

# THE JOHNSTON JOURNAL

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May 2006

SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS  
Albert Sidney Johnston Camp #67 ~ Houston, Texas

## JOIN ASJ CAMP #67

FOR A PRESENTATION BY WILLIAM J. BOZIC JR.

### “THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA HISTORY, A TEACHER’S PERSPECTIVE”

Wednesday, May 17, 2006

The Briar Club (Westheimer at Timmons Lane)

5:30 pm Executive Board meeting

(all camp members in good standing are invited to attend)

6:30 pm Happy Hour — Cash Bar

7:00 pm Dinner and Camp Meeting

Please RSVP by May 13 to

Darrell Brewer 281-469-1698 or [rdbrewer46@hotmail.com](mailto:rdbrewer46@hotmail.com)  
or Charles Dabney 713-816-4081 or [cdabney@houstonrr.com](mailto:cdabney@houstonrr.com)

"Governor, if I had foreseen the use those people designed to make of their victory, there would have been no surrender at Appomattox Courthouse; no sir, not by me. Had I foreseen these results of subjugation, I would have preferred to die at Appomattox with my brave men, my sword in this right hand."

General Robert E. Lee to Governor Stockdale of Texas

ASJ #67 Camp Officers

Commander — Darrell Brewer

1st Lt. Commander — Bryan Fox

2nd Lt. Commander — Bobby Smith

3rd Lt. Commander - Raymond Holder

Adjutant — Charles Dabney

## ABOUT OUR SPEAKER...William J. Bozic Jr.

William is a member of the Albert Sidney Johnston Camp #67 and lifetime member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. His children are active members of the Sherry Davis Chapter #875, Children of the Confederacy. William and his children are direct descendents of Isaac Bodine Ellison of Company E, Likens 35th Texas Cavalry Regiment. He is a member and past National President of the Descendants of Mexican War Veterans. By profession William is a US History, ESL, and World Geography teacher at Cypress Springs High School in Cypress-Fairbanks ISD. He holds a B.A. in History and M.Ed from the University of Florida. He has also taught in Houston, Tomball, and Brevard County School Districts.

Members of the SCV and general public often wonder what material is required to be taught about the War Between The States, and the how the States, students and teachers are held accountable. William will examine these topics and the state mandated Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills which appear on the TAKS from the perspective of a classroom teacher and SCV member.

### IMPORTANT DATES

**June 2 -3, 2006 — The Texas Division Annual Reunion**

**We encourage as many members as possible to attend. Our camp is entitled to 20 votes, but 20 members must be present.**

**Please see page 6 for details and the supplemental attachment for registration.**

#### FUTURE PRESENTATIONS

**JUNE 21 — ASJ SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT PRESENTATIONS**

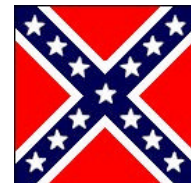
**JULY 19 — ERIC SANDERFER "THE 2ND AMERICAN REVOLUTION-THE WAR BETWEEN THE STATES"**

**AUGUST 16 — TROY HARMAN "A NEW LOOK AT THE BATTLE OF GETTYSBURG"**

**SEPTEMBER 20 — ANNE J. BAILEY TBA**



### THIS MONTH IN HISTORY



**May 10 1861 Union troops and civilians riot in St. Louis**

**May 18 1861 Arkansas is admitted into the Confederate States of America**

**May 25 1862 First Battle of Winchester, Virginia**

Confederate General Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson notches a victory on his brilliant campaign in the Shenandoah Valley. Jackson, with 17,000 troops under his command, was sent to the Shenandoah to relieve pressure on the Confederate troops near Richmond, who were facing the growing force of George McClellan on the James Peninsula.

In early May, Jackson struck John C. Fremont's force at McDowell, in western Virginia. After driving Fremont out of the area, Jackson turned his attention to an army under the command of Nathaniel Banks, situated at the north end of the Shenandoah Valley. With only 10,000 troops, Banks had the unenviable task of holding off the fast-moving Jackson.

