



# *Forrest's Escort*

*The Official Newsletter of the Tennessee Division  
Sons of Confederate Veterans*

June 2009



## The Year of Dixie

By Dr. Michael R. Bradley, Ph.D.  
Commander, Tennessee Division

This is the "Year of Dixie." Daniel Emmet wrote this song as a show-tune one hundred fifty years ago. It was an instant success, being sung, whistled, and hummed all over the nation. During the War for Southern Independence it became associated with the Southern armies, although the music for "Dixie" appeared in the band-books of every Union army band of which a copy still exists. It was a truly national song.

The Tennessee Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans is dedicated to seeing that it becomes that again. I do not mean simply that the music should be heard widely, although that is part of what we would like; I mean that the respect and admiration once shown to Dixie, the land and the people as well as to the song, should once again characterize our country.

That is a tall order but we are big people. The Tennessee Division has accomplished some large things during this last year.

Near Trimble, Tennessee, our beautiful flag now waves proud and high, joining flags on I-65, I-40, and I-24 as well as banners flying over historic locations across this state.

In a few weeks another flag will fly above the interstate near Bristol.

In Memphis, Forrest Park is now on the National Historic Register, recognition long deserved and wrongly denied for too many years. Even though, as we sit here, demonstrations are under way seeking to denounce the man and the monument a measure of dignity and respect has been restored.

Several of you have received proclamations from County Mayors and city mayors proclaiming April to be Confederate History Month. Others of you have written letters to the editor of local papers telling the public that your camp and this Division are observing the month in that way. We have told the world that we are singing Dixie.

From the Father of Waters to the Smoky Mountains our camps have seen success in working with local officials to erect monuments, markers, flag poles, and other symbols preserving the memory of the men from whom we are descended. The list of the accomplishments in 2009 of the camps in the Tennessee Division is too lengthy to recount, one by one. Be content to know that we have worked and we have gained. We have been singing Dixie!

In the coming year the Tennessee Division will be the host for a meeting of the Stephen Dill Lee Institute. This event, scheduled for February 26-28, 2010, will bring to Nashville leading scholars and speakers on the War for Southern Independence from all over the nation. This Institute offers us a sterling opportunity to show the Confederation what the Tennessee Division can do in promoting and supporting a major event.

The Division Executive Council is working on a plan, part of a nation-wide effort, to simplify dues collection which will improve member retention and increase revenue flow.

The Division Executive Council has also appointed a committee to develop plans for the Sesquicentennial of the Cause of Southern Independence. We intend to make the S. C. V. the leading organization in the state in commemorating the bravery, sacrifice, and devotion of our ancestors. And we intent to tell the truth about the Confederate veteran and the cause for which he fought.

We are going to sing Dixie!



*Continued next page*

We are preparing to do this in the midst of an economic crisis which affects all of us. We will do this by being careful about the way in which money is spent and in the way in which we support our money with our donated labor. We come from a long line of men who could dig trenches with pocket knives and tin cups. We often supplement our dollars with our sweat and we will continue to do just that.

We are preparing to do this in the face of those who oppose us, even despise us. They use harsh words to describe us, seek to deny us the freedom of speech which they claim for themselves, and by their vindictive attitude deny the inclusiveness and diversity which are their watchwords. They make it clear that “tolerance” includes everybody but us! Such actions and attitudes reveal a movement based on hypocrisy.

Frankly, I am not concerned with “those people.” They are what they are and we know how to deal with them. We will continue to meet them in the open light of public debate and public opinion and we will defeat them just as we did when the issue of changing the name of Forrest Hall arose at Middle Tennessee State University. We saw there, quite plainly, that those who vilify us and our ancestors cannot stand the heat of facts or the light of clearly stated positions.

Those who openly oppose us as we honor our Confederate past do not particularly concern me. We still sing Dixie.

Our greatest weakness is our lack of trust in one another. I have seen too many occasions in which someone goes outside the established “chain of command” to take a problem to someone they think can help them get the answer they want. They gossip, spread innuendoes, and create dissatisfaction and dissention instead of working openly to achieve their goals.

The excuse for such actions usually is that working openly would invite retaliation. Do you really think going over someone’s head won’t bring retaliation?

In my tenure of office as your Commander I have seen a few cases of failure to observe the chain of command. In every single case the results have been weaker camps, dysfunctional brigades, and in one case, damage to the entire division. This has to stop.

If you have a problem with a member of your camp, take the matter up with him. If you disagree with your camp commander on any decision or action you have the right---you have the duty---to question that action. But you have the responsibility to ask the question of the person directly involved. I do not ask that you trust your camp commander---although you should; I do insist that you trust the system.

