



Col. E. W. Taylor Camp No. 1777

Sons of Confederate Veterans

NEWSLETTER

December.....2022

*“And God
made... the les-
ser light to rule
the night; he
made the stars
also...”*

Genesis 1:16

Confederate Lives Still Matter

Ten years ago this month in this Newsletter

THE LAST TWO SURVIVING CONFEDERATE WIDOWS



In 2004 people from all over the country converged on a small town in southern Alabama to lay to rest Mrs. Alberta Martin (left), believed to be the last surviving widow of a Confederate soldier. But she wasn't the last one, it was soon learned.

The publicity surrounding Mrs. Martin's passing soon brought to light the existence of another widow, Maudie Hopkins of Lexa, Arkansas (right).



Like Mrs. Martin, Mrs. Hopkins was married young to a veteran many decades her senior. She was nineteen when she married eighty-six-year-old William M. Cantrell, a veteran of a Virginia infantry battalion. They were married in 1934 and lived on his pension until he died in 1937. They had no children together.

Maudie was married twice more and had three children.

As soon as your newsletter editor learned of her, he and his lifelong friend, Jimmy Reynolds, drove to Lexa, Arkansas to meet her. She was a gracious and interesting lady. We took her flowers and a lemon pie, one of her favorites. If you'd like a challenge, try finding a pre-baked lemon pie in rural Arkansas. For the rest of her life we sent her flowers on her birthday, December 7.



Maudie Hopkins passed away on August 17, 2008 in a nursing home near Lexa. We were on our way to work at the monument company on the morning of the service when we heard the news. Otherwise, we would have been among the mourners at her service.

100 years ago this month in the Startlegram

YOUTH HAS NO CORNER ON ROMANCE; AUSTIN BRIDE IS 79 AND HUSBAND 83

[Dec. 17, 1922]



MR. AND MRS. JAMES T. NELSON.

Special to The Star-Telegram.

AUSTIN, Dec. 16.—Youth hasn't a corner on romance. The recent marriage of James T. Nelson and Mrs. Laura A. Thompson proves it. The bride is 79 and the bridegroom 83 years old and both stay at the State Confederate Home here. Nelson

is a Confederate veteran. But as to the romance:

Four years ago Mrs. Thompson and her first husband, who was then living, got in touch with Nelson and it was through his influence that the Thompsons were admitted to the home. The three became the best of friends, but

Thompson's health failing, he in 1921 and the widow went to Texas to live with a daughter. She longer for the companionship of the state home and soon returned and Nelson and she renewed their friendship. They were together every day and it was not long until they became engaged.

"I saw how attentive she was to her first husband," said Nelson, and realized she was a real wife. Besides do not the scriptures say: 'He who taketh a wife taketh a good thing?'"

When Mrs. Nelson was married the first time she was but 15 years old. Nelson formerly was a preacher in the Christian Church. The couple are the oldest to whom a marriage license ever was issued in Travis County.

First printed in an Austin paper. James T. Nelson was a Confederate vet living at the Confederate Home in Austin, as was his bride.

Her first husband, James Pickens Thompson, was a soldier in Co. E, 7th S. C. Infantry for four years and one month. He entered the Home in 1919 and died August 3, 1921. When she married Mr. Nelson in 1922 the State suspended her pension. After Mr. Nelson died in 1924 her pension was restored.

Then, on June 5, 1925 her pension was suspended again when she married G. W. Pittman, another inmate at the Home. She died in 1930. Pittman died there in 1938.

You probably already know this, but I didn't until recently. When you're on this page, hold down your computer's CTRL button and rotate your mouse button away from you. See what happens. Shazaam!

Four Taylor Campers take part in Fort Worth's Massing of the Colors on November 13th



James Alderman at left, Joe Wade above

The annual Massing of the Colors is a patriotic ceremony held to rededicate faith in the United States. In it we present our support to our National Colors and the Servicemen and Servicewomen those colors represent.

