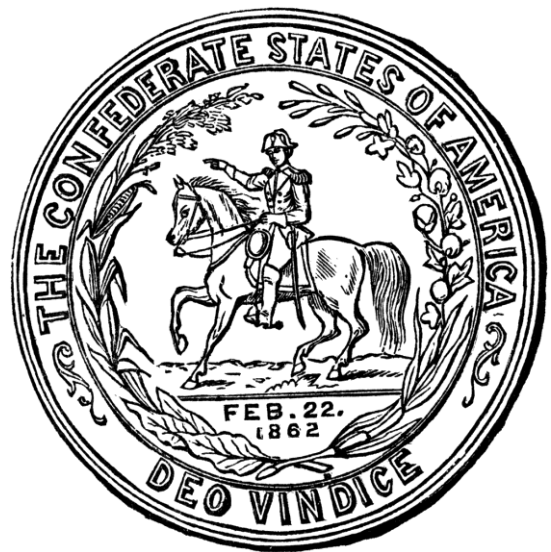
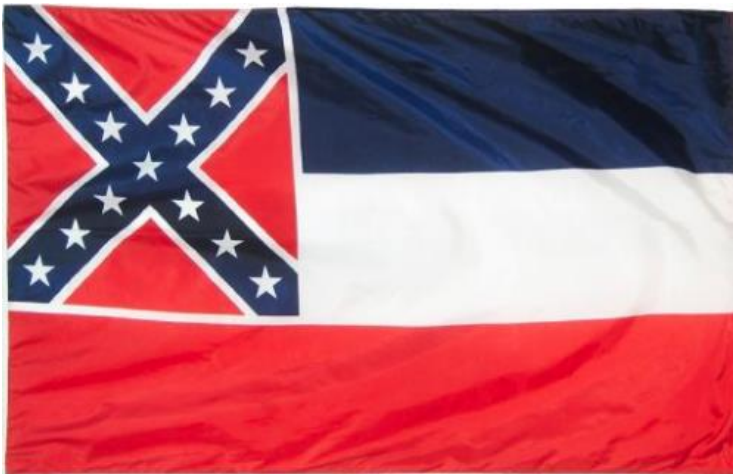


Grey Matter

Newsletter of The Rankin Greys
SCV Camp 2278

March 2022
Volume 3 Issue 2





Commanders' Report

by Commander Billy Bryant

Next month will be our 8th anniversary since our camp was chartered. We have gone from 7 members to just sending in the application for our 80th member. That is an average of 9 new members per year. We currently have a 98% retention rate. We have raised thousands of dollars for our local nursing home, veterans nursing home, fire and police depts, children's camp for MD, camp for kids with pediatric cancer and our Mississippi Wounded Warriors., etc. We have won National Awards among having camp members serve on the last 3 Commander in Chiefs staff and Division positions as well. We are called the Mec Cav camp, in a derogatory manner, nasty bikers, thugs, bullies and etc. by some folks that do not know us nor have ever attended a camp meeting. Before you listen to lies being spread, why not take the time to get to know us and visit a camp meeting and see for yourself who we are and what we do, not only in our community but for our Confederate ancestors. I have heard that folks say what we do has nothing to do with the mission of the SCV. Obviously gaining members to help maintain our organization and keep our ancestor's memory and history alive does not count. These lies and disinformation is spread by folks that do absolutely NOTHING for the SCV except lurk in the shadows. This is a volunteer, fraternal organization and even thru being lied about and called names our members continue to live the charge. It has been said that the Mec Cav is trying to take over the SCV, well we are only about 10 to 15 percent of the membership so if that was to happen try blaming the 80 plus percent that do absolutely nothing but complain about it. We will continue to grow and do what we have been doing for the last 8 years regardless of what the malcontents think. Take just a minute or two of your time since you are reading this and scroll thru the pictures of all the things, we have done then come enjoy one of the best camp meetings you have ever attended, we may even buy you dinner.

DEO VINDICE
MCFFMC
RAYWWF

Billy Bryant
Commander Camp 2278.
The Rankin Greys.



