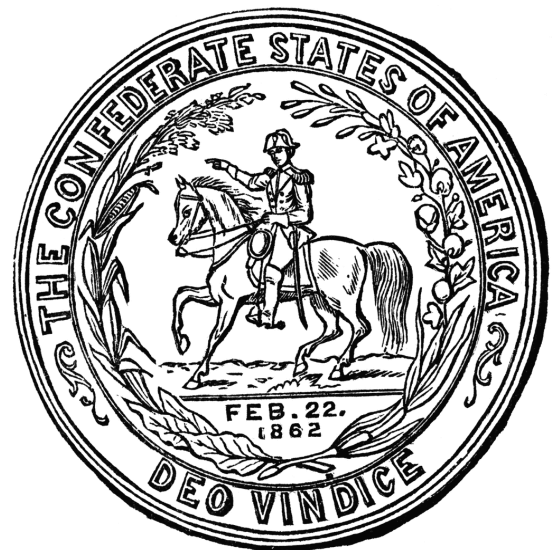
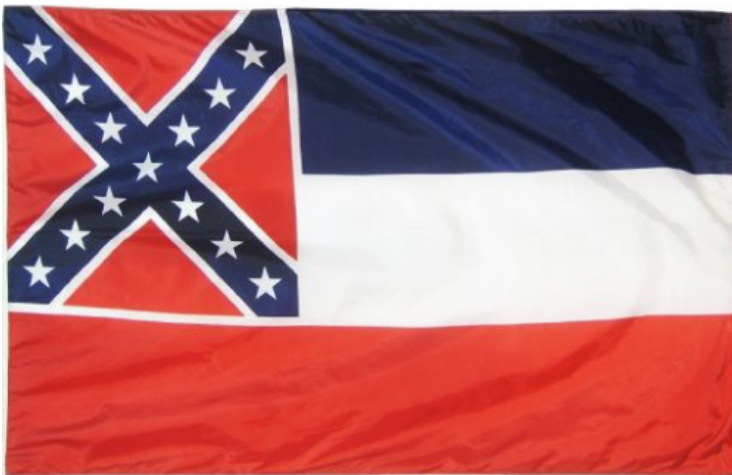


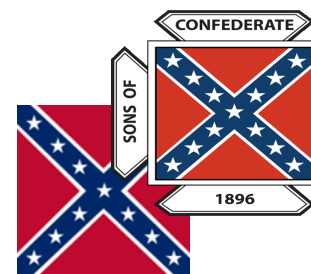
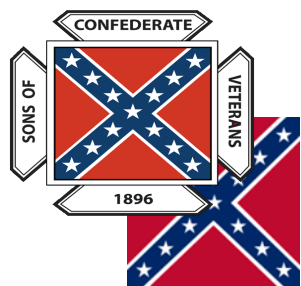
# Grey Matter

Newsletter of The Rankin  
Greys  
SCV Camp 2278



May 2023  
Volume 4 Issue 5





### **Camp Adjutant Chris Bryant:**

I make a motion to add the following minutes from the May 13, 2023, meeting to the permanent record of the Rankin Greys Camp 2278:

05/13/2023 (location Los Cazadores, 2855 Hwy 49 S. Florence, MS 39073)

Meeting Start – 18:58

Prayer – Dwayne Stringer

Pledges – John Evans

Billy Bryant:

- Welcome guests, introduce John Evans, head of delegate committee.

John Evans:

- Listed delegates (John Evans, Dylan Dupre, Robert Allen, Tim Lacey, Jerry Lacey, Joel Hobson, Jonathan Keyes, Oley Emerson Perry, Eddie Farish, alternates Glenn Hayes, Jerry Dafferfer).
- There were 4 amendments to be voted for that are now off the table for the reunion.
- Please try to attend to learn the process.
- Only one person currently running for each office, but people still can be nominated from the floor.
- Dennis Brown is running for Division Commander, Forrest Daws is running for 1st Lt Commander, Terry Arthur is running for 2nd Lt Commander, Mike Moore is running for adjutant.
- Beauvoir meeting is one man one vote and will be directly after the Division business meeting.

Conor Bond:

- Term limited out as Division Commander, thank you to the camp for support during the past 4 years.
- We are hosting Division Reunion next year. We have a hotel now, the Hilton Garden in Flowood. Plans are shaping up for the activities. Division will pay \$2000 to help with cost of reunion. Motion from Bruce Warren, 2<sup>nd</sup> from Glenn Hays, to write check for \$1500 to cover deposit on hotel facilities, passed with no opposition. Reunion will

be themed “Secession”. Reunion medal will be changing to replicate the original secession cockades. Hotel will cater the meal at the Awards banquet.

