

THE BUGLER



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**Christmas
in Dixie**

Camp Officers

Camp Commander:

Denver Erickson

1st Lt Commander:

Dr. John McCain

2nd Lt Commander:

Kyle Erickson

Chaplain: *Jack Sanders*

Adjutant: *Paul Honaker*

Treasurer: *Paul Honaker*

See page 4 for meeting dates, time, and

COMMANDERS CORNER

Well you know how the song goes, "It's the hap, happiest time of the year". Apparently who ever wrote that song wasn't out shopping for Christmas gifts at the Topeka Mall. I love the season and the music. I like the lights and the little nip in the air. I don't even mind the snow and having to drive in it. But I dread having to go shopping at the Mall.

Before I go too far, I want to welcome our newest Member, Mr. Michael M. Redmann from Emporia, Kansas. Michael reports his ancestor is 2nd Lt. John Laurence Rapier serving with Co. D Confederate States Marine Corps. Welcome Michael and we look forward to seeing you soon.

Back to my original comments. Imagine what it was like for the men during Lincoln's War at this time of the year. Loved ones not knowing where or how you are, or even if you are still alive. It is true that some soldiers received mail and kept contact with family. It is also very true that not all the mail was received or delivered as hoped.

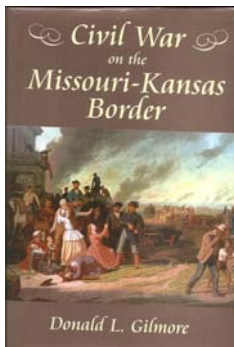


I have never served in the military, however, I hold a very high regard to those men and women that do, especially those veterans that were drafted and served. When a man or woman takes a job it is their responsibility to be at that job when they are expected to be there. So if one joins the Military he has made that decision on his or own. However, those who are taken by force or draft, and still report to duty, I have but the highest respect for. Without these soldiers of fortune we would have no freedom, no

rights, no respect, and not be able to have such an Organization as the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

Let's remember that many of our ancestors were not military men before the War. Those that were, were with the U.S. Military as there was no Confederate Military until the War broke out. So we have two kinds of men, some

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BOOK REVIEW

"Civil War on the Missouri-Kansas Border" by Donald L. Gilmore

We have all read those books that once we started we could not put the book down. This is one of those books!

The author is actually a descendent

of union soldiers but wrote this book from a very objective and historical point of view. Mr. Gilmore traces the origins of the conflict back to the time when the "abolitions" flooded the State of Kansas to ensure that Kansas set up an anti-slavery government. Most versions we have

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“Oh When will this war end? Will another Christmas roll around and find us all wintering in camp? Oh! That peace may soon be restored to our young but dearly beloved country and that we may all meet again in happiness”

**Letter from
Confederate Solider**



“Peace on Earth, Good will to men should prevail. We certainly would preserve the peace if they would go home and let us alone...” Letter from Johnny Green of the 4th Kentucky

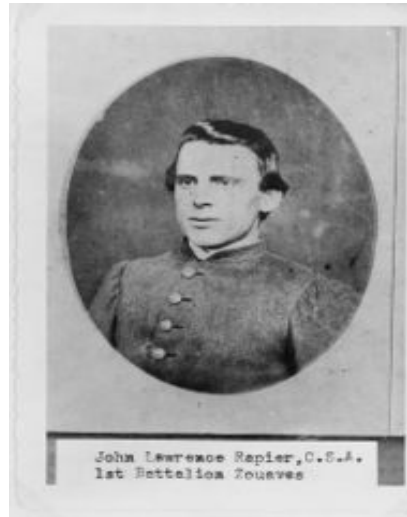
MY CONFEDERATE ANCESTOR

Our newest Camp Member Michael Redmann (See “Member Update” below) submitted the following information on his Confederate Ancestor.

John Lawrence Rapier was born in Spring Hill, a suburb of Mobile, Alabama, on June 15, 1842, the third child and second son of Thomas G. Rapier and Evalina Senac. His near relations included Angela S. Mallory, wife of Stephen R. Mallory, Secretary of the C.S. Navy; Felix Senac, Paymaster, U.S. and C.S. Navies; and Joseph Fry, Lieutenant, U.S. and C.S. Navies.