If you cannot resolve the problem with the camp commander, the two of you should go to the Brigade commander. These offices exist for just such a reason. The Brigade commander is the “breaker” in the switchbox which resolves problems and prevents the short-circuit from creating chaos.

I do not ask that you trust your Brigade commander---although you should; I do insist that you trust the system. If the resolution cannot be provided by the Brigade commander then all of you should come to me. This is where I earn the “big bucks.” It is my job, my duty, my responsibility to respond to problems which cannot be solved at the camp and brigade level. I do not insist that you trust me---although I would like for you to do so; I do insist that you trust the system.

Above me there stands the Army of Tennessee and the National S.C.V.

We have spent too much time, effort, money, and labor over the years pursuing personal goals and not enough time trusting the system to solve problems while focusing most of our energy on the charge given us by S. D. Lee, to uphold the true history and honor of the Confederate soldier.

That is why I have told the Executive Council, and why I am telling you, if you come to me with a problem the first question I am going to ask is “Have you gone to the camp commander, to the Brigade commander?” If your answer is “no” my reply will be “Then go do so. Until then, I can do nothing for you.” We must trust the system, we must use the system, we will be stronger because of the system.

Compatriots---for that is the term our Constitution says we use for one another; if we truly are “colleagues” as our term of address says, then we will follow the system and not our own paths. We all want to sing Dixie. But we need to sing in harmony.

I look forward to this year. I look forward to seeing the camps, the source true strength for our Division, achieve more great and good things. I look forward to celebrating this Confederate History Month and the Sesquicentennial of our Cause.

And I ain’t just whistling Dixie!



*The Salute to the Confederate Flag*

*I salute the Confederate Flag with affection, reverence and undying devotion to the cause for which it stands.*

Gentlemen of the Tennessee Division,

### Three Great Deals!

1. The next time your auto tags come up for renewal, go by the County Court Clerk's office, and ask for a Confederate license plate. This will cost an extra \$35.00, but the tag will be great advertising for your camp and the SCV. The Tennessee Division will get \$15.62, to support all our ongoing projects, like the preservation of our Regimental Flag Collection in the Tennessee State Museum.
2. For \$100.00, you may obtain a Life Membership in the Tennessee Division. You can download an application, by going to SCV.org, then clicking on the Tennessee Division, or you can call or email me, and I will send you an application.
3. Get a Kroger Gift Card, if you live near a Kroger grocery store. Send me a check for \$5.00 and I will send you a card with \$5.00 loaded on the card. The important part is to load additional funds on the card before you do your grocery shopping. The Tennessee Division gets 5% of every dollar you load on the card. Keep loading funds and keep using the card over and over. Continuing to load funds on the card can earn you Life Memberships in the Tennessee Division and at National Headquarters. Let Kroger provide these FREE memberships. Contact me for more information.

God Bless the South!

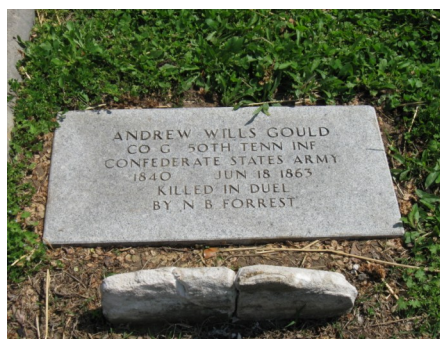
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The Judge adjutant's report is as follows:

The Divisions of Tennessee and Mississippi have funded along with three Memphis camps the fight for our Compatriot Paul McClaren in his suit against his former employer Compass. The defendant submitted to the plaintiff (McClaren) interrogatories which are being answered and will be followed by Interrogatories by the plaintiff to the defendant. Depositions will follow the written question and probably Motions for Summary Judgment after that. In other words the battle has been joined and the fight is on. I believe we are right and the license plate issue and a judgment will be in our favor though it will be 18 months or more before we see the end.

T. Tarry Beasley II





# ***MRS ~ MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL STATEMENT***

BY ED BUTLER

In 2006 the South Carolina Division designed and used a Membership Renewal Statement that went to all Division members to encourage them to pay their dues in a timely manner. This billing statement provided a simple and uniform means of urging members to remit their dues and at the same time provided an opportunity for members to make a donation to several different Division and/or Camp projects.