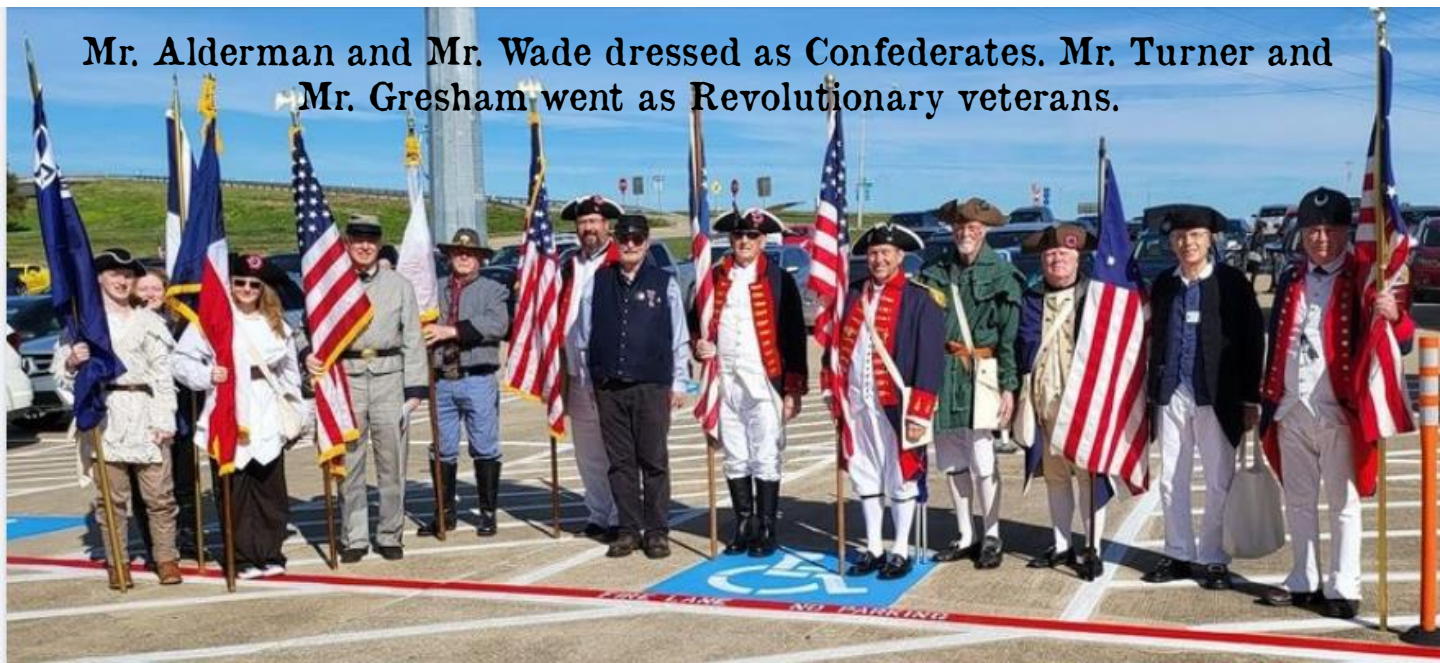
Observances are held all over the country under the sponsorship of the Military Order of the World Wars.

Ours was held at Birchman Baptist Church in Ft. Worth.



Ron Turner at left, Bob Gresham at right

Mr. Alderman and Mr. Wade dressed as Confederates. Mr. Turner and Mr. Gresham went as Revolutionary veterans.



New trove of Taylor family pics...



...nearly in our grasp, with the assistance of your editor's always-helpful sister, Tammy Patterson, in Jefferson, Texas and the good auspices of the Jefferson Historical Museum. Above are Mr. and Mrs. Taylor and their lovely daughter, Louise, in or before 1908.

