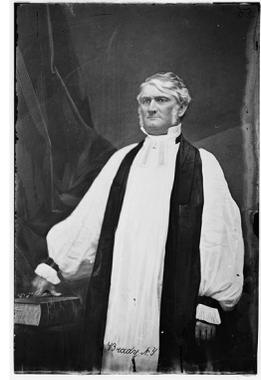
Sheridan's men began running low on ammunition and had to withdrawal. Hardee saw the gap left open by Sheridan's men and exploited it. The Union troops rallied again holding the Nashville Pike. Col. William B. Hazen's brigade repeatedly stood off attacks from the Confederates.

Hazen's brigade was in a four acre rocky area known locally as "Round Forest". Brig. Gen. Milo S. Hascall sent the 3rd Kentucky to the Round Forest to reinforce Hazen. When Hascall was told the commander of the 3rd Kentucky had been killed he went and took over command of the unit himself. He declared the line will be held to the last man. This Round Forest became known as "Hell's Half-Acer". Through the leadership of Rosecrans and the rallying of Johnson and Davis's men the Union at last held. New lines formed were much the same as before but in a smaller semi-circle. This compression of the Union lines gave it, stronger defensive interior lines, better lines of communication, and shorter supply lines.

Bragg trying to keep the momentum up ordered another attack on the compressed Union line. This time it would be aimed at the area held by Hazen. Hazen's brigade was the only group of the original Union battle line that had held its ground.



Maj. Gen. Philip Sheridan



Maj. Gen. Leonidas Polk

Bragg's only men left to throw into the attack was those of Breckinridge. Breckinridge moved slowly, it was around 4 PM that two of his brigades attacked piecemeal and were repulsed with heavy losses. Two more brigades arrived and with some support from elements of Polk's corps attacked one last time, again they were repulsed. By 4:30 PM the first day's actions were over.

January 1st was quiet compared to the previous day's carnage. Rosecrans sent Col. Samuel Beatty, now commanding Brig. Gen. Horatio P. Van Cleve's division; Van Cleve had been wounded the day before, to occupy the heights. From the heights, Beatty would be able to protect the two river crossings. The heights would also provide a good artillery position. Bragg sent out two patrols toward the Union lines. One was aimed at Thomas and the other at Sheridan. For most of the day both sides took care of their wounded and rested.

Bragg received word from Wheeler who had remained behind Rosecrans still harassing his supply lines. The Union wounded had to be transported under heavy guard against possible attacks from Wheeler's cavalry. Wheeler reported what he believed to be signs of Rosecrans preparing to retreat. Bragg then decided he could wait until Rosecrans's withdrawal.

By 4 PM on January 2nd Bragg decided to give Rosecrans a push and help him to leave. Bragg ordered Breckinridge to drive Beatty off the heights. At first refusing to attack saying it was pure suicide to do so he at last relented and attacked with force. Beatty was driven back across the river at McFadden's ford. Massed Union artillery kept the Confederates from crossing the river to continue the assault.

Continued on page 5A

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Stalled from the massed artillery support Breckinridge's advance stopped. The Confederate's lost 1,800 men in an hour. Brig. Gen. James S. Negley from Thomas's wing counterattacked at 4:45 PM causing Breckinridge to retreat.

On the morning January 3rd a supply train and a brigade of reinforcements reached Rosecrans. A large ammunition train, behind the reinforcements, was attacked by Wheeler. Wheeler's attempt to capture the ammunition was beaten back.

Late that evening in response to sharpshooters constantly harassing his troops Thomas attacked with two brigades and drove the Confederates from their entrenchments. His men took about 30 prisoners.

After receiving word of the reinforcements Rosecrans had received Bragg realized that Rosecrans would not leave the field. It was also believed Rosecrans would continue to receive more reinforcements and soon be up to about 70,000 strong. Bragg only had about 20,000 battle worthy men. Starting about 10 PM on the night of January 3rd he began the withdrawal his men the thirty six miles south to Tullahoma, Tennessee.

The results of the battle gave Lincoln another event to brag about. Lincoln sent a message to Rosecrans stating "You gave us a hard-earned victory, which had there been a defeat instead, the nation could scarcely have lived over." Rosecrans occupied Murfreesboro on January 5th. His stubborn defense effectively removed any further threat from the south against Kentucky and established Nashville as a strong Union supply base for the rest of the war.