This professional businesslike statement has increased retention of current members, has raised much needed funds to be used in support of Division and Camp projects, and has brought many delinquent members back into our organization. Simply stated - it has been a tremendous success! The MRS program was discussed at the Tennessee Division Executive Council meeting held in March and has been adopted!

The success South Carolina has enjoyed with this program has generated interest in other Divisions. In 2008, two other Divisions used the program. Both found the program to be a great asset and will make it a permanent program for their Divisions. With very little effort on the part of Division and Camp officers, the Tennessee Division can realize the same benefits accrued to other Divisions. I do not have a current list of the Divisions that will use this program in 2009 but know that many are considering the use of it. Headquarters Camp will also utilize the MRS.

As many of you know, Headquarters maintains files on delinquent members. These files are available to any Camp that wants them and have proved to be very productive when a Camp officer or volunteer will follow up and contact these members. Division leadership will determine how many years of delinquent members will receive the MRS. Other Divisions have had much success in reinstating delinquent members by sending them the MRS. We can have the same degree of success! If Camp Officers or a volunteer from each Camp will contact these delinquent members starting a month or so after the mailing we can have even greater success.

Division Adjutant, Martin Frost, will prepare spread sheets listing member names and addresses, member number, the Camp dues for each Camp, and the name and mailing address of each Camp Adjutant. He will forward this information to "Laser Printers Plus" in Columbia, SC. On 15 July they will have printed statements for all Divisions that use the program and mail the statements. The cost for the Division will be approximately one dollar per mailing!

Each current and delinquent member will receive an envelope with the statement, three small brochures explaining the different projects to which they can make a donation, and a return envelope with a window that will show his Camp Adjutant's name and mailing address. The Tennessee Division MRS will have six causes in the "Optional Giving" category. Because of weight limitations, only three brochures can be included in the mailing.

The top portion of the statement will have the Division Adjutant's mailing address. This is oft needed information but is not the address to which the bottom portion of the statement and your check will be sent! Your name, address, and member number will also be shown on the top portion. There is a space where you can record the amount of your check so you will have a record at tax preparation time! Please remember to remove and retain the top portion for your records.

The middle portion of the statement will show your Camp, Division, and National dues. Notations will be made that Camp, Division, and National Life Members do not pay annual dues! The statement will also show if you are a Real Son (RS) or Life Member (LM) in the National organization. The MRS mailing is made with information recorded at Headquarters. You must note on the statement if you are a Life Member in your Division or Camp. If you are a new member that has paid a prorated amount because you joined in the second or third quarter of our fiscal year plus the next year's dues, you will need to note that on the dues statement. You will not owe additional dues for the coming year. Also if you have paid more than one year's dues and are ahead in dues payment you must note that on the statement!

Under dues there are six "Optional Giving" categories. Your Camp is included as one of these categories. Regardless of size, your donation will go to a very worthwhile cause! The bottom portion has space for you to make changes to your personal data and your Camp Adjutant's mailing address. After removing the top portion, you will need to fold the statement in half, insert it in the return window envelope with your Camp Adjutant's name and address showing in the window, include your check, put a stamp on it and mail it. Do not forget to sign your check!

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While Camp Adjutants will no longer need to prepare dues notices for their Camp members, there is a little additional work in completing report forms. These forms, showing member renewals and the donations made to the “Optional Giving” categories, will be sent to you with instructions on when and how to complete them.

This is a tried and proven program that will be a tremendous asset for our Division. There have been very few modifications of the program since it’s inception. It works! It works best if YOU respond and if the Camp Officers follow up properly. There will be only one mailing! The rest is up to YOU! A little follow up will result in retention rates for the Division in the high 90’s percentile!

It is very important that within the next thirty days, Camp Adjutants need to make sure that all names and mailing addresses on their Camp Roster are current at Headquarters. That is a small price to pay for success! Remember, success is not a companion of the lazy, the slacker, or the inattentive. It is your duty!

Let’s Grow,

Ed Butler  
931-544-2002  
edbutlerscv@yahoo.com



## ***2009 SCV, Tennessee Division, Awards and Nominations***

*A special THANK YOU goes out to these individuals, camps and organizations for their hard work and dedication. A nod and tip of the slouch hat.*

### ***The Sam Davis Award - Camp of the Year***

Otho French Strahl Camp #176

### ***The Jefferson Davis Award – Outstanding Service***

William Hamilton Parks II  
Knox Martin  
Jerry Hughes

Steve McDaniel  
Alan Doyle  
Larry Carter

John Ellis  
Lee Millar

Fred Lincoln  
Ed Williams

### ***The Robert E. Lee Award - Service/Support***

Audrey Rainey  
Ladies Hermitage Association

Dave Faulkner  
“The Hermitage”