Around the Confederacy

Contributed by Compatriot Clay Fitzhugh



Georgetown, Del., *Delaware online, Delaware News Journal*, Nov. 4, 2022

Are Return Day parade carriages tied to Georgetown's Confederate flag-flying museum?

Just another chance to be sure the pot is constantly being restirred. Wonder if this is an old carriage and a Confederate vet ever rode in it? Immediate destruction coming if indeed it's true?

<https://www.delawareonline.com/story/news/2022/11/04/how-delaware-return-day-is-tied-to-sussex-museum-in-confederate-flag-debate-georgetown/69577979007/>

Montgomery, Ala., *AL.com*, Nov. 16, 2022

Renaming of Robert E. Lee, Jefferson Davis schools will be first to test Alabama monuments law

The school district is the first to directly challenge a 2017 law, the Alabama Memorial Preservation Act, which prohibits the renaming, removal or alteration of any memorial building, street or monument that is more than 40 years old. That includes names on many "memorial" schools - names typically bestowed either before desegregation or before full integration took place.

<https://www.al.com/educationlab/2022/11/montgomery-effort-to-rename-robert-e-lee-jefferson-davis-schools-first-to-test-alabama-monuments-law.html>



FOX
CAROLINA
IN THE AIR

FOLLOW UP

CONFEDERATE FLAG RETURNS ALONG I-85
SPARTANBURG COUNTY

Spartanburg, S. C., *Fox Carolina in the Air*, Nov. 19, 2022

Confederate flag returns along I-85, flagpole still in violation, officials say

<https://www.foxcarolina.com/2022/11/19/confederate-flag-returns-along-i-85-flagpole-still-violation-officials-say/>

Around the Confederacy

Contributed by Compatriot Clay Fitzhugh

Charlottesville, Va., *Bacon's Rebellion/ Democracy Thrives in Sunlight*, Nov. 23, 2022

A Jewish Perspective on Arlington's Confederate Memorial

..."Designed by Moses Ezekiel, America's first great Jewish sculptor and a veteran himself, the Arlington Confederate Monument is a true masterpiece. To remove, damage, or alter this great achievement by one of America's noblest sons would be a crime against history, against art, and against the spirit of reunification that led to its creation. Judaism teaches us that loved ones never die if there is someone left to remember them. This monument is a testament to the memory of thousands who died, and brings comfort and solace to their descendants.

We would urge you to leave the Arlington Confederate Memorial exactly as our forefathers intended it." Statement by Jack Schewel and four other leading Jewish writers and historians across America.



<https://www.baconsrebellion.com/wp/a-jewish-perspective-on-arlingtons-confederate-memorial/>



Atlanta, Ga., *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, May 23, 2022

What 'telling the truth' about Stone Mountain might look like

An interesting article with lots of background information and photos and links to other parts of the story. Any time you see the word "contextualize" included in any story you know what those in control are bent on doing.

It's interesting to note that the writer says the project was a product of "the Jim Crow era" and the "Civil Rights era." It includes several quotes made by folks who probably have no family ties to the Confederacy and who do not live in the South. For example, "The monument itself is not about history," said Kevin M. Levin, a Civil War scholar and educator based in Boston. "It's about memory, about the people who put it up and what they were trying to do." This editor was able to find two books by Mr. Levin: *Searching for Black Confederates: The Civil War's Most Persistent Myth*, and *Remembering the Battle of the Crater: War as Murder*. The article also contains a link to the members of the Stone Mountain Memorial Association. In 2021 Rev. Abraham Mosely, a pastor from Athens, Ga., was named its first black chairman by the governor of Georgia. The article is mostly critical of the people instrumental in the creation of the monument and their motivations throughout its history.