Rapier, who had been employed as a clerk in New Orleans since 1857, enlisted as a private in Capt. Henri St. Paul’s Company (First Company), Louisiana Foot rifles (later Company A, 7th Battalion, Louisiana Infantry), on April 22, 1861, at New Orleans. This unit first served at Pensacola, arriving on April 28, 1861, and remaining until mid-September. It was then transferred to Richmond, Virginia, and for the next several months was in camp and in and around Centerville. In May

1862, St. Paul’s Battalion was assigned to Brig. Gen. Richard H.



Anderson’s Brigade at Williamsburg, Virginia, on the Peninsula. Rapier served as Sergeant Major of St. Paul’s Battalion during the Battle of Williamsburg and in the Seven Days’ Battles shortly thereafter. While engaged at the Battle of Frayser’s Farm, June 30, 1862, Rapier was wounded and temporarily blinded by the explosion of an artillery shell.

In August 1862, the 7th Louisiana was broken up, with Com-

pany A becoming Company E, Confederate States Zouave Battalion, Louisiana Volunteers, Col. George A. G. Coppens, Commanding. Rapier also served as Sergeant Major of this Organization, commonly referred to as Coppen’s Battalion. On or about August 12, 1862, Coppen’s Battalion, along with five Louisiana Regiments, was assigned to Maj. Gen. Thomas J. Jackson’s command as Starke’s (Stafford’s) Brigade of Taliaferro’s Division. As a Member of this Organization, Rapier fought at the Second Battle of Bull Run (Manassas Junction), August 28-September 1, 1862, the Battle of Antietam, September 17, 1862, the Battle of Fredericksburg, December 13, 1862, and during the Siege of Suffolk, Virginia, April-May, 1863.

Rapier was promoted to the rank of First Lieutenant and Adjutant of Coppen’s Battalion in January 1863. In March of that year, he reportedly was

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MEMBERS UPDATE

We would like to welcome our most recent Member to our Camp—Michael Redmann. Above you can read about his ancestor John Lawrence Rapier.

“My name is Michael Redmann, and I was born on June 3, 1971, in New Orleans, Louisiana. I grew up in New Orleans and lived there until 1977. I completed a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science at Tulane University in 1992, and a Master of Arts degree in theology at Notre Dame University in New Orleans in 1996.

In 1997 I began a period of seminary studies and training which led me to several locations across America. I lived in Pennsylvania from 1997 to 2002. I lived in Kansas from 2002 to 2006, except for spending the 2003-2004 academic year in Nebraska. Between 1997 and 2006 I was involved in a mixture of seminary studies and teaching assignments. In 2006 I reached a conclusion that religious ministry was not my path in life, and I began looking for other career directions.

I returned to New Orleans for about a year from 2006 to

2007. Returning to New Orleans after living in other places for nine years gave me a new appreciation for my heritage. Friends of mine in Kansas had recommended to me that I should look into joining the Sons of Confederate Veterans, so I began collecting some genealogical information. In my case that was very easy—one of my great-uncles was very interested in genealogy, so I have the entire family history of my Mother’s side of my family recorded from the earliest colonists in America up until 1967,

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MY CONFEDERATE ANCESTOR—CONT FROM PG 2

offered a commission in the Marine Corps by Secretary Mallory, but did not immediately accept it. Several weeks later, he took his examination for the position, passed, and Mallory on July 13, 1863, dated from July 11, signed his commission as a Second Lieutenant, Confederate States Marine Corp. The Army issued orders on August 1, 1863, assigning him to duty with the Marine Corps and ordering him to report to the Secretary of the Navy.

The Colonel Commandant of the Marine Corps ordered him on August 3 to report for duty to the Commandant of the Marine Camp near Drewry's Bluff. Maj. George H. Terrett, CSMC, assigned him the next day to Company A. On December 22, 1863, Rapier was ordered to report to Admiral Buchanan, Commander of the Mobile Squadron, for duty with Capt. J. Ernest Meiere's Company D. He reported for duty on December 28, 1863, and was assigned to the Mobile Marine Barracks.