Billy Bryant:

- Conor will be heading up the Reunion committee
- Introduce our speaker George Dorrill of the Attala Yellowjackets
  - Presentation on Heros Von Borcke

Billy Bryant:

- RAD fundraising has nearly reached our target of \$7200. Tickets are still available for the NBF Pistol.
- Confederate Memorial Day was a good turn out at Beauvoir. Things are looking better down there. Camp will be going again on May 20. Camp cook B team will be preparing the food.
- Hwy 49 Jefferson Davis Memorial, Eddie F. pursued and found the memorial and is working with someone he works with to be able to place it on private property on the side of the highway.
- COC meeting went well. A new veteran-based MC is trying to start up, the Skull Society, was refused by the COC.
- There will be a camp meeting between the Division and Beauvoir meetings at Reunion.
- Thanks to the Dorrills for coming.

Went into Executive Session – 19:54

Prayer – Dwayne Stringer

Meeting Adjourn – 20:25

Spot light our guest speaker for this months meeting.

Great meeting at Rankin Greys Camp 2278 tonight. George Dorrill of the Attala Yellowjackets Camp gave a very interesting program on Heros Von Borcke - Gen J E B Stuart's Chief of Staff.  
Thanks Commander Billy Bryant for another wonderful meeting.



Bruce Warren visiting another camp meeting.

Attended the W D Cameron Camp 1221 of Meridian meeting tonight. A very interesting meeting with Terry Arthur as the speaker. Camp Adjutant Knox Poole ran the meeting in the absence of Commander Elliot Poole. Thanks Knox for an awesome meeting.



## **Note from: Mississippi Division Commander George Conor Bond**

"Be always sure you are right - then go ahead."- The Honorable David Crocket.

Growing up, my father taught me to be proud of my ancestors and heritage. Likewise, he instilled a sense of pride in our beloved southland. But, most importantly, he taught me that before any undertaking to make sure that when making a significant decision, to make sure that I was in the right before going ahead.

My career as an officer in the SCV started in 2011. As a senior in high school, I was elected as a Lt. Commander in Camp 265. A few months later, newly elected Division Commander Alan Palmer appointed me his Division Color Sergeant. In this position, I traveled from Corinth to the Coast and Vicksburg to Meridian. I also started attending Division Executive Council Meetings. There I learned the workings of the Mississippi Division, parliamentary procedure, and the art of diplomacy (although that lesson could have stuck better).

In 2013 I ran for 4th Brigade Executive Councilman. I chose to run for this position because no one else announced or campaigned for that position. For two years, I tried to represent the 4th Brigade to the best of my ability despite the last year living in Cleveland, MS, while at Delta State. In July 2014, Larry McCluney appointed me Adjutant for the Army of Tennessee. In 2015, I chose not to run for re-election and moved my membership to Camp 1625. In June, I left office and looked forward to being a regular camp member again. However, a few days later, our world was turned upside down when a madman shot up a group of black congregants in Charleston, South Carolina.

That July, I attended the National Reunion in Richmond, Virginia. I remember sitting at the hotel's bar on the Reunion's first day, waiting on the GEC to get out of executive session. As I was sipping on an overpriced whiskey sour, our then-newly appointed division judge advocate approached me. Despite my not-so-subtle attempts to disengage, he began trying to converse. Finally, as I paid my tab and started to leave, he said, "Well, you know we need to go ahead and ask the legislature to change the state flag back to the magnolia." This suggestion of crawling and begging without putting up a fight stopped me in my tracks. After a few choice words, I called my father and other compatriots, and we set up a meeting for after the Reunion. At that meeting, we formed the Coalition to Save the State Flag and began working on the ballot initiatives to give the vote to the people.

For the rest of 2015, I was dedicated to saving our flag. I collected signatures on petitions, delivered petitions to county clerks, tracked incoming certified petitions, analyzed data, ran our social media accounts, and met with politicians. While the initiative did not get the required signatures, we created enough waives that legislature did not vote to change the flag.

In 2016, Commander-in-Chief Tom Strain asked if I would work with Chief of Heritage Operations Carl Jones as his Deputy Chief of Heritage Promotions. I agreed and worked with Carl and the GEC for two years to approve Mega Flags and other projects to promote our heritage.

During that time, the Mississippi Division was in a precarious situation. Unfortunately, in late 2016, the Division's Executive Council took a ludicrous course of action.

This course of action almost caused the National Organization to revoke our Division's Charter and could have landed us in a lawsuit. So, in 2017 I decided to run for 1st Lt. Commander of the Mississippi Division.

For the next two years, I worked with Division Commander Jeff Barnes. We saw our membership begin to grow, overhauled our bylaws, created a constitution, and incorporated the Division. I am proud of the work we accomplished. The natural next step was to be Division Commander.