Around the Confederacy

Contributed by Compatriot Clay Fitzhugh



PUT MONUMENTS BACK

Jacksonville, FL, *First Coast/ABC News*/November 28, 2022

Group flies Confederate flag, banner over TIAA Bank Field ahead of game

The “sub-caption” said ‘A group that calls themselves ‘Save Southern Heritage’ flew a banner and Confederate flag over TIAA Bank Field on Sunday ahead of the Jaguar game. “Kirk Lyons, spokesperson for Save Southern Heritage, called the banner a Thanksgiving gift to the people of these cities who are suffering under these cancel culture tyrants’. The group's statement said the flyover is part of a larger campaign.” There are two other pieces of film at the end of the article.

<https://www.firstcoastnews.com/article/news/local/group-flies-confederate-flag-banner-over-tiaa-bank-field/77-11a84601-ae35-4213-86a1-83c303d87edb>



<https://www.foxnews.com/us/abraham-lincoln-statue-vandalized-chicago>

Chicago, IL, *Fox News Live*, November 28, 2022

Abraham Lincoln statue vandalized in Chicago

“A statue of young Abraham Lincoln has been defaced with red paint and words referencing troubles with Native American tribes.” Most of the article deals with Lincoln’s approval of the hanging of 38 Dakota (Sioux) warriors in 1862. To it’s credit, the article mentions that he also commuted the sentences of 303 more Dakotas. The short (August-September 1862) war with the Sioux in Minnesota left 358 white settlers, 77 U. S. soldiers, and 29 volunteer militia members dead. Wikipedia says the warriors killed over 800 German men, women, and children in the conflict in the areas of New Ulm and Fort Ridgely.

The article also contained an aggravating link to a nearly-year-old article entitled: “Charlottesville Robert E. Lee Statue to be Melted Down for Public Art Project.” Your editor searched it out. See page 11.

Around the Confederacy

Contributed by Compatriot Clay Fitzhugh

Washington, D. C., *Fox News*, Nov. 24, 2020

Hakeem Jeffries, Pelosi's likely replacement, supports commission to study slavery reparations

Rep.. Jeffries, D-NY, says: that is the “least Congress can do.” That’s what we need...more politicians who do the least they can. As many times as it’s been tried before, would anyone guess how far it’ll get this time with a divided Congress? Good PR for Jeffries, which was its primary intent.

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/hakeem-jeffries-pelosi-likely-replacement-supports-commission-study-slavery-reparations>

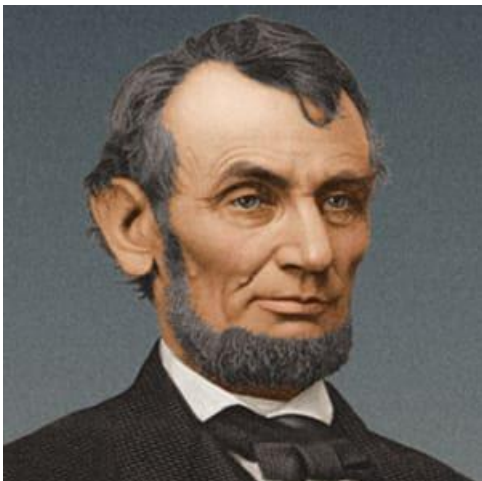


Richmond, Va., *ABC 8 News*, Nov. 24, 2022

Three Richmond schools to be renamed, erasing Confederate ties

This time it's not three ex-Confederates you'd suspect. In fact, your editor had to spend some time figuring out who these less-well-known perpetrators were in Richmond's past. One was a colonel, one was a major, and one was a private.

