

# Grey Matter

Newsletter of The Rankin Greys  
SCV Camp 2278

April 2017

Volume 1 Issue 1



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## Commander's Report

by Commander Billy Bryant

April is Confederate Heritage Month in Mississippi. In honor of that, we will not be having a speaker. Instead we will be taking time to remember our ancestors and reflect upon the sacrifices that they made for the *Cause*. Our Confederate ancestors fulfilled their duty as they understood it. All gave some for the *Cause*, but lets not forget those who gave their all. Out of 750,000 soldiers who fought for the Confederacy, roughly 60% of those men would become casualties. These men fought for us. It is only fitting and proper that we honor their legacy.

Also, we now have a news letter editor. Thanks Conor Bond for stepping up and filling this much needed position in our camp. Please make sure that we have an up to date email for you on file so you can receive the next issue of *Grey Matter*.

I look forward to seeing you all at our next Camp Meeting on April 8<sup>th</sup>.

Live the Charge,

Billy Bryant  
Commander



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TO IN OXFORD

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# Adjutant's Report

by Camp Adjutant Chris Bryant

The Rankin Greys was founded by seven members of the Mechanized Cavalry. We've had one member resign, and have picked up 24 new Greys to bring us to 30 strong in our first year. Of those, 13 were transfers and 11 were new to the SCV. Of those 11, 3 are 12 year olds brought into the camp under our young member scholarship. We also have 5 cadets and 1 associate member in our ranks.

For all Greys and any that may be interested in receiving our newsletter, please email, text or PM me your email addresses so that I can update my database. We will be emailing our newsletters to you as they are published. There will be printed copies available for those that do not use Facebook or email. We have shirts and hats available for sale. Sizes are limited. See Phillip Griffin to purchase them. For other items, and for shirt sizes that we don't have available, you can visit

<http://www.cafepress.com/rankingreyscamp2278>

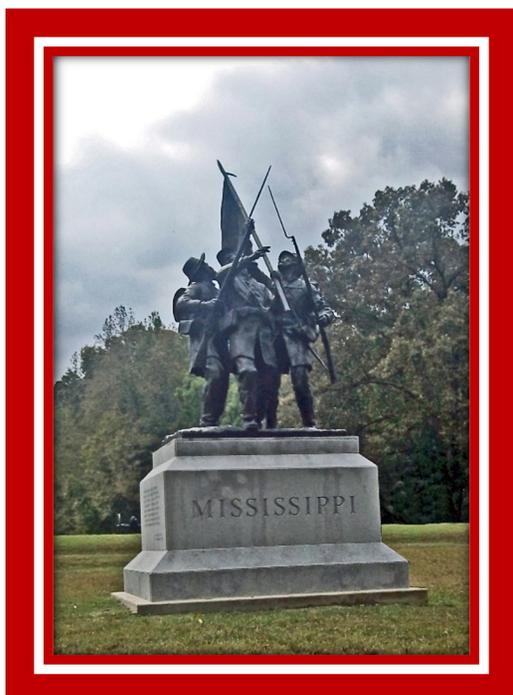
Please continue to spread the word about the camp, the truth of our heritage and our ancestors, Live with Honor, and most of all, Live the Charge.

Your humble servant,

Chris Bryant

[wchrisbryant@gmail.com](mailto:wchrisbryant@gmail.com)

601-383-8275



*This publication is dedicated to the honor  
and the memory of the brave men of  
Company I 6<sup>th</sup> Mississippi Infantry*

*Lest We Forget.*

# Division Reunion

by George Conor Bond

**A**s a child, we always took our summer vacations around the Mississippi Division and National Reunions. Some of my happiest memories come from these reunions. These were times that we came together to discuss the business of the Mississippi Division SCV, and visit with our friends and brethren. If you have never attended a Division Reunion, allow me to attempt to describe the events and atmosphere surrounding this weekend.