Meeting Minutes – March 2022 By Camp Adjutant Chris Bryant

I make a motion to add the following minutes from the March 12, 2022, meeting to the permanent record of the Rankin Greys Camp 2278:

03/12/2022 (location Los Cazadores, 2855 Hwy 49 S. Florence, MS 39073)

Meeting Start – 19:00

Prayer – Tommy Symon

Pledges – John Evans

The Charge – Phillip Griffin

Chris Bryant – welcome guests and introduce speaker

Bob Bankston – spoke on bottle collection and location

Chris Bryant – handed meeting over to Division Commander Conor Bond

Conor Bond:

- Inquired for OCR news, Pam Vines stated that the Greys Roses will heretofore be known as the Grey Roses Women's Auxiliary and they will not, at this time, be rejoining the OCR.
- Inquired of quartermaster, Phillip has shirts, patches, coins
- No new member certificates
- Check the website for newsletter
- Camp RAD current is \$2200, just over 1/3 of total last year, will cover 7 kids
- Chuck Bond Heritage Defense Award vote. One nominee, Chris Bryant. No other nominees offered from the floor. Motion from Stacy McMullan, second by Jerry Dupre, motion carried unopposed.
- Bruce Warren gave update on Veterans Suicide Awareness program held recently at the American Legion in Florence. Will be held again on April 23 at VFW in Forest, MS.

- Chris Bryant gave update on 4th Brigade Picnic at VFW in Forest, MS. 5 camps were represented (Meridian, Forest, Florence, Pearl, and Brandon). No speaker was present. Food was plentiful and good, and the building was warm.
- Next month's speaker is Donna Barron, father was involved with Stone Mountain, and there is a book. Also next month we will have our Candlelight Memorial.
- We are hosting reunion in 2024. Propose raising camp dues to \$12 per year to begin with covering of costs. Will net \$152 per year at current membership level. Jeff Ainsworth made the motion, Bruce Warren was second, motion carried unopposed.
- Reunion planning updates. Lake Tiak O'khata is stand offish about hosting, currently looking at the Reserve in Flowood with a backup as the Holiday Inn at the Bass Pro Shop. May have the Department of Archives & History to bring flags and uniforms from the war. Camp cooking team may provide food on Friday night.
- Division newsletter John Echols is a friend to camp. Idea presented to give him a lifetime associate membership to camp. Bruce Warren made the motion; Jeff Ainsworth was second. Motion passed unopposed.
- After the meeting tonight at Shuteville, Daryll Shute having birthday party.
- Upcoming Events
 - o Apr 23 Confederate Memorial Day at Beauvoir
 - o Apr 23 Veterans Suicide Prevention at Forest, MS
 - o May 7 Chuck Bond Run for Roses Memorial Ride at Biloxi, MS
 - o Jun 3-5 Pig Trail Ride in Ozark, AR
 - o Jun 10-12 MS Division Reunion in Columbus, MS
 - o Jun 26 Bobby Jo Denton Ride for RAD in Hazlehurst, MS
 - o Jul 16 3rd Annual SCVMC1G Magnolia Ride hosted by the South Platoon
 - o Jul 19-23 SCV National Reunion in Cartersville, GA (Bruce selected to be camp delegate)
 - o Aug 6 Patriot's Ride for Wounded Warriors in Richland, MS
- Speaker entertains motion for camp to go into executive session, JJ Dafferner made the motion, Bruce Warren made the second, motion passed unopposed.
- Closing Prayer – Tommy Symon
- Meeting Adjourn – 20:13
- Camp went into executive session until 21:00

It's that time!!!! Camp RAD is getting primed up and ready to go. Camp RAD is for kids that have muscular dystrophy. The camp is 100% run by donations. Most of the kids come from homes that are less fortunate and without our help otherwise may never get to enjoy the camping experience.

Last year we were able to collect \$5400.00 that paid for 18 kids to go to camp, this year I hope to exceed that. These donations are tax deductible and honestly, I can't think of anything more important than our children. Please join us in our efforts to bring a few days of joy and laughter to these precious kids whose life is a struggle every day. The cost per kid is \$300. Let's do our part to see that these kids have a great camp. If you would like to put together a fundraiser, please let me know and we will make it happen.

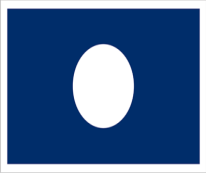
NO DONATION IS TOO SMALL....

We have PayPal, Facebook pay and cashapp and can supply you with a donation letter for tax purposes. If you have any questions feel free to call, text or message me at 601-383-3676. If I do not answer, please leave me a message or send a text. Thank you and may God bless you all.

