

**Next Meeting
April 22nd
Rose Center
6:00 PM**

Southern Heritage

Bradford / Rose Camp # 1638

April 2006

Volume 14, Issue 3

Weather like the days we have enjoyed lately causes me to recall my childhood. I know that there is a tendency to remember things better than they were but, I remain convinced that the South was more Southern in those days. Community was second only to family and civility was the rule, not the exception. We roamed our neighborhoods until forced inside by lack of daylight. Historians have commented that the South has been more changed by air conditioning than it was by the war. As I drive by one empty porch after another, I find myself unable to argue. Much that was good has been sacrificed on the twin alters of comfort and convenience.

DEO VINDICE

Larry W. Watkins

Correction!

**The Camp Meeting is this Saturday,
April 22! Not April 29 as reported in
last month's newsletter.**

We apologize for the error.



A special guest will be attending our May meeting. Dan Patterson, the great-grandson of General Longstreet, will be there from Centerville Virginia to give his presentation on the General. Current plans are for him to arrive on the 26th and depart on the 28th. There will be a need for some compatriots to be his hosts. We will be finalizing plans at the April meeting. Note the CORRECT date above.

General James Longstreet

James Longstreet entered West Point in 1838, where he excelled in horsemanship and also in sword exercise. Upon graduating 54th of the 62 in his class in 1842, he was posted to the infantry and served tours in Missouri, Louisiana, and Florida. In the Mexican War (1846-1848) he served under

General Zachary Taylor up through the Battle of Monterey. He then joined the force commanded by General Winfield Scott and advanced to Mexico City. There Longstreet was wounded by a musket ball in the charge on Chapultepec. As he staggered from his wound he handed the colors of the 8th

Infantry to Lieutenant George E. Pickett, who carried them over the wall. Longstreet was breveted a major for his services in the Mexican War.

Upon his return from Mexico Longstreet married Louise Garland, the daughter of Lieutenant Colonel John Garland.

General Longstreet

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Dates to Remember see Page 2

Upcoming Dates to Remember!

**Our April Monthly
Meeting will be on
April 22nd at the
Rose Center.**



**Our May Monthly
Meeting will be
6:00 PM
On May 27th at the
Rose Center
Special guest Dan
Patterson, great
grandson of
General
Longstreet**

General James Longstreet continued

After Longstreet was assigned to recruiting duty in Poughkeepsie, New York, he reported to Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania. By 1849 he had been transferred to San Antonio, Texas where he was appointed chief of commissary.

In 1854 he was assigned to Fort Bliss near El Paso, Texas. Longstreet soon assumed the command of the fort, a post that he held until the spring of 1858. He was then sent to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas in 1859, as paymaster and then to his father-in-law's department in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

The firing on and surrender of Fort Sumter signaled the beginning of the Civil War. Longstreet reported for duty in Richmond following an arduous journey across the country in June of 1861. President Jefferson Davis appointed him a brigadier general and ordered him to report to General P.G.T. Beauregard at Manassas Junction, Virginia. Longstreet was assigned to command three Virginia regiments and set about training them. Each day he coached his troops in the intricacies of regimental and brigade maneuvers. His troops acquitted themselves well as they defended Blackburn's Ford in a prelude to First Manassas.

Following that battle, the victorious Southern army failed to follow up its success and the stalemate in northern Virginia

stretched into the winter. With his appointment to major general in October, Longstreet assumed command of a division.

In early 1862 Longstreet suffered a serious personal loss when three of his children died of scarlet fever during an epidemic in Richmond.

Lee recommended Longstreet for a promotion to lieutenant general on October 11, 1862, and he was given command of the newly formed I Corps.

In early February of 1863, he was assigned along with Generals George Pickett and John B. Hood, to gather and secure supplies in his first relatively independent command in what was to become known as the Suffolk Campaign.

Ulysses S. Grant appointed Longstreet to the position of surveyor of customs for the port of New Orleans after he was inaugurated President in 1869. In June 1873 he was named to the four-year position on the Levee Commission of Engineers. By 1878 Rutherford B. Hayes had appointed him deputy collector of internal revenue. He remained in the position for only a few months, before accepting the position of postmaster in Gainesville, Georgia. In May 1880, President Hayes appointed Longstreet ambassador to Turkey. President Garfield, another for-

mer Union general, nominated him to a four-year term as U.S. Marshall for Georgia, a position he had long desired. He served in that capacity for slightly over three years, but his tenure was plagued by controversy and political intrigue.

With the election of President Grover Cleveland Longstreet had no prospects of receiving another position and he went into semi-retirement in Gainesville, Georgia. There he operated the Piedmont Hotel, and enjoyed raising turkeys, tending an orchard, and nurturing his vineyard. His wife, Louise died in December of 1889. He began to write his memoirs, but the task was to take five years. The memoir was published in 1896 and created a furor of controversy, which continues today in Civil War circles.

Longstreet married Helen Dortch in September of 1897. She was a native Georgian and assistant state librarian at the time of the marriage, and only 34 years old.

James Longstreet died of pneumonia on the morning of January 2, 1904, while visiting his daughter's home in Gainesville, just six days short of his 83rd birthday.

The above was taken in part from the following Web Site:

<http://www.swcivilwar.com/longstreet.html>

Dates To Remember

April 21-23 - Ramsey House Living History Skirmish / Dogwood Parade.

For more Information contact the Knoxville Camp.

April 29th - S. C. V. Tennessee Division Reunion

Spencer Mill near Dickson TN

May 12-14 - Battle of Bean Station. WE WILL HAVE A BOOTH FOR THE S.C.V. We need people to work it. Let Mike Beck know what days and times you can work so it will not be hard on everyone. Mike Beck and Stan Dalton will be there all weekend and they need your help.

June 3rd - Memorial Day - we need to discuss what we want to do

June 24th - N. B. Forrest Boyhood home fund raiser.

July - Forrest Picnic (Birthday Celebration for N. B. Forrest)
we need to discuss this further.

August 2-6 - S.C.V. National Reunion in New Orleans

September 15-16 - Battle of Barbourville, KY

September 22-24 - Bethesda Church Living History & Battle

October - Mt. Makins at Rose Center