**Friday Afternoon-** Friday afternoon is usually reserved for registration, and the Pre-Convention Division Executive Council meeting. This is a perfect time to walk around, visit the vendors, and visit with some of the other members of the Division who you may not know.

**Friday Evening-** Friday evening is traditionally the time that we celebrate the birthday of Confederate President Jefferson Davis at the President's Reception. President Davis was born on June 3, 1808. The Mississippi Division Bylaws say that our convention is to start on the

Friday following his birthday. Following the President's Reception, is the first of the unofficial pool parties of that weekend. These are times for the members to unwind, relax, and prepare for the following day's business.

**Saturday Morning-** Saturday is the busiest day of the Reunion. Saturday starts with the opening ceremonies. This includes the opening prayer, posting of the colors, and welcomes from several of dignitaries from National as well as other Confederate organizations such as the UDC and OCR. When everyone is finished speaking, we usually take a short break and then it is on to Division business. This year we have a lot of business to tend to such as electing Brigade and Division Officers as well as By-law changes. The voting on these issues will be done by our Camp's delegates. At the end of the business session, there is one final break, and when we reassemble, we are meeting as the shareholders for the Beauvoir corporate meeting. During the Beauvoir corporate meeting, we elect members to serve on the Board of Directors, or confirm members of the Board of Trustees. During this meeting, each member gets to vote; in other words, One Man One Vote. The meeting dismisses with prayer and the singing of Dixie.

**Saturday Evening-** Saturday evening is the Awards Banquet. This Banquet is a time for us to break bread and recognize members of our organization who deserve to be recognized for their hard work through the past year.

**Saturday Night-** Saturday night is the big unofficial pool party. Here many of the members of the Division come out and unwind. Stories will be told, battles will be refought, and by the end of the night the South has won the war.

**Sunday-** Sunday we have a memorial service. This service is to honor our ancestors, as well as the brothers who we have lost over the past year.

There is a lot more that goes on at a Division Reunion, and this is a brief overview.

If you have never attended a Division Reunion, please try to attend this year's Reunion in Oxford. Not only is it fun, but it will set the tone for the Division's future. We need as many members there for the Beauvoir corporate meeting as possible. There is also talk about flagging Ole Miss' campus after the business secession. Wouldn't that be fun?



*122nd Mississippi Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans and the  
23rd Mississippi Society, Order of Confederate Rose Reunions*



**June 9, 10 and 11, 2017, in Oxford, Mississippi  
2017 REUNION REGISTRATION FORM**

SCV MEMBER NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ CAMP: \_\_\_\_\_  
 OCR MEMBER NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ OCR CHAPTER: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 PHONE: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 SCV EARLY REGISTRATION (before January 31, 2017)..... \$30.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
 SCV REGULAR REGISTRATION (between 2/1/17 to 5/15/17)..... \$35.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
 SCV LATE REGISTRATION (post-marked after 5/15/17)..... \$45.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
 OCR REGISTRATION ..... \$15.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
 SATURDAY NIGHT AWARDS BANQUET..... \$20.00 PER PERSON \_\_\_\_\_  
 ANCESTOR MEMORIAL (COMPLETE ATTACHED FORM)..... QTY. \_\_\_\_ (X'S) \$10.00 EACH ANCESTOR \_\_\_\_\_  
**TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Make checks payable to University Greys and mail the registration to:

Larry Mardis  
University Greys  
P.O. Box 141  
Taylor, MS 38673

Contact information: Larry Mardis  
secmissarv@yahoo.com  
662-832-4908

Larry Hellums  
spec@brucetelephone.com  
662-800-9228

Registration packet pickup on Friday, June 9<sup>th</sup> between 4 and 8 pm at Cedar Oaks located at 601 Murry Drive, Oxford  
 The Saturday events will be in the Oxford Convention Center, which is located on Sisk Avenue and will start at 8 am  
 Saturday night banquet will start at 5:30 pm and will be at the Oxford Convention Center  
 Sunday closing will be at the Confederate Cemetery on the Ole Miss Campus at 8:30 am

Vendor tables are available: Please complete attached form  
 Reunion program advertisement available: Please see attached form  
 Hotel information: Please see attached information

All Registered SCV members will receive a Name Badge, Reunion Medal, Reunion Program, and a "Reunion goodie bag."