With the opening of the Campaign in Mobile Bay, Rapier, along with the other Marines on shore in Mobile, was ordered at midnight, August 3, 1864, to reinforce the garrison of Fort Gaines on Dauphin Island. Maj. W. R. Browne, commanding a provi-

sional battalion that included the marines, appointed Rapier his adjutant the next day.

Rapier was surrendered as a member of the garrison of Fort Gaines on August 8, 1864, and taken to New Orleans for imprisonment. Here, on the night of October 13, 1864, he broke jail successfully along with his brother Marine officers, Captain Meiere and Lt's. David G. Raney and James R. Y. Fendall. Teaming up with Fendall, Rapier made his way back to Mobile via Lake Maurepas, Bear Island, Springfield, Tickfaw, Amite City, Sum-



mit, and Brookhaven, which he reached on November 5, 1864. On reaching Mobile on November 10, 1864, Rapier reported to Capt. Thomas S. Wilson, CSMC, commanding the Mobile Marines in the absence of Captain Meiere. After a brief leave of

absence, he was ordered to command the Marine Guard on board CSS Morgan on November 30, 1864.

Rapier remained aboard Morgan through the Battles of Spanish Fort and Fort Blakely, April 8-9, 1865. Morgan, although badly damaged while giving fire support to the garrison of Fort Blakely, successfully made the journey from Mobile to Demopolis, Alabama, after the evacuation of the former on April 12. The final surrender of the Mobile Squadron took place at Nanna Hubba Bluff, on May 10, 1865, where Rapier took his parole.

After the War he went into newspaper work at the Mobile Times with Maj. Henri St. Paul, now his father-in-law. The Times was consolidated with the Mobile Register and Rapier became part owner with Col. John Forsythe. After the death of Forsythe in 1877, Rapier became sole proprietor of the Register. He later became President of the Register Company, a position he held until his death. Rapier was appointed postmaster of Mobile during the administration of President Grover Cleveland, holding the post from December 1894-March 1897. Rapier died in Mobile on May 7, 1905, and was buried in the Catholic Cemetery. His wife, four sons, and one daughter survived him.

“Never before had so sad a Christmas dawned upon us. Our religious services were not remitted and the Christmas dinner was plenteous of old; but in nothing did it remind us of days gone by. We had neither the heart nor inclination to make the week merry with joyousness when such a sad calamity hovered over us” Sally Brock Putnam describes Christmas, 1861 in Richmond VA.



“You have no idea how lonesome I feel this day. It's the first time in my life I'm away from loved ones at home” John Holloway, writing from Dranesville VA

COMMANDERS CORNER—CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

dropped everything to come and answer the call when their way of life and family was threatened. Then there were some who had to make a very difficult choice of being called a traitor and leaving the U.S. Military, whom they had pledged loyalty to this country to protect and changing sides for what they believed was right. Gen Robert Edward Lee and Gen Thomas 'Stonewall' Jackson were among

the many.

Many people refer to the Confederate people as traitors for leaving or starting a war with their country to keep slavery alive. First off we didn't leave, we stood our grounds and fought. Secondly we didn't start the War, Lincoln did! Thirdly, the issue of slavery was not introduced into the War until 1863 when Lincoln made

it an issue when he feared Great Briton would side with the Confederacy. As far as being a traitor, who in this Country, other than Native Americans, did not have ancestors leave another place to come here?

Please be thankful for your loved ones who are at home and pray for those that are overseas

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**Sons of Confederate Veterans
Cols Lewis & Harrison, Camp #1854**

4109 SW 29th Street
Topeka, Kansas 66614

www.1854.kssc.v.org

Next Meetings:

January 19, 2008
February 16, 2008
March 15, 2008

Social Time @ 9:30 am
Meeting Starts 10:00 a.m. at:

Westside Christian Church
432 SW Lindenwood Ave.
Topeka, Kansas 66606



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MEMBERS UPDATE

when my great-uncle privately published his book. That provided me with my connection to several ancestors who served the Confederacy in various military duties. I found that the most interesting relative of mine was my great-great-great-uncle, John Lawrence Rapier, who first served in the Army, then received a commission as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Confederate States Marine Corps. Besides the information in my great-uncle's genealogy book, I found information about my Ancestor in "Biographical Sketches of the Commissioned Officers of the Confederate

States Marine Corps" edited by David M. Sullivan. With that information in order, I began my application to join the Sons of Confederate Veterans. One of the works of the SCV that seems important to me is the effort to preserve an accurate record of history, and to guard against distorted revisionist history.