<https://www.wric.com/news/local-news/richmond/three-richmond-schools-to-be-renamed-erasing-confederate-ties/>



"If I could save the Union without freeing any slave, I would do it; if I could save it by freeing all the slaves, I would do it; and if I could save it by freeing some and leaving others alone, I would also do that . . . My paramount object in the struggle is to save the Union, and is not to either save or destroy slavery"

Abraham Lincoln to Horace Greeley, 1862

Around the Confederacy

Contributed by Compatriot Clay Fitzhugh

Centreville, Va., *The Free-Lance Star*, Nov. 29, 2022

Treasured White Oak Civil War collection on permanent display at Centreville winery

A very interesting and upbeat article about what can happen when a group of positive people unite in a common purpose. Don't let the scattered ads stop you. Just plow through them to the happy ending.

https://fredericksburg.com/news/local/treasured-white-oak-civil-war-collection-on-permanent-display-at-centreville-winery/article_bd6b24be-65db-11ed-9d0e-471e3284a928.html



John Hickox, president of The Winery at Bull Run, stands before the "D. P. Shrine," a display he created to honor expert relic hunter and Civil War Historian D. G. Newton of Stafford.

Milledgeville, GA, *13WMaz*, Nov. 29, 2022

'I don't think it serves any purpose': Milledgeville residents concerned after Confederate statue vandalized

There is a second film clip at the end of the article. The writer did go to the trouble of finding interviewees with several different viewpoints, including some who were just indifferent to the statues.



<https://www.13wmaz.com/article/news/local/i-dont-think-it-serves-any-purpose-milledgeville-residents-concerned-after-confederate-statue-vandalized-2/93-a3785b15-30f4-4ba2-958c-92abf889e4ee>

"We must reject the idea that every time a law's broken, society is guilty rather than the lawbreaker. It is time to restore the American precept that each individual is accountable for his actions."

Ronald Reagan

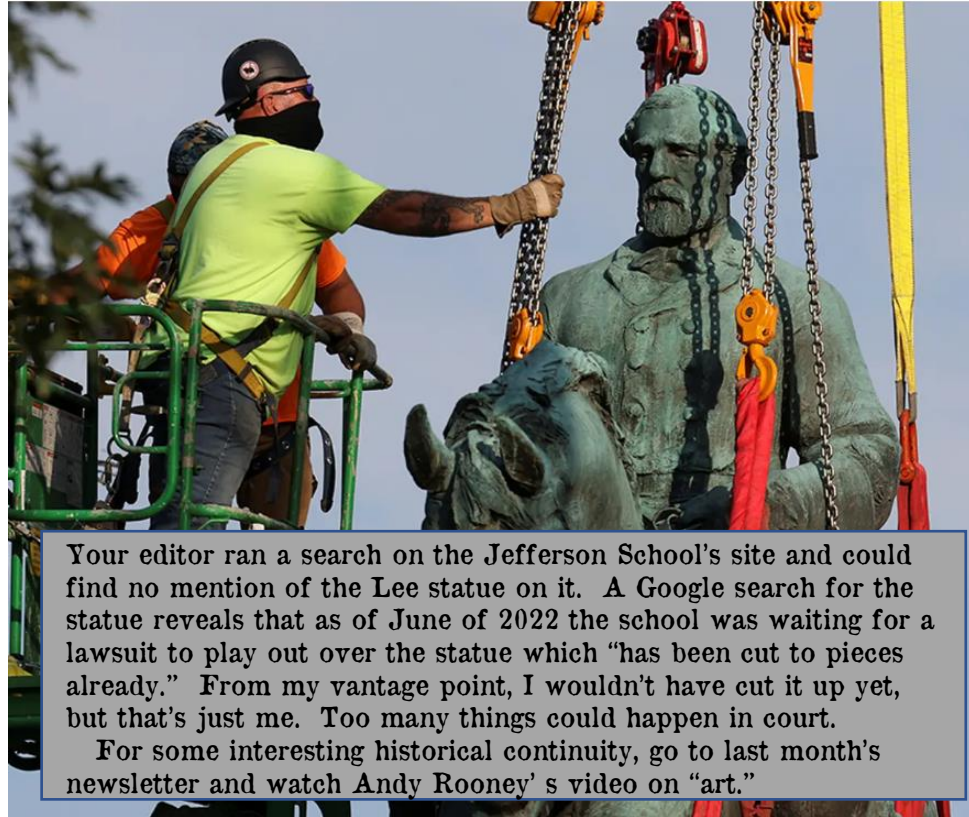


Charlottesville Robert E. Lee statue to be melted down for public art project

The controversial statue featured prominently in the 2017 Unite the Right rally

This article appeared months ago (Dec. 7, 2021) on Fox News in Virginia.