Late Door Registration will receive the same only as long as supplies last.

OCR Registrants will have a Ladies Tea in lieu of a Reunion Medal.

All registrations submitted for the amounts specified above must be post-marked appropriately within the specified time-frame.

No refunds to be distributed for cancellations on or after May 25, 2017

# Mississippi Division Confederate Memorial Services

April 8

Mississippi College Rifles 1636

Clinton, MS 1:00 PM

April 15

Lowery Rifles Camp 1740

Brandon, MS 10:00 AM

Live Oak Rifles Camp 2236

Gautier, MS 2:00 PM

April 17

East Mississippi Greys Camp 1666

Forest, MS 6:30 PM

April 22

Beauvoir Memorial Service

Biloxi, MS 2:00 PM

Mississippi Division Memorial Service

Vicksburg, MS 2:00 PM

April 23

WD Cameron 1221

Lauderdale Springs, MS 3:00 PM

April 24

Confederate Heritage Day

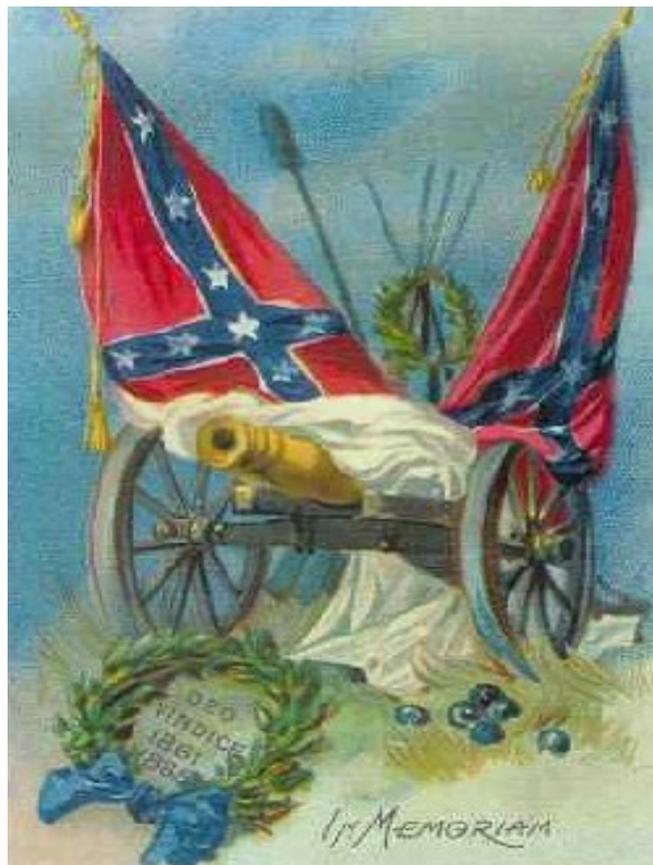
April 30

Jefferson Davis Camp 635

Jackson, MS 2:00 PM

Big/ Gen Benjamin G. Humphreys Camp 1625

Greenville, MS 2:00 PM



Confederate Flag Day



On March 4 2017, the Mississippi Division SCV celebrated Confederate Flag Day at Beauvoir. Thanks to Commander Jessie Sanford of Camp LT. GEN. NATHAN BEDFORD FORREST Camp 1353 for organizing such a great event!

Camp Meeting March 11, 2017

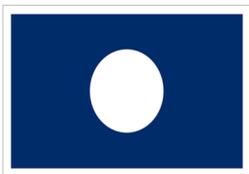


On March 11, 2017, The Rankin Greys held its monthly meeting. Our thanks to Ms. Susan McKay Hisaw for being our Speaker!