On May 25, Jackson found Banks outside of Winchester. He attacked the Union force but was initially repulsed. The Confederates then struck each Union flank, and this time the Yankee line broke. A confused retreat ensued through the town of Winchester, and even some residents fired on the departing Yankees. Banks fled the Shenandoah into Maryland, and Jackson continued his rampage. The Union lost 62 killed, 243 wounded, and over 1,700 captured or missing, while Jackson's men lost 68 killed and 329 wounded.

The numbers from Jackson's 1862 valley campaign are stunning. His men marched 350 miles in a month; occupied 60,000 Yankee troops, preventing them from applying pressure on Richmond; won four battles against three armies; and inflicted twice as many casualties as they suffered. Jackson's record cemented his reputation as one of the greatest generals of all time.

**May 31 1862 Battle of Seven Pines (Fair Oaks), Virginia**

General Joseph Johnston attacked one of McClellan's corps south of the river in a promising assault. The plan called for three divisions to hammer the Federal corps from three sides, but the inexperienced Confederates were delayed and confused. By the time the attack came, McClellan had time to muster reinforcements and drive the Rebels back. A Confederate attack the next day also produced no tangible results. The Yankees lost 5,000 casualties to the Rebels' 6,000.

But the battle had two important consequences. McClellan was horrified by the sight of his dead and wounded soldiers, and became much more cautious and timid in battle—actions that would eventually doom the campaign. And since Johnston was wounded during the battle's first day, Robert E. Lee replaced him.

### **May 2 1863 Jackson flanks Hooker at Chancellorsville**

Stonewall Jackson administers a devastating defeat to the Army of the Potomac. In one of the most stunning upsets of the war, a vastly outnumbered Army of Northern Virginia sent the Army of the Potomac, commanded by General Joseph Hooker, back to Washington in defeat. Despite the Confederate victory at the Battle of Chancellorsville, Union forces soon gained the upper hand in the war in the eastern theater. Scouting in front of the lines as they returned in the dark, Jackson and his aides were fired upon by their own troops. Jackson's arm was amputated the next morning.

### **May 3 1863 Confederates take Hazel Grove at Chancellorsville**

On this day, General Joseph Hooker and the Army of the Potomac abandon a key hill on the Chancellorsville battlefield. The Union army was reeling after Stonewall Jackson's troops swung around the Union right flank and stormed out of the woods on the evening of May 2, causing the Federals to retreat some two miles before stopping the Confederate advance. Nonetheless, Hooker's forces were still in a position to deal a serious defeat to Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia because they had a numerical advantage and a strategic position between Lee's divided forces. But Lee had Hooker psychologically beaten.

General J.E.B. Stuart, the head of the Confederate cavalry, assumed temporary command of Stonewall Jackson's corps after Jackson was wounded the night before (a wound that proved fatal a week later) and planned to attack Hazel Grove the next morning. This move was made much easier when Hooker made the crucial mistake of ordering an evacuation of the decisive hill.

Once Stuart's artillery occupied Hazel Grove, the Confederates proceeded to wreak havoc on the Union lines around Chancellorsville. Rebel cannons shelled the Union line, and the fighting resulted in more Union casualties than Jackson's attack the day before. Hooker himself was wounded when an artillery shell struck the column he was leaning against. Stunned, Hooker took a shot of brandy and ordered the retreat from the Chancellorsville area, which allowed Jackson's men to rejoin the bulk of Lee's troops. The daring flanking maneuver had worked. Hooker had failed to exploit the divided Army of Northern Virginia, and allowed the smaller Rebel force to defeat his numerically superior force.

### **May 10 1863 Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson dies**

The South loses one of its boldest and most colorful generals on this day. Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson died of pneumonia a week after losing his arm when his own troops accidentally fired on him during the Battle of Chancellorsville. In the first two years of the war, Jackson terrorized Union commanders and led his army corps on bold and daring marches. He was the perfect complement to Robert E. Lee.

### **May 17 1863 Battle of Big Black River, Mississippi**

The Union army defeats the Confederates on the Big Black River and drives them into Vicksburg. On one hand it is a brilliant campaign by General Ulysses S. Grant, and on the other an inept performance by Joseph Johnston who chooses to retreat and abandon the City of Jackson to a numerically inferior Union force. Grant had swung his army down the Mississippi River past the strong riverfront defenses, and landed in Mississippi south of Vicksburg. He then moved northeast toward Jackson and split his force to defeat Joseph Johnston's troops in Jackson and John C. Pemberton's at Champion's Hill.