Shortly before it was aired the city council of Charlottesville voted 4-0 to donate the “controversial” statue to the Jefferson School African-American Heritage Center which created a “Swords into Plow-shares” proposal which got letters of support from people and organizations that include the Descendants of Enslaved Communities at the Univ. of Virginia, as well as descendants of slaves who worked at Jefferson’s Monticello estate.



Your editor ran a search on the Jefferson School’s site and could find no mention of the Lee statue on it. A Google search for the statue reveals that as of June of 2022 the school was waiting for a lawsuit to play out over the statue which “has been cut to pieces already.” From my vantage point, I wouldn’t have cut it up yet, but that’s just me. Too many things could happen in court.

For some interesting historical continuity, go to last month’s newsletter and watch Andy Rooney’s video on “art.”

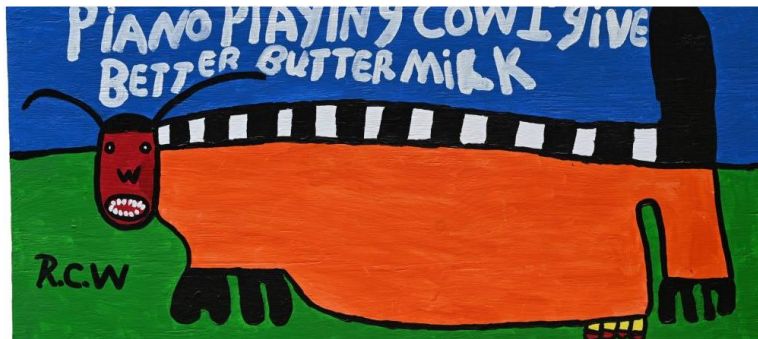
Are there no plans to change the school’s name because of Jefferson’s lifestyle?

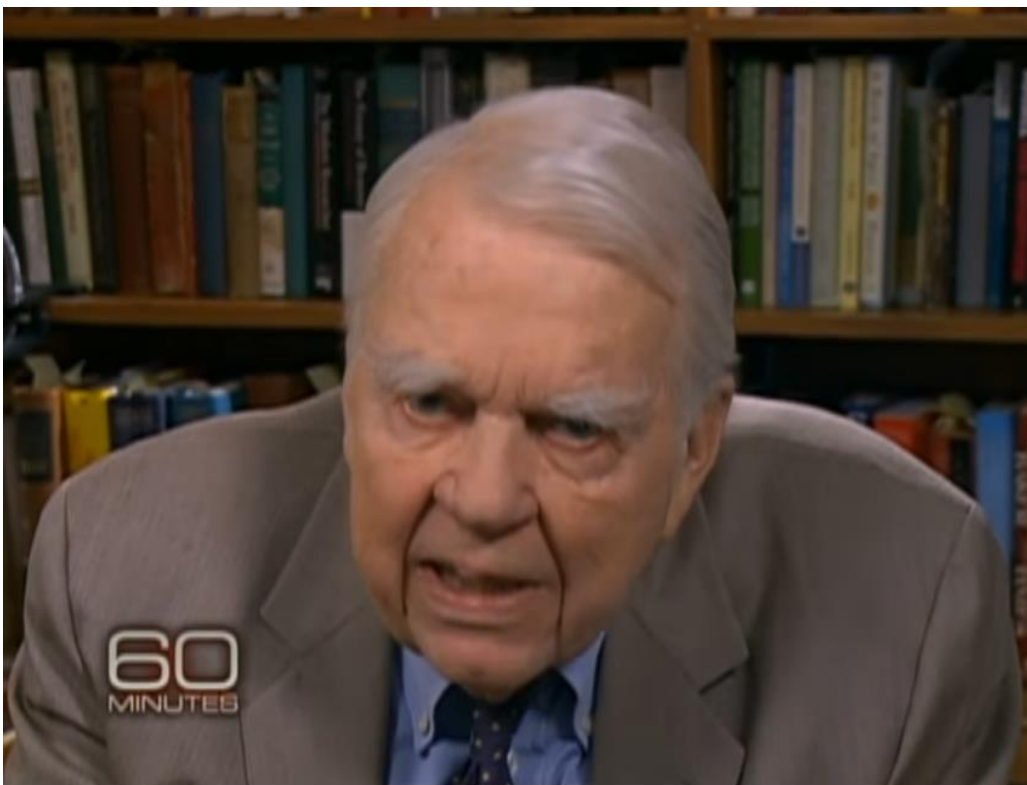
The Jefferson School’s African-American Heritage Center website posts a list of permanent exhibitions, about 6 one-day annual events, about forty concerts and other public gatherings for 2022, and offers other on-line experiences.