When I assumed the office of Division Commander, I was 26 years old.

Four years later and I am about to step out of office. My life, the Division, and Confederation have significantly changed in these four years. Soon after I was elected, my father was diagnosed with lung cancer. On December 27, 2019, I lost my best friend, mentor, and father. Soon after, the news reported a strange new virus in China. By March 2020, we were under a government-sanctioned lockdown. We had to postpone our standard convention due to Covid, so I called an emergency special convention to pass a budget, and we did. At the same time, we began to lose members because camps could not meet. As dues became due, I begged the Commander-In-Chief to postpone the delinquency period so we would not lose half our Division members. When we began meeting again, I started pushing my aggressive agenda. We paid for The Mississippi Department of Archives and History to preserve three original Confederate Flags. We donated several thousand dollars to the National Confederate Museum at Elm Springs. We increased our social media presence. We fixed a glaring issue in our constitution. Finally, we helped raise money to purchase land and erect a new Confederate Monument in Calhoun County, MS. We certainly had our share of negatives. Yet, we accomplished this all while being constantly attacked by the neo-Bolshevik left and fighting amongst ourselves. Still, our positives outweighed the negatives, and reflecting on the negatives does no good.

If calculated correctly, I will have served 1464 days as Division Commander by the time I leave office. To put that in perspective, if you figure the number of dates between April 12, 1861 (firing on Fort Sumpter) to May 9, 1865 (when General Forrest Surrendered in Gainesville, Alabama), that is 1488 days, four days short of the War. I thank God for the guidance and health to have served these 1464 days. I thank the men of the Mississippi Division for trusting me with their Division for 1464 days. I also thank Captain Nathan Westly Slay and the countless Confederate Soldiers for their service of more than 1464 days. Because, in the end, it's about them, not us. Their sacrifice gives us the right to be in the SCV. Our heritage is only on loan to us. Our ancestors paid for it in blood, sweat, and tears during the War and Reconstruction. We have a duty to protect it but ensure its transition to the next generation. I have tried to "do my duty in all things," as General Lee commanded. I made sure that I was right and went ahead with all decisions over my SCV career. While this chapter closes, I look forward to the next one.

**Thanks,**  
*Conor Bond*

**Work Day at our beloved Beauvoir**

Quality is sometimes better than quantity. Today for our workday we had at Beauvoir, 12 Rankin Greys Camp members and 1 man from the Hattiesburg camp Johnny Santmeyer, showed up to help. We were able to put the finishing touch on the roof, busted up all the sunk in concrete near the mansion, got it ready to repour, concreted in the keypad post out by the main gates, fixed one mower, a golf cart and cut some grass. Big thank you to the ones that continue to show they "love" Beauvoir.



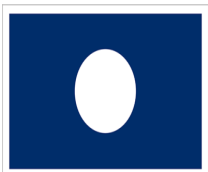
**The crew went out to eat after the work was done.**





Join us as we Look Around the Confederation! Remember you can submit your stories to [scvyouthoutreach@gmail.com](mailto:scvyouthoutreach@gmail.com) to be featured on the show. MOOSE will be talking on great things happening around the confederation. It will lead into a topic about how we fight as 21st Century Confederates.

Find it on Facebook live on Monday evenings at 7:00 pm and again on Thursday at 7:00 pm



# DIXIE WILL NEVER DIE

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*Though some folks have said Dixie will die,  
I don't think this is true and I'll tell you why...  
Because Dixie is Bigger than Texas, you see,  
And has as much Southern Hospitality as Tennessee.  
Has more big Plantations than Louisiana  
And more beautiful Southern Belles than Alabama.  
Has as much golden Sunshine as Florida  
And more beautiful Mansions than Georgia.  
Like the Carolinas, has even more Beautiful Country  
And like Virginia has as fine a Society.  
Has more Blue Grass than Kentucky, you'll  
And is as much the "Land of Opportunity" as Arkansas  
Like Missouri, must be Shown how it can never be forgotten  
Since like Mississippi it is still the "Land of Cotton"  
So my Rebel Flag I'll proudly show,  
Because deep in my heart I honestly know  
That on that day you're afraid to display the Rebel Flag,  
You'll be afraid to display the American Flag.  
And I'll hoist my Rebel Flag way up high,  
To see that Dixie, mighty Dixie, will never die.*

*R. L. Wagner III*

Compatriots,

I hope you have enjoyed this issue of the Grey Matter; if anyone would like to submit an article for publication, please send to. We always have something to put out there to show what this camp does best:

ANSWER THE CALL



Donald Gaines (hippy)  
hippyscv@gmail.com