Bill Brown

### ***The Edward Ward Carmack Award – Media***

Dyersburg State Gazette

### ***The Tod Carter Award – Camp Newsletter Editor***

1st Place - Lee Millar

2nd Place - Keith Dugger

3rd Place - James G Patterson

### ***The George Ellsworth Camp Home Page / Web Site Award***

Robert Woolfolk -Camp Webmaster Murfreesboro Camp #33

### ***The Dr. Rosalie Carter Camp Scrapbook Award***

Murfreesboro Camp #33

Gentlemen of the Division,

As I mentioned in my report at the Division Reunion, it has been months since I received a complaint either directly or thru the echo concerning heritage violations involving schools in Tennessee. Given the current state of politics and political correctness it seems highly unlikely that there have been no attempts by schools to force upon our children the bias against the Confederacy and its soldier's flag during the last year. I hope this means that school administrators in our State have either been educated with regard to 1st Amendment rights or that they are southern enough in their background to disregard pressure from the PC community. As I stated in a previous Escort, I certainly hope that this is the case and that we have not shirked from our duty to report violations and stand against them when they occur. I am still concerned that many school systems carry out their discrimination against our flag very quietly and that the students are intimidated and say nothing and simply choose not to express their Southern Heritage by wearing clothing they have been warned against.

With regard to the ongoing fight in East Tennessee, the following is an update on the litigation in Blount and Anderson counties from our attorney Van Irion:

Blount County:

"I am currently drafting a petition for a writ of certiorari to the U.S. Supreme Court in the Blount County case. In other words we are finally going to the Supreme Court for this case. I've been reading publications from experienced Supreme Court attorneys to ensure that we are presenting our petition in the best way to maximize our likelihood of having the SC hear our case. I've also been reading cases from ALL U.S. Circuit Courts to make sure we are presenting our question for the SC in a way that shows it as an unsettled question among the different Courts. As you might imagine, this is quite an undertaking. While the USSC only takes about 80 cases a year, the factors present in the Blount County case should give us a good chance of the SC accepting our case.

Anderson County:

"Also, our re-trial in the Anderson County case is coming up in June. Deadlines for pre-trial motions and other documents are coming soon. I met with Phil DeFoe (his son Tommy, an SCV member is the plaintiff) yesterday here at my office to give him an update on what's going on. Tomorrow I am deposing the new Principal of the Anderson County Career and Technical Center He testified at the last trial. I got most of his testimony excluded that time, and I am fairly sure I can get all of his testimony excluded this time around. The Court still has not ruled on my latest motion for summary judgment, filed last October. Please remind everyone that the facts of the Anderson County case are much stronger than the facts from Blount County. This case should be winnable at trial." **(Gentlemen, let me remind you what an asset Compatriot Irion is to the SCV. He is no longer employed by the University of Tennessee, due in no small part to his stance for the SCV and against the discriminatory practices of our educational systems and is currently practicing law independently.** If you have need of legal advise or know someone who does, please keep Van in mind.)

Once again, if you become aware of schools that have unlawful bans against young people displaying pride in their Southern/Confederate Heritage I would ask you post it on the Echo ([echo@tennessee-scv.org](mailto:echo@tennessee-scv.org)) or I would ask that you contact me by phone (865-947-3394) or e-mail at ([ronann619@comcast.net](mailto:ronann619@comcast.net) or [gatennreb@comcast.net](mailto:gatennreb@comcast.net)).

Please refer to past Escorts or to the Division Website at [www.tennessee-scv.org](http://www.tennessee-scv.org) to familiarize yourself with the law and when violations occur within the Counties where you live, approach the offending school or school board in a responsible and reasonable manner armed with the facts regarding the legality of bans on the display of items depicting Confederate Heritage.

Remind them that in order to ban any symbolic speech, such as the Confederate flag, school administrators must be prepared to admit, and prove, that they would be unable to maintain order in the school if the Confederate flag were allowed in the school. As the Supreme Court explained, **"a mere desire to avoid the discomfort and unpleasantness that always accompany an unpopular viewpoint" does not give school officials the right to deny students their right to self-expression. Tinker, 393 U.S. at 509**

Finally, as a group, charged by Gen. Steven D. Lee, it is our obligation to honor and protect the memory of our forefathers.