Since May I have been living in Emporia, Kansas in order to work on a Master of Library Science degree at Emporia State University.

I am interested in archives studies within the library science field, and I work at a part-time student job at the Emporia State University Archives. Working in an Archives has also given me a new appreciation for history and the preservation of historical records and artifacts. I am looking forward to discovering how my new career path and the SCV's interest in preserving history might go together.

Michael Redmann

BOOK REVIEW - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

been taught is that the Missouri "border ruffins" invaded Kansas and tried to force their will upon the citizens of the territory. Mr. Gilmore dispels what we have been taught, not with good arguments of his personal opinion, but he backs it up with excellent historical facts through intensive research.

Civil War on the Missouri-Kansas Border starts with the history of the 1850's during a time when the US Congress was debating whether to add new territories as "Slave" or "Free" states. He goes into very detailed historical events and biographies of key individuals involved at the beginning of the Border Wars. Individuals such as Amos Lawrence, Samuel Pomeroy, Charles Robinson, James Lane, and others.

Some of the individuals we haven't been taught about are David Rice Atchison. Mr. Atchison was a US Senator and one of the "Border Ruffins" that we have been taught about. Mr. Benjamin

Stringfellow, another "Border Ruffin", who was a one-time Missouri Attorney General. These men are definitely not the low life white trash that we have been taught they were.

Mr. Gilmore goes into great detail about the murderous activities of the likes of John Brown, abolitionist John Doy, Daniel Anthony, and Charles Jennison and his notorious Kansas 7th Volunteer Cavalry, the "Jayhawkers".

Of course the majority of the book covered the demonized Missouri Guerrilla William Clarke Quantrill.

Mr. Gilmore's research details the military life of Quantrill. Unlike what we have been taught, Quantrill was not the deranged psychotic killer that he has been portrayed as.

According to Mr. Gillmore, Quantrill learned to become a very good tactician. He cooperated and worked with the Armies of Gen Price and Gen JO Shelby.

As I described in the last newsletter, and unlike conventional histories, there were circumstances that led to the invasion of Lawrence, Ks., more even than the collapse of the KC hotel.

Mr. Gilmore also uses quotes and research from LTC Ed Kennedy and Col James Speicher who are Members of our Steele and Key Camps.

This is one of the best books that I have read on the War and highly recommend it to all Members.

Paul Honaker



Quantrill Reminiscence, 1928. First Row: Harry Hoffman, [Quantrill Photo], Jesse E. James. Second Row: Morgan Madden?, George Noland, John W. Williams. Third Row: John Brown?, Jim Campbell, Will Rodman. Standing: Miss Lizzie Walker.

*You are cordially invited to attend
The Seventh Annual Lee-Jackson Banquet
With*

Noted author, Preservationist, and filmmaker
Robert Lee Hodge
“The Importance of Civil War Memories”

Sponsored by the
**MAJOR THOMAS J. KEY CAMP #1920
SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS**

6:00 P.M., Saturday January 26, 2008
Grinter Place State Historic Site
1420 South 78th Street, Kansas City, Kansas

\$20.00 per person – cash bar Reservations made by 21 January
Coat and tie or business casual or Confederate uniform and
period attire.



Robert Edward Lee
1807-1870



Thomas Jonathan Jackson
1824-1863

COMMANDERS CORNER — CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

fighting for your freedom. Be extra thankful that we can speak to them by phone and write to them every-day to check on their well-being. Even if you do not back the Iraq War effort, those men and women whose lives are in danger, did not ask to go. They are only doing their duty.

I hope you will join me at the Lee/Jackson Banquet sponsored by the Thomas J. Key Camp #1920 in celebrating the birthdays of these two fine examples of Southern

decency. If you didn't receive the information by mail or e-mail, please see the above invitation.

Wishing all a belated Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Your Humble Servant
Denver J. Frickson
Division/ Camp Commander



Christmas at Arlington Cemetery