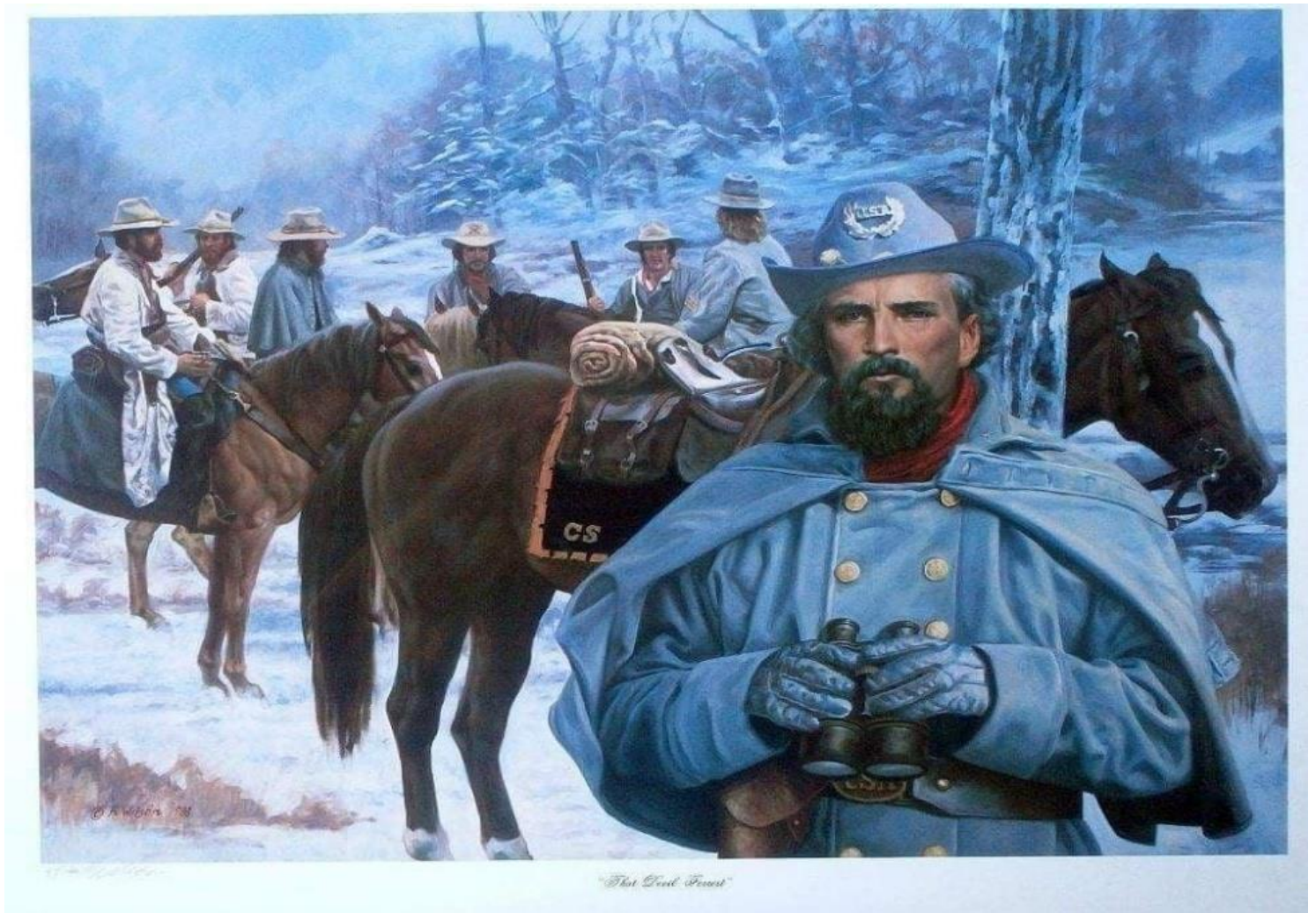


Join us as we Look Around the Confederation! Remember you can submit your stories to scvyouthoutreach@gmail.com to be featured on the show. MOOSE will be talking on a great thing that is happening in Georgia, and other things. It will lead into a topic about how we fight as 21st Century Confederates.

The show is live on Monday nights at 7pm and again on Thursday night at 7pm. Check facebook for live showing.



STORY OF NATHAN BEDFORD FORREST



I've copied this from one of confederate pages.