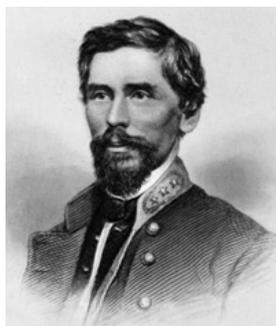
Pictures from the 4th Brigade Picnic



On March 25, 2017, the 4<sup>th</sup> Brigade held its annual Picnic. It was hosted by the East Mississippi Greys Camp 1666. This was a great day of fellowship with our compatriots from across the Brigade. Camp 2278 was well represented. Our thanks go out to Commander Warren and the members of Camp 1666 for hosting this great event. Thanks Michael Putnam for the use of these pictures.



# Forefathers in Grey



General Patrick R. Cleburne

He is known affectionately as “the Stonewall of the West” and Robert E. Lee referred to him as a “meteor shining from a clouded sky”. He was the highest-ranking Irish-born officer in American History, and one of the most beloved Confederate commanders.

Patrick R. Cleburne was born on March 17th 1828 in Ovens, County Cork, Ireland. He was the third child and second son Dr. Joseph Cleburne and Mary Anne Ronayne Cleburne. His mother died with he was 18 months old, and he was an orphan at the age of 15. In February 1843, Cleburne enlisted in the Forty-First Regiment of Foot of the British army after failing a medical school entrance exam. Expecting to be sent to India, he was much surprised when the regiment was posted in Ireland for civil duties stemming from the crisis of the Great Famine. For the next three and a half years, Cleburne was posted at barracks all across famine-stricken

Ireland. He eventually purchased his way out of the army and emigrated to America with his siblings. He would eventually settle in Helena, Arkansas where he began to flourish as a druggist, and eventually began to climb the town’s social ladder. In December of 1855 he and future Confederate Major Thomas Hindman purchased a newspaper called the Democratic Star. In 1856, Cleburne and Hindman were both wounded by gunshots during a street fight in Helena following a political debate. Cleburne was shot in the back, turned around and shot one of his attackers, killing him. The attackers hid until Cleburne collapsed on the street and then left. After the two recovered, they appeared before a grand jury to respond to all charges brought against them. They were exonerated. By 1860, Cleburne was a naturalized citizen, a practicing lawyer, and very popular with the local residents.

As secession fever was striking Helena, Patrick Cleburne sided with his adopted people and joined a local militia company called the Yell Rifles. He was soon elected Captain and led the Yell Rifles in seizing the Federal Arsenal in Little Rock in January of 1861. Arkansas would officially leave the Union in May of 1861. The Yell Rifles became part of the 15<sup>th</sup> Arkansas Infantry. Cleburne would be elected Colonel of that regiment and would be promoted to Brigadier General in March of 1862. Cleburne served at the Battle of Shiloh where he commanded his Brigade in Hardee’s Corps. In his brigade was Company I of the 6<sup>th</sup> Mississippi Infantry. They would serve under Cleburne for much of the war.

After the Confederate defeat at Shiloh, Cleburne would participate in Bragg’s Kentucky Campaign where he would be wounded. In late 1862, Cleburne was promoted to division commander and served at the battle of Murfreesboro where his division advanced three miles as it routed the Federal right flank and drove it back. On December 13<sup>th</sup>, he was promoted to Major General. At the battle of Chickamauga, he and his division were pivotal in winning the only major Confederate victory in the West. They held their own at Missionary Ridge against a much larger force under commanded by William T. Sherman. At the battle of Ringgold Gap in northern Georgia, Cleburne and his division of 4,200 men held off 16,000 Federals. They inflicted 509 casualties while only losing 20 men. Because of this action, Cleburne and his troops received an official thanks from the Confederate Congress.