One special exhibition, scheduled for October 15, 2022 through January 7, 2023, is entitled, “On Another Canon: African American Outsider Art.” It is to consist of work by “11 African American Artists, all of whom receive critical acclaim for their individualized and inventive styles.” There was to be a two-hour conversation with collector Richard Guy Wilson scheduled for October 22, 2022 from 5 – 7 p.m. who was to discuss the works in the exhibition.

The school’s homepage, in publicizing the event, highlighted only one work of art, shown at right (no joke).

It is cropped exactly as it is shown there. The artist was Ruby C. Williams (1928-2022). I wish we had a verbatim transcript of what Mr. Wilson said about this painting. He is a noted architectural and art historian and is Commonwealth Professor in Architectural History at the University of Virginia. He is white and 82. There are several slightly-different versions of this work at various places around the country.





Where Have the Heroes Gone?

By Andy Rooney in 2009 2 min 9 sec

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EYYrB_j9OLM&t=2s

Why I Don't Want and Don't Deserve Reparations

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=18tGOIvotFE>

This month's word-search

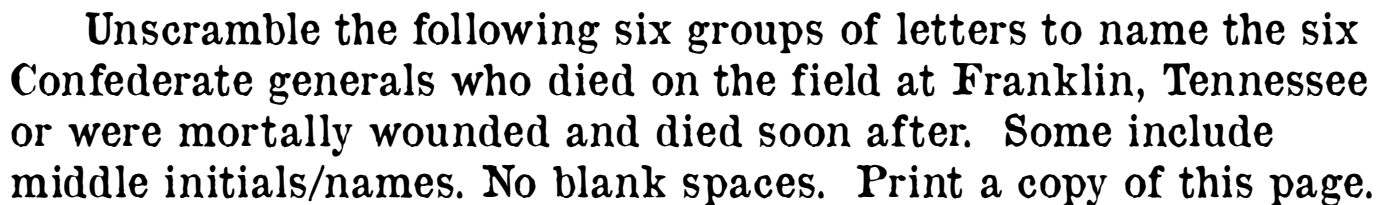


This photo is one of the Taylor family possessions given to the museum in Jefferson by the executor of Mr. Taylor's daughter years after her death. There is a clue in it which suggests the pic may have been made not long after it was built in 1908. The next page has a grid in which are hidden 27 names of things in the photo.


















B T R Y S R E W O L F M
S R O R S T E P E H S T
N E O E I L I G H T W M
R E D N A H N E F A I U
U S A N Z A S A J E N E
Y R O O F E H V O R D L
G O A C W S G E I W O O
G H K H Y K S A N O W S
U O E G W L I N T E L U
B E G L E A V E S E W A
L U D S N M U L O C S M
B M E S T N E M I D E P

First, make yourself a copy of this page and see how many you can find without looking at the list on the last page of this newsletter. You can go back and enlarge the previous page on your screen to help. Unnamed sources close to the Hunter Biden investigation say this is good exercise for us even though they gave no concrete details.