Confederate General Nathan Bedford Forrest: I have never, on the field of battle, sent you where I was unwilling to go myself; nor would I now advise you to a course which I felt myself unwilling to pursue.

You have been good soldiers; you can be good citizens. — General Forrest's farewell address to his troops, Gainesville, Alabama, May 9, 1865, Nathan Bedford Forrest (1821-1877) – A wealthy plantation owner, Nathan B. Forrest distinguished himself in the Confederate Army during the War of Northern Aggression. A cavalryman, he saw extensive service in the Western Theater and became one of the most feared Confederate officers in the region. He was a master of mobile warfare and is often remembered for his fast attacks and raids. Born to a poor Scots Irish family in Chapel Hill, Tennessee on July 13, 1821, Forrest was the first of twelve children. His father died when he was 17 and the ambitious young man soon pulled his family out of poverty, becoming a business and plantation owner, as well as a slave trader in Mississippi. By the time Lincoln called for Troops to invade the South, then he coerced the South to fire upon Ft Sumter because Lincoln was Greedy and Power hungry, so he wasn't going to let the South Secede in Peace because the U.S. was going to lose the South's money so the War of Northern Aggression broke out in 1861, Forrest had become one of the wealthiest men in the South. Forrest enlisted in the Confederate Army as a private, joining the Tennessee Mounted Rifles in July 1861. When he began to buy horses and equipment for the regiment, using his own money, he gained the attention of the "higher-ups" and was soon commissioned as a Colonel and given command of his own regiment in October 1861 — Forrest's Tennessee Cavalry Battalion. Though Forrest had no formal military training or experience, he quickly proved himself to be an exemplary officer, first distinguishing himself in the Battle of Fort Donelson, Tennessee in February 1862, where he refused to capitulate with the rest of the Confederate forces and made his way out before the fort was surrendered. He then led his men in the Battle of Shiloh, Tennessee in April 1862, where he was wounded and several months later, in July, he was promoted to a Brigadier General. He then took part in the Confederate Heartland Offensive leading his battalion in the Battle of Murfreesboro, Tennessee in December 1862, Forrest's veteran troopers were reassigned by General Braxton Bragg to another officer, against his protest. As a result, Forrest had to recruit a new brigade, composed of about 2,000 inexperienced recruits, most of whom lacked weapons. Again, General Bragg ordered a raid, this one into west Tennessee to disrupt the communications of the Union forces under General Ulysses S. Grant, who were threatening the city of Vicksburg, Mississippi. Forrest protested that to send such untrained men behind enemy lines was suicidal, but Bragg insisted, and Forrest obeyed his orders. In the raid, he showed his brilliance, leading thousands of Union soldiers in west Tennessee on a "wild goose chase" to try to locate his fast-moving forces. Never staying in one place long enough to be attacked, Forrest led his troops in raids as far north as the banks of the Ohio River in southwest Kentucky. He returned to his base in Mississippi with more men than he had started with. By then, all were fully armed with captured Union weapons. As a result, Union General Ulysses S. Grant was forced to revise and delay the strategy of his Vicksburg Campaign. A friend of General Grant's was quoted as saying of Forrest, "He was the only Confederate cavalryman of whom ant stood in much dread." Forrest continued to lead his men in small-scale operations until April 1863, when he was dispatched into the backcountry of northern Alabama and west Georgia to defend against an attack of 3,000 Union cavalrymen commanded by Colonel Abel Streights, who had orders to cut the Confederate railroad south of Chattanooga, Tennessee, cut off Bragg's supply line, and force Bragg and his troops to retreat into Georgia. With a force far smaller than those of the Union, Forrest and his troops chased Streight's men for 16 days, harassing them all the way. On May 3rd, Forrest caught up with Streight's unit east of Cedar Bluff, Alabama. Though his men were much fewer, he repeatedly paraded some of them around a hilltop to appear a larger force and convinced Streight to surrender his 1,500 exhausted troops.