Ron Jones  
Chairman Heritage Defense  
Tennessee Division SCV

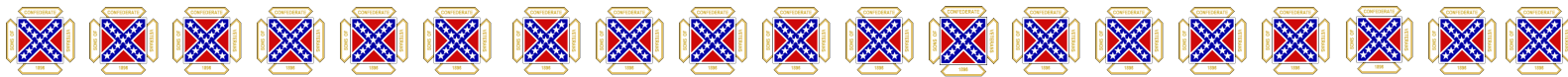
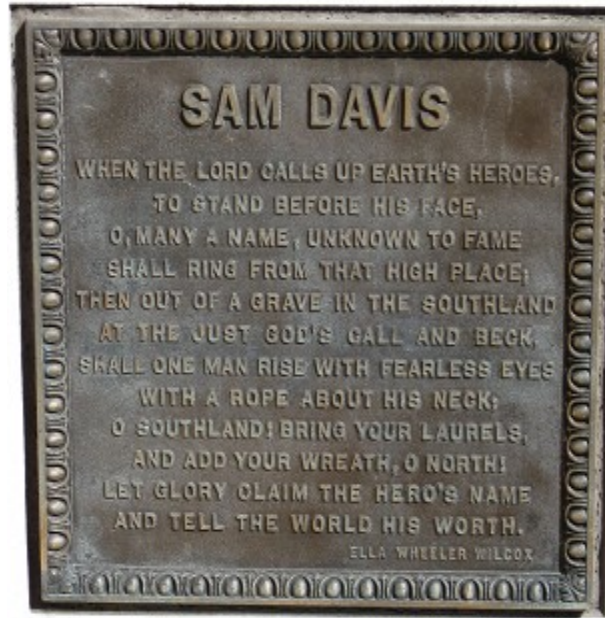
## *Stones River Murfreesboro TN*

On Friday April 10th, Murfreesboro Tennessee was struck by a F4 tornado. The tornado ripped through Stone's River National Battlefield downing over 2,000 trees in the park. The driving roads and hiking trails will be closed until further notice. No damage was done to cannons, monuments or the visitors center.





*Pictures from the tour of Nashville and Lt Gould's service held on TN Division Reunion weekend*



Murfreesboro SCV Camp No. 33 will hold their 11<sup>th</sup> Annual "Ole Bedford's Black Eye Pea and Sweet Potato Supper" on Saturday July 11, 2009 from 5:00 P.M. until 8:00 P.M. at Oaklands Mansion in Murfreesboro!

On July 13, 1862 (which was also the General's 41st birthday) Confederate General Nathan Bedford Forrest made an early morning raid on Murfreesboro. His Confederate Cavalry attacked yankee troops at three locations in Murfreesboro; the Courthouse, McFaddens Ford and the lawn of Oaklands Mansion. When the dust settled and the yankees surrendered, he sat down at Oaklands Mansion for a victory meal of black eye peas and sweet potatoes. This was all that was left to eat, due to foraging by the yankees. Our supper commemorates this Confederate victory and celebrates the birthday of one of the South's greatest Generals. Our guest speaker will be: Dr. Kenneth Hafendorfer, author of "Nathan Bedford Forrest: The Distant Storm : the Murfreesboro Raid, July 13, 1862" War era musical entertainment will be provided by "The Caudells" Our meal will be Black eye peas, sweet potatoes, BBQ, slaw, potato salad, tea, and a birthday cake to celebrate the General's birthday. A commemorative badge and program will be provided for each guest. The cost is \$15 for adults and \$8 for kids under 12. A commemorative t-shirt is also available for \$15, please state your size. Send your reservations to: Murfreesboro SCV Camp # 33, P.O. Box 1915, Murfreesboro, TN 37133-1915. Deadline July 6th. For questions, call 615-890-6194 or email: mboroscv33@aol.com

Directions to Oaklands Mansion: From I-24 take exit 81 and go towards Murfreesboro on Hwy. 231, turn right onto Broad Street (Hwy. 41) and go to the first red light and turn left onto Maney Avenue. Follow Maney until it ends directly at the driveway to Oaklands. Go straight back to Maney Hall which is to the left of Oaklands Mansion.



## ***2009 The Year of Dixie***

Oh, I wish I was in the land of cotton,  
Old times there are not forgotten, *{Alt Original: Simmon seed and sandy bottom,}*  
Look away, look away, look away Dixie Land.

In Dixie Land, where I was born in,  
early on one frosty mornin',  
Look away, look away, look away Dixie Land.

I wish I was in Dixie, Hooray! Hooray!  
In Dixie Land I'll take my stand  
to live and die in Dixie.  
Away, away, away down south in Dixie.  
Away, away, away down south in Dixie



# *Deo Vindice*

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