### **May 18 1863 The siege of Vicksburg commences**

### **May 5-6 1864 The Battle of the Wilderness**

### **May 7 1864 Grant leaves the Wilderness for Spotsylvania**

Following two days of intense fighting in the Wilderness forest, the Army of the Potomac, under the command of Union General Ulysses S. Grant, moves south. Grant's forces had clashed with Confederate General Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia in a pitched and confused two-day battle. Nonetheless, Lee gained a victory, inflicting far more casualties and holding off the Yankee advance despite the fact that he was outnumbered.

### **May 8 1864 Lee beats Grant to Spotsylvania**

On this day, Yankee troops arrive at Spotsylvania Court House to find the Rebels already there. After the Battle of the Wilderness (May 5-6), Ulysses S. Grant's Army of the Potomac marched south in the drive to take Richmond. Grant hoped to control the strategic crossroads at Spotsylvania Court House, so he could draw Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia into open ground, but is clearly out maneuvered by Lee.

### **May 11 1864 Confederate Cavalry General J.E.B. Stuart is mortally wounded**

A dismounted Union trooper fatally wounds J.E.B. Stuart, one of the most colorful generals of the South, at the Battle of Yellow Tavern, just six miles north of Richmond. Stuart died the next day. The death of Stuart was a serious blow to Lee. He was a great cavalry leader, and his leadership was part of the reason the Confederates had a superior cavalry force in Virginia during most of the war.

### **May 12 1864 Bloody day at the Bloody Angle**

Close-range firing and hand-to-hand combat at Spotsylvania Court House, Virginia, result in one of the most brutal battles of the Civil War. After the Battle of the Wilderness (May 5-6), Generals Ulysses S. Grant and Robert E. Lee raced respective Union and Confederate forces southward. Grant aimed his army a dozen miles southeast of the Wilderness, toward the critical crossroads of Spotsylvania Court House. Sensing Grant's plan, Lee sent part of his army on a furious night march to secure the road junction before the Union soldiers got there. The Confederates soon constructed a five-mile long system of entrenchments in the shape of an inverted U.

On May 10, Grant began to attack Lee's position at Spotsylvania. After achieving a temporary breakthrough at the Rebel center, Grant was convinced that a weakness existed there, as the bend of the Confederate line dispersed their fire. At dawn on May 12, Union General Winfield Scott Hancock's troops emerged from the fog and overran the Rebel trenches, taking nearly 3,000 prisoners and more than a dozen cannons. While the Yankees erupted in celebration, the Confederates counterattacked and began to drive the Federals back. The battle raged for over 20 hours along the center of the Confederate line—the top of the inverted U—which became known as the "Bloody Angle." Lee's men eventually constructed a second line of defense behind the original Rebel trenches, and fighting ceased just before dawn on May 13.

Around the Bloody Angle, the dead lay five deep, and bodies had to be moved from the trenches to make room for the living. The action around Spotsylvania shocked even the grizzled veterans of the two great armies. Said one officer, "I never expect to be fully believed when I tell what I saw of the horrors of Spotsylvania."

### May 15 1864 Battle of New Market, Virginia

On this day, students from the Virginia Military Institute take part in the Battle of New Market, part of the multi-pronged Union offensive in the spring of 1864 designed to take Virginia out of the war. Central to this campaign was Ulysses S. Grant's epic struggle with Robert E. Lee around Richmond. Union General Franz Sigel had been sent to apply pressure on a key agricultural region, the Shenandoah Valley. He marched south out of Winchester in early May to neutralize the valley, which was always a threat to the North. The Shenandoah was not only a breadbasket that supplied Southern armies, it also led to the Potomac north of Washington. But the Confederates were hard pressed to offer any opposition to Sigel's 6,500 troops. Lee was struggling against Grant and was badly outnumbered. He instructed John Breckinridge to drive Sigel from the valley but could offer him little in the way of troops to do the job. Breckinridge mustered a force of regular troops and militia units and pulled together 5,300 men. They included 247 cadets from the nearby Virginia Military Institute, some of the boys just 15 years old.