Franklin, Tenn. Nov. 30, 1864



No blank spaces. Solutions on last page in tiny upside-down print.

RUYAABBGHIMNRR   
 ABCCEEIKLNPRRTU   
 AASDHJMNO   
 ATCCEHJNORR    
 AFHHLOORSTT  
 AEGGHIIRSSSSTTT  

Phrase: “ ”

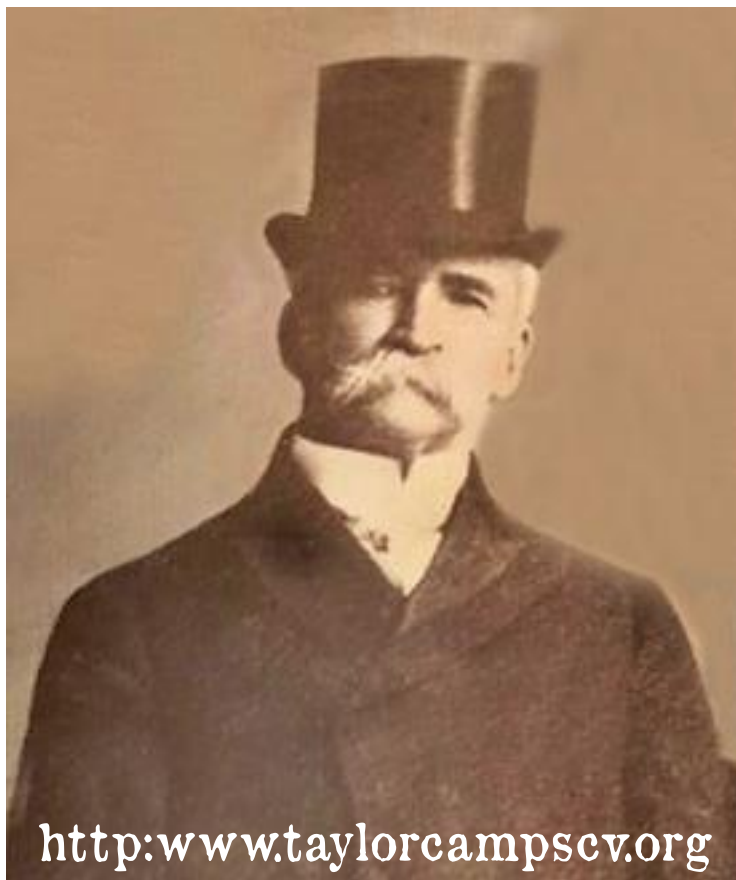
Who are we? We are the Col. Ennis Ward Taylor Camp #1777

Our meetings are on the last Thursday of each month, except November and December when we don't meet because it would always conflict with the holidays. We eat at 6:30, meet at 7:00, and adjourn by 8:30.

Each month's program announcement is always on the first page of this newsletter.

Generals' scramble: HIRAM B. GRANBURY,
PATRICK C. BURRNE, JOHN ADAMS,
JOHN C. CARTER, OTTO STRAHL,
STATES RICHIGTSIST,
"SISEMPEPETHYRANNIS"

We meet at the Catfish and Company restaurant in Hurst, Texas, along the north side of the Airport Freeway and on the access road west of Precinct Line Road.



<http://www.taylorcampscv.org>

Go to our website and start looking at our newsletters, beginning with the most recent and working back. For our website: The user name is TaylorCamp; the password is SCV1777EWTaylorCamp

Words in the word search puzzle:
buggyshafts, bronzegates, pediments,
mausoleum, granite, columns, flowers,
Connery, window, ,lintel, wreath, joints,
leaves, wheel, horse, angel, step, door, eave,
light, roof, urns, trees, hand, oak, edge, sky