1864 would be the most pivotal year in his life. In early 1864, Cleburne called together the leadership of the Army of Tennessee and put forth a proposal to emancipate the slaves and enlist them in the Confederate Army. Soon after, he became engaged to Susan Tarleton of Mobile Alabama. He served during the Atlanta Campaign and would be apart of the Army of Tennessee’s ill fated Franklin-Nashville Campaign commanded by General John Bell Hood.

On November 30th 1864 Major General Patrick Cleburne was angry on the march from Spring Hill, Tennessee, toward the small town of Franklin in the late morning hours of November 30, 1864. The day before, the Confederate Army was posed for victory at Spring Hill but the Federals had slipped away. After the campaign, he was going to demand a full investigation to defend his conduct. General Cleburne had been given information from a "reliable channel" that he was being blamed by General John Bell Hood for the Confederate failure the day before. Around 2:30 p.m., nearing Franklin, General Cleburne rode up on Winstead Hill. He rested his field glasses on a tree stump and observed the Federal lines. He remarked, "They are formidable." A courier from General Hood informed General Cleburne that his presence was required for a conference at the home of William Harrison, which stood approximately one-half mile south of Winstead Hill. Hood told his commanders his plans for a frontal assault against the Federal works and asked for opinions. Major Generals Nathan B. Forrest, B. Franklin Cheatham, and Cleburne all advised against an attack over open fields against entrenchments and artillery.

As General Cleburne mounted his horse to return to his division, Hood ordered: *General, form your division to the right of the pike, letting your left overlap the same. General Brown will form on the left with his right overlapping your left. I wish you to move on the enemy. Give orders to your men not to fire a gun until you run the Yankee skirmish line from behind the first line of works in your front, then press them and shoot them in their backs as they run to their main line; then charge the enemy works. Franklin is the key to Nashville and Nashville is the key to independence.*



General Cleburne's Coat he wore at Franklin

Cleburne replied, "General, I will take the works or fall in the attempt." Before the fateful Battle of Franklin, General Cleburne held his last meeting with his brigade commanders on Breezy Hill. Brigadier General Daniel C. Govan felt that General Cleburne was "greatly depressed." General Cleburne emphasized Hood's orders that the Federal works must be carried by the point of the bayonet at all hazards. Govan saluted and said, "Well, General, few of us will ever return to Arkansas to tell the story of this battle." Cleburne replied with a sentiment that was prevalent in most of the

hearts of the men in the gallant Army of Tennessee: "Well, Govan, if we are to die, let us die like men."

He was last seen advancing on foot toward the Federal lines with his sword raised after his horse was shot out from under him. Accounts say that his body was found just inside of the Federal lines. He was shot through the heart. His former corps commander, William J. Hardee had this to say when he learned of his loss: "Where this division defended, no odds broke its line; where it attacked, no numbers resisted its onslaught, save only once; and there is the grave of Cleburne."

Cleburne leading the assault at Franklin



General Cleburne's headstone in Helena, Arkansas

General Cleburne was originally laid to rest in the graveyard of St. John's Episcopal Church, near Mount Pleasant, Tennessee. In 1870, his remains were disinterred and moved to the Confederate section of Maple Hill Cemetery in his adopted Hometown of Helena, Arkansas.

# Division Elections

Elections will be held this year at the annual Division Reunion. Below is a list of candidates who we will have a chance to vote for.

## Division Commander

Jeff Barnes

Marc Allen

## Division Adjutant

Michael Putnam

## 1st Lt. Commander

George Conor Bond

David Wooten

## 2nd Lt. Commander

Carl Ford

Greg Stewart

Harry Vinson

## 4th Brigade Commander

Chris Bryant

Bill Hinson

## 4th Brigade Executive Councilman

Bruce Warren

Patrick Charlton

# Minutes from March 11, 2017

03/11/2017 (location Los Cazadores, 2855 Hwy 49 S. Florence, MS 39073)

7:08 pm start

Prayer – M. Boteler

Pledges – Ian McKay

Welcome to all guests by Billy

Kathy Vanek – new OCR members, Easter Bunny Breakfast, 6/24 motorcycle ride & sponsors, Easter breakfast