The two sides together lost 24,645 casualties. The Union losing 12,906 while the 11,739. When taking into account the number of total combatants, 76,400 the percentage of casualties, killed and wounded, was higher than any other Civil War battle.



One of the Union bands from Stones River/Murfreesboro

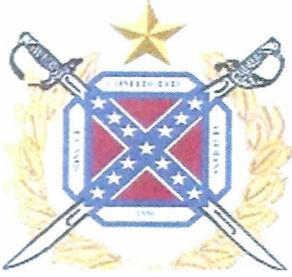


1890's photo of cowboys, Bonham Texas



Cowboy on hill outside Bonham, Texas about 1906

Anyone have old photos they would allow me to print.



2013 SCV Texas Division Reunion Registration
June 7-9, 2013

Tanglewood Resort
Pottsboro, TX
Host - Lee-Bourland Camp 1848

Friday June 7, 2013

8:00 AM Lee-Bourland Invitational Golf Tournament

Tee off - Teams drawn prior to tee off No. of players ___ @ \$ 60.00 _____

7 :00 PM Dinner and entertainment No. oftickets _____ @ \$25.00 _____

Saturday, June 8, 2013

12:00 PM Awards Luncheon Total

6:00 PM Cash bar

6:45 PM "Glen Eden Revisited"
Dinner, awards, ball

\$-----

SCV Member Name -----

Address ----- City & Zip Code. -----

Email address -----

SCV Member/Camp ----- Guest -----

Name to appear on convention badge -----

Guest's name on convention badge -----

OCRmember -----

Name of OCR Chapter and number -----

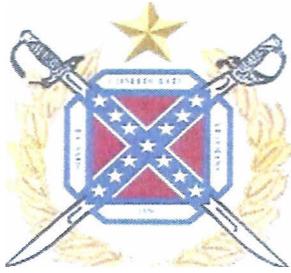
Name to appear on convention badge -----

Make check payable to: Lee-Bourland Camp SCV 1848

Mail completed form and check to: Buddy Burch, 2970 Warm Springs,
Richardson, TX 75082

or EMAIL [formto:buddy.burch@gmail.com](mailto:buddy.burch@gmail.com).

Please direct questions regarding details or events of the 2013 Texas Division Reunion to
Commander Joe White at 940-665-4565 (home) after 6:00 PM or the cell at 940-902-1393
or email joewhite1@suddenlink.net.



Tanglewood Resort is a family friendly facility. If there are several children to attend, there will be a planned afternoon activity. If you prefer a private baby-sitter, please make those arrangements with the resort. We will have a story teller on Saturday afternoon for children and anyone else who may want to participate depending on the number of children registered. There are three pools for kids as well as other activities and play areas for children. If you decide to make this a family holiday, please register their name and age so that we can plan the appropriate activities.

Registration Form for Children

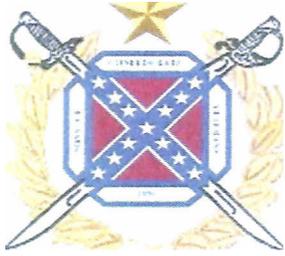
Name _____ Age _____

Name _____ Age _____

Name _____ Age _____

Name _____ Age _____

Name of Parents _____



2013 SCV Texas Division Reunion Registration
June 7-9, 2013

Tanglewood Resort
Pottsboro, TX
Host - Lee-Bourland Camp 1848

Friday, June 7, 2013

8:00AM	Lee-Bourland Invitational Golf Tournament
Lunch on your own	
1 :00 PM-5:30 PM	Registration opens
2:00 PM	Workshops
5:30PM	Memorial Service
7:00 PM	Hors d' oeuvres and entertainment (ticket required)

Saturday, June 8, 2013

Breakfast on your own	
7:00AM	Registration Opens
8:30AM	Opening Ceremonies
9:00 AM	SCV First Business Session
9:00 AM	OCR Annual Meeting
12:00-1 :30 PM	Awards Luncheon and guest speaker (ticket required)
2:00 PM	SCV Second Business Session
3:00 PM	Children's entertainment
6:00 PM	Drinks and hors d' oeuvres
6:45PM	Glen Eden Revisited Dinner and ball (ticket required)

Sunday, June 9, 2013

Breakfast on your own	
9:00AM	Division Executive Council Meeting