On May 15, Breckinridge attacked Sigel's troops at New Market. Sigel fell back a half mile, reformed his lines, and began to shell the Confederate center. It was at this juncture that Breckinridge reluctantly sent the VMI cadets into battle. The young students were part of an attack that captured two Yankee guns. Nine of the cadets were killed and 48 were wounded, but Sigel suffered a humiliating defeat and began to withdraw from the valley.

The courage of the VMI cadets at the Battle of New Market became legendary, and the pressure was temporarily off of the Rebels in the Shenandoah Valley. Breckinridge was able to send part of his force east to reinforce Lee.

### May 23 1864 Fighting begins on the North Anna River, Virginia

The campaign between Union commander Ulysses S. Grant and Robert E. Lee, the commander of the Army of Northern Virginia, continues southward to the North Anna River around Hanover Junction. In early May, Grant crossed the Rapidan River with the Army of the Potomac and then clashed with Lee's forces in the Wilderness on May 5 and 6 before racing to Spotsylvania Court House for an epic 12-day battle. General Grant racks up casualties at a rate that was difficult for the Northern public to stomach.

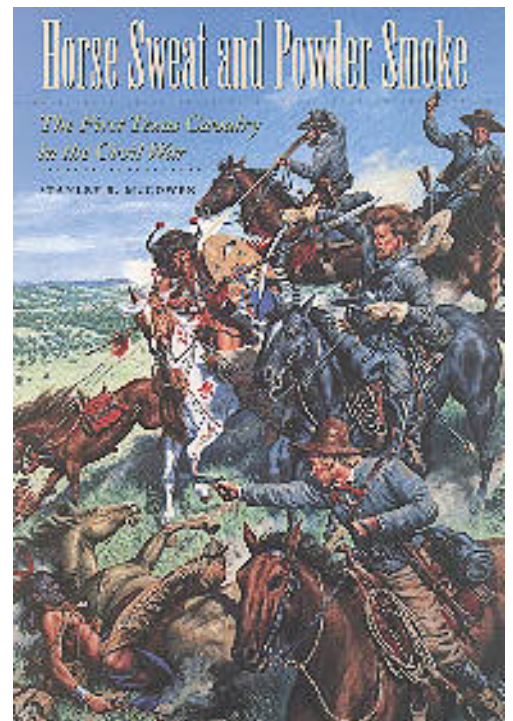
Grant believed that Lee could not maintain his position at Spotsylvania because two other Union armies under the command of Franz Sigel and Benjamin Butler were attempting to cut off the Confederate supply line in the Shenandoah Valley and the Rebel stronghold south of Richmond. But both were failing miserably. By May 19, Grant gave up on Spotsylvania. He pulled his defeated troops to try another run around Lee to Richmond. Correctly predicting Grant's move, just as he had done two weeks before when Grant left the Wilderness for Spotsylvania, Lee raced the Yankees 20 miles south and beat Grant's troops to the North Anna River. The rail center here was crucial to his supplies. At the North Anna, Grant found Lee's position to be even stronger than at Spotsylvania. The river had high banks, and Lee's side was higher than the Union side in several places. Still, Grant made an attempt to dislodge the Rebels. He made two assaults, but neither came close to breaking the Confederate lines. He would try again the next day before moving south to Cold Harbor.

### 1864 May 31 Grant moves his lines towards Cold Harbor

Other bloody defeat awaits the Yankees.

### May 26 1865 General Edmund Kirby Smith surrenders

Confederate General Edmund Kirby Smith, commander of the Confederate Trans-Mississippi division, surrenders on this day in 1865, one of the last Confederate generals to capitulate.





## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

### **GUS MISTROT CHAIRMAN OF THE ASJ #67 GRAVE MARKING COMMITTEE**

**CONTACT GUS MISTROT III (GMIST@JUNO.COM)  
OR ANY OF THE 2006 OFFICERS**

#### **Compatriots:**

I have been appointed as Chairman of the ASJ Camp #67 Grave Marking Committee. My first task is to recruit the rest of the committee. I hope you will be able to join me in this important work.