Susan Hisaw – Historian and genealogist (7:17-7:57)

Billy – Certificates

\*Chuck Bond promotion of Aide de Camp

\*Phillip Griffin promotion to Quartermaster

\*Bobby Shows new member certificate

Bruce Warren – running for 4th Brigade executive councilman, offered assistance with any cemetery work

Jeff Barnes – running for Division Commander

Still need editor for newsletter

Rankin Greys 1 year old this month

Owen McDowell – Made motion, Billy Bryant second, motion carried for camp to support Jeff Barnes for Division Commander, Bruce Warren for 4th Brigade executive councilman, and Chris Bryant for 4th brigade commander with all camp delegates

4th Brigade picnic in Forest on March 25

Reminder to update personal information on division website

Shiloh Church Cemetery – planning still in progress

Update on Confederate Flag Day at Beauvoir

Closing Prayer – M. Boteler

Meeting ended – 8:25 pm

## Agenda for April 8, 2017

- Opening prayer
- Pledges and Salutes
- Reading of the Charge
- Welcome
- Introduction of guest

### Old/Unfinished Business

- New member certificates (Seling, Williamson, Smith)
- Mega Flag Update
- Beauvoir news
- Division Convention in Oxford
- Shiloh Cemetery updates
- Kathy for any OCR news and WW ride update

### New Business

- April is Confederate Heritage Month
  - Soldier's Rest Memorial, April 22
  - Forest Memorial, April 17
- Other April events
  - Ryan Atkinson MC patch-in at Vicksburg April 9
  - Easter Bunny Breakfast April 15
- Website stats
- Requests for speakers
- See Camp Quarter Master Phillip Griffin for Shirts (\$20) and Hats (\$15), see [cafepress.com/rankingreyscamp2278](http://cafepress.com/rankingreyscamp2278) for other items
- See Chris for applications
- Open discussion

### Candlelight Memorial Service

- Closing prayer

## HOT OFF THE PRESS!

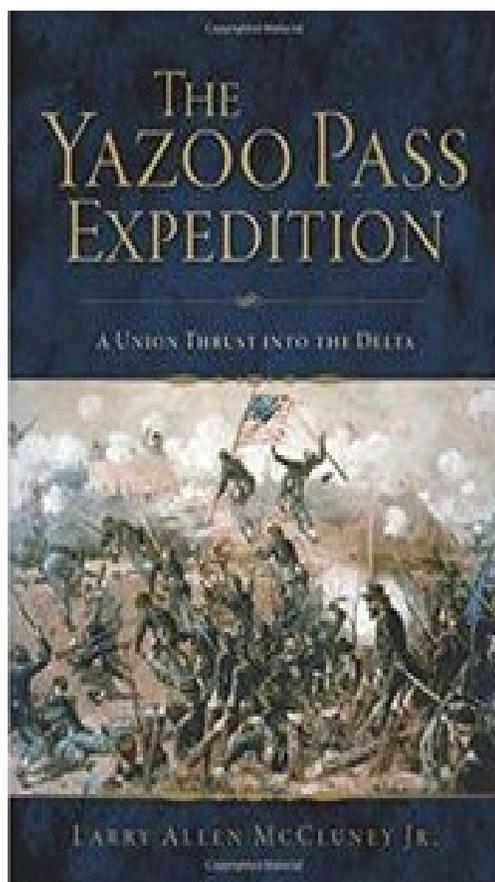
### About Larry

Larry McCluney, Jr. is a history teacher in Greenwood, Mississippi. He received both Bachelors and Masters Degrees in History from Mississippi State University. Larry is an active living historian who gives an excellent first person portrayal of General Pierre Gustave Toutant Beauregard. He is a member of the Mississippi Professional Educators and the Phi Alpha Theta, Honor Society for Historians. He has won numerous awards from the United Daughters of the Confederacy and the Sons of Confederate Veterans for historical preservation. He is a combined boards chairman of the nonprofit that oversees Beauvoir, Last Home of Confederate President Jefferson Davis. Larry lives in Greenwood with his wife, Julia.