Forrest served with the main army at the Battle of Chickamauga, Georgia in September 1863 and took hundreds of Union prisoners. Like several others under Bragg's command, he urged an immediate follow-up attack to recapture Chattanooga, which had fallen a few weeks before. When Bragg failed to

do so, the two got into a confrontation and Bragg reassigned him to an independent command in Mississippi. On December 4, 1863, Forrest was promoted to the rank of major general. He would continue to lead his troops in more battles including Paducah, Kentucky, Brice's Crossroads in Mississippi, where he defeated a superior Union force, and conflicts at Spring Hill, Franklin, Fort Pillow, and Nashville, Tennessee. By February 1865, he had been promoted to a Lieutenant General. In his strategies and tactics, Forrest was often described as a "born military genius." However, one blemish on his record was the so-called Massacre of Fort Pillow, Tennessee on April 12, 1864. In keeping with Confederate policy at that time, Forrest ordered his troops to "take no more Negro prisoners" when they assaulted and captured Fort Pillow. A Congressional investigation committee which included the So-called War Criminal William T. Sherman, Forrest was acquitted of the Charges, but because of the outcry of the Yankee newspapers and biased Northerners Forrest was unjustly vilified as being merciless against the black troops who surrendered then picked up their arms again, so the so-called massacre was really self-inflicted and warranted in the heat of battle! He was forced back at Selma, Alabama in April 1865 and surrendered his entire command in May. During the war, he was one of the most highly regarded cavalry and partisan rangers, as well as one of the most innovative and successful generals. His tactics of mobile warfare are still studied by modern soldiers. One thing the North didn't understand was the Loyalty Forrest had with his men, yes at the beginning of the war he had asked 47 of his Slaves if they would accompany him with the promise of releasing them when the war was over or unless they lost then they would be released anyways. As it turns out Forrest sensed that they were going to lose so he freed his slaves about 18 months before the war was over and to his astonishment all stayed and continued to fight alongside of him except one. Now that is Loyalty. That shows you what kind of Leader Forrest was because he had earned their respect! Once Nathan B. Forrest had moved to Memphis Tennessee, he became a activist in the Civil Rights campaigns and helping the blacks integrate into society as Great Citizens and Pillars of Society. He helped out with many blacks to become Businessmen in their Community. Also, he was adored by the black men who had rode alongside of him during the War After the war, Forrest settled in Memphis, Tennessee, but was financially ruined due to the abolishment of slavery. Eventually, he took a job with the Marion & Memphis Railroad, where his business skills soon placed him in the position of President. It was at this time, that the Ku Klux Klan movement was forming and by 1867, he was made its first Grand Wizard. By those who created it, as way to protect Southerner's against the Union League, and the Carpetbaggers during the Harsh Reconstruction period against the South. The allegations of brutality in the Battle of Fort Pillow, led to Forrest's heroic reputation suffering dramatically. However, in 1869, Forrest, who disagreed with the increasingly violent tactics of the Ku Klux Klan ordered it disbanded. Though the order was ignored, Forrest distanced himself from the organization. In 1871 there was a congressional review over his KKK affiliations, and he was cleared of that as well. Not to mention the hundreds of blacks that went to his Funeral and sang praises of his accomplishments in many Civic Ventures in Cultural advancements of a Diversified Community. In October 1877, he died from complications of diabetes and was buried at Elmwood Cemetery in Memphis. In 1904 his remains were moved to Forrest Park, a Memphis city park. To this day Nathan Bedford Forrest is still considered as one of the Best Generals of the Confederacy and one of the Greatest Southern Americans ever! He was a Hero and Great American in every sense of the Term!

Note his remains are now at Elm springs in Columbia, TN.



Rankin Greys representing at the Marion CSA Cemetery for the April Confederate Memorial service. Thank you to Bruce Warren, Jerry Roden and Jerry Dupre for representing the Rankin Greys.

Answering the Call

Sunday, March 27, The Rankin Greys escorted Dennis Jackson to his final resting place. Dennis was a Vietnam era veteran and the uncle of "Fast Eddie" Farish. We met at Love's truck stop at Hwy. 49 and Hwy. 80 at 10:30 and rode to Wolf Funeral Services at 3054 Hwy. 80 West in Morton, MS. Visitation from 1:00 PM until 1:45 PM with final interment at Eastside Baptist Cemetery on Noblin Bridge Road in Pelahatchie, MS. All Central squad was urged to attend if possible.



Rankin Greys **Answering the Call** again. Bruce Warren asked for the Rankin Greys to help with a pancake breakfast to help raise money for veterans with needs. He put together a cooking team and with the help from many volunteers and the American Legion Post in Forest MS was able to have a successful fund raiser. The breakfast was outstanding. Thank you to the Rankin Greys that were able to make this event and help with making this a success. Thank you, Bruce Warren, for all you do to help our veterans.



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



Forward the Colors

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