Preliminary research indicates that there are at least 50 Confederate veterans buried in unmarked graves in Houston's Glenwood Cemetery. These forgotten heroes are eligible for headstones provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs and installed by Glenwood, all at no cost to the Camp or its members. Even the out-of-pocket costs of the research will be covered by others.

What I'm asking you to do is volunteer some time to the project. Simply put, this is a labor-intensive project, and sometimes leads to disproving rather than proving that the man buried here is indeed the same person who appears in a certain Confederate Compiled Service Record. But these disappointments pale in comparison to the joy experienced in clearly proving that, yes, this particular man was indeed a loyal Confederate soldier, a member of a specific company and regiment.

The project needs volunteers with a variety of talents and opportunities. Ideally, the committee would include members who can readily get to one or more of the following repositories:

George Library in Richmond for Compiled Service Records (Texas soldiers only)

Clayton Library in Houston for death certificates, city directories, church records, etc.

HPL downtown or university libraries for obituaries and weekly mortuary reports

Harris County Courthouse for probate and marriage records

We also need volunteers for census research (for those with broadband Internet access, this can now be done from home), and the all-important job of collecting and typing the data acquired from all the above sources.

The first phase of the project will concentrate on about 20 veterans whose Confederate unit was stated at the time of their deaths. Supervision, guidance, and answering questions will be provided by Gus and Bernice Mistrot, who have researched over 200 men thought to be Confederate veterans buried in Houston, many of them in Washington Cemetery. After the Committee has gained experience with the first 20, we can begin working on those whose service is less obvious.

Compatriots, this is a great heritage project, the type the Camp should be strongly involved in. If you can be a part of it, please contact Gus Mistrot, 281-531-1956 or, <gmist@juno.com>. Together we can provide these men with the honor they so richly deserve.

Deo Vindice.  
Gus Mistrot



The Glenwood Cemetery Office and Elgin Plot  
Washington Avenue, West of downtown

## **The Texas Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans 2006 Reunion Call**

*Col. Middleton Tate Johnson Camp 1648 invites you and your guests  
to attend the Annual Reunion of the Texas Division SCV*

### **June 2-3, 2006**

**Hampton Inn and Suites and Mesquite Rodeo Convention Center, Mesquite Texas.**

The Mesquite Rodeo Convention Center and Hampton Inn and Suites are co-located at 1700 Rodeo Drive in Mesquite. To reach the convention center, take IH-635 into Mesquite, and exit Military Parkway. You will see the convention center to the southwest of the intersection. It is the large building on top of the hill with the copper roof. You can also follow the signs in Mesquite to "Resistol Arena." They are in the same parking lot. For more detailed directions, call the Hampton Inn and Suites at 972-882-1800.

**Hotel Reservation Deadline is May 12, 2006, or until our room block is sold out.**

To make your room reservations, go to the link on the Texas Division, SCV webpage at [texas-scv.org](http://texas-scv.org), or call 972-329-3100. Discount room rate is \$79.00 a night (single or double). Please reserve early!

**Meal reservations deadline for discount rate is May 5, 2006.**

In order to get the early-bird discount, your meal reservations must be postmarked by this date. Once we are within 72 hours of the convention, we can no longer guarantee meals. Please make your reservations early and take advantage of this discount. Fill out and return your meal reservation form, with check made payable to "SCV." Mail all convention reservations to: *SCV, ATTN: Bruce Pastusek, P.O. Box 1224, Arlington, TX 76004*

**Vendor/Camp Sales Table Reservation Deadline is May 1, 2006**

Vendor or camp sales tables are available for Friday and Saturday. Tables will not be in a secured room. Fees: \$25.00 per 8' table, checks made payable to "SCV" and mailed to: *SCV, ATTN: Bruce Pastusek, P.O. Box 1224, Arlington, TX 76004*

## **Camp Commanders – Please copy this notice to your members!**

Questions, please contact any of the convention committee:

**Convention Chairman**  
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