Larry published a two page article on Beauvoir After Katrina and his book *The Yazoo Pass Expedition: A Union Thrust into the Delta* was published by History Press.

#### About the Book:

“After six failed attempts to reach Vicksburg, General Ulysses S. Grant developed a plan. The Yazoo Pass Expedition was a Union army/navy operation meant to bypass Vicksburg by using the backwaters of the Mississippi Delta. Operations began on February 3, 1863, with a levee breach on the Mississippi River. The expedition was delayed as a result of natural obstacles and Confederate resistance, which allowed the Confederate army under Lieutenant General John Pemberton to block passage of the Federal fleet. The Confederates continued to rebuff the fleet and finally defeated it in the spring. Larry McCluney examines the expedition from start to finish in never-before-seen detail.”





GENERAL HEADQUARTERS

## Sons of Confederate Veterans

*"Historic Elm Springs"*

March 15, 2017

### Notice from the Adjutant-in-Chief:

The General Executive Council (GEC) met in Elm Springs on Saturday, March 11, 2017 and voted, without objection, to change two (2) items which will affect doing business going into the 2017-2018 fiscal Year.

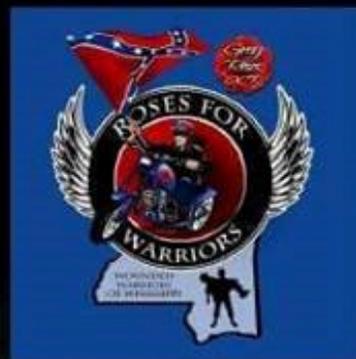
First – As you all know a grace period of 90 days has been afforded to members to renew their dues and not be considered as becoming delinquent on August 1<sup>st</sup> each year. That period will now change to only 30 days, meaning that a member who fails to renew by **September 1<sup>st</sup>** will become delinquent.

Second – Currently we prorate dues for both new and delinquent renewing members. Beginning with the 2017-2018 fiscal year proration will apply to only new members. Delinquent renewing members will no longer be able to prorate.

Respectfully,

Douglas W. Nash, Jr.  
Adjutant-in-Chief  
Sons of Confederate Veterans  
nc46e@hotmail.com

# Roses for Warriors Run



**June 24th, 2017**

**Registration begins @ 8:30 a.m.**

**Berry's in Florence to Hattiesburg Cycles**

**\$25 rider, \$40 couple**

**Includes shirt and lunch**

**Proceeds will help benefit Wounded Warriors of MS**

**For tickets visit: [www.greyrosesocr.com](http://www.greyrosesocr.com)**



# Bunny Breakfast

**Saturday, April 15th, 2017**

**7:30—9:30 A.M.**

**Applebee's in Brandon**

**126 Stribling Ln, Brandon, MS 39042**



**Tickets are \$10 each**

**(children under 12 months of age are not required to have a ticket)**

**Visit [www.greyroseso.com](http://www.greyroseso.com) for tickets**

**Bring your camera for pictures with the Easter Bunny!**

**All children will receive a special treat for the Easter Bunny also!**

**A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Mustard Seed**



Compatriots,

I hope that you have enjoyed this first issue of *Grey Matter*. Next month we will celebrate our camp being one year old. We will have a special edition issue to celebrate. Please send in your pictures from this past year's activities for publication. We will have more feature articles in upcoming issues of the *Grey Matter*. Here is a preview for next month:

A report about a visit the Greys took to historical Shiloh United Methodist Church  
A look back and April and Confederate Heritage Month  
A look back at our first year of Answering the Call  
A history of the Rankin Greys SCV Camp 2278  
And So Much More!

Forward the Colors,

George Conor Bond  
Editor  
Dixiedude011@gmail.com

