



Sons of Confederate Veterans  
Oklahoma Division

Spring issue

January – March 2021  
Vol. 14 No. 1

# THE OKLAHOMA VINDICATOR

## *In Loving Memory Of*

**JAMES (JIM) LEWIS OREBAUGH**  
**DECEMBER 13, 1939 - DECEMBER 18, 2020**

Born: December 13, 1939 Ada, OK

Died: December 18, 2020 Oklahoma City, OK

Graveside Service: Arlington Memory Gardens January 28, 2021

Officiating: Rev. Charles Allen

Honorary Pallbearers: Daniel Orebaugh, Jack Orebaugh, Reese Torres, Zachary Eisenhower, Tyler Eisenhower, Daniel Allen

“All that we can know about those we have loved and lost,” Thorton Wilder wrote, “is that they would wish us to remember them with a more intensified realization of their reality. What is essential does not die but clarifies. The highest tribute to the dead is not grief but gratitude”.

To you who shall soon know the vastness of the sea,  
We who remain pay tribute of a pledge  
That dying, thou shalt surely not have died in vain.  
That when again free sunsets hue the sky  
And peace and truth an good supremely reign,  
We give you this ~ that in those times  
We will remember.



**J**ames (Jim) Lewis Orebaugh, 81 of Edmond / Piedmont, Oklahoma passed away December 18, 2020. He was born in Ada, Oklahoma on December 13, 1939 to James and Josie Orebaugh. Jim graduated from Northeast High School in 1957 and following US Navy service, received a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Oklahoma in 1965. He married Pamela Eisenhower Orebaugh on July 21, 2019. Jim

enjoyed a career in mainframe computer system sales, beginning with IBM in 1965. With retiring from Unisys Corporation in 2001, he began a specialized facilities maintenance business that endures today. In later years, he especially enjoyed participation in commemoration of the American history through involvement in several historic preservation groups. Jim was also a member of Sons of Confederate Veterans, Sons of Union Veterans, Sons of American Revolution, Military Order of the Stars and Bars, American Legion, and Oath Keepers.

Jim is preceded in death by his parents and brother Mike Orebaugh.

Jim is survived by his wife Pamela Eisenhower Orebaugh, son James Brian Orebaugh and wife Desiree, daughter Tracy Diane Torres and husband Carlos, step-sons Scott Lee Eisenhower, Ryan Neal Eisenhower and wife Tassey, grandchildren Daniel Orebaugh, Jack Orebaugh, Reese Torres, Zachary Eisenhower, Tyler Eisenhower and Maegan Eisenhower, as well as four great grandchildren, Hunter Eisenhower, Noah Eisenhower, Sawyer Eisenhower and Baylor Eisenhower.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to American Heart Association, American Lung Association or the Alzheimer's Association.



## *2021 Oklahoma Division Convention & Reunion*

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Due to restrictive COVID-19 mask mandates and social distancing regulations issued by the Pottawatomie Nation and the City of Shawnee, the venue and date for the Oklahoma Division SCV Annual Reunion has been changed. The regulations would only allow for 20 people to be in the usual South Reunion Hall with masks required. This would not be acceptable for our Convention. A new venue was located by Shawnee Camp Adjutant Allen Harrison. It will accommodate our needs, but it was only available on Saturday, April 17. The Convention date has therefore been changed from April 24 to April 17.

### SCV Oklahoma Division Convention & Reunion

Saturday, April 17

Harvest Creek Venue

10165 N. Harrison St.

Shawnee, OK

(Harrison and Hwy 18 are the same. From I-40, go north on Hwy 18 approximately 4 miles. Harvest Creek is on the east side of the highway)



Doors open at 8:00am, but Convention officially starts at 9:00am with donuts and coffee and vendor set-up. Catered lunch (by the same caterer as last year) is \$14 per person and will consist of pork loin, roast beef, mashed potatoes, green beans, corn, salad with ranch dressing unsweetened tea (sugar available), and cookies. Please bring exact change.

## *Battle of Pea Ridge, AR*

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The Battle of Pea Ridge (March 7-8, 1862), also known as the Battle of Elkhorn Tavern, took place in the American Civil War near Leetown, northeast of Fayetteville, Arkansas. [4] Federal forces, led by Brig. Gen. Samuel R. Curtis, moved south from central Missouri,

driving Confederate forces into northwestern Arkansas.

Maj. Gen. Earl Van Dorn launched a Confederate counter-offensive, hoping to recapture northern Arkansas and Missouri. Curtis held off the Confederate attack on the first day and drove Van Dorn's force off the battlefield on the second. The battle was one of the few in which a Confederate army outnumbered its opponent. By defeating the Confederates, the Union forces established Federal control of most of Missouri and northern Arkansas. Although they won here, they still had many more battles to fight in parts of Southern Arkansas.



## Background

United States forces in Missouri during the latter part of 1861 and early 1862 had pushed the Confederate Missouri State Guard under Major-General Sterling Price out of the state. By spring 1862, Federal Brig. Gen. Samuel R. Curtis determined to pursue the Confederates into Arkansas with his Army of the Southwest.

Curtis moved his approximately 10,250 Federal soldiers and 50 artillery pieces into Benton County, Arkansas, and along Little Sugar Creek. The Federal forces consisted primarily of soldiers from Iowa, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, and Ohio. Over half of the Union soldiers were German immigrants, grouped into the 1st and 2nd Divisions, which were under the command of Brig. Gen. Franz Sigel, a German immigrant who expected to command the army forces into Arkansas. Upon learning that General Curtis was appointed in command, Sigel threatened to resign. The predominantly native-born regiments were assigned to the 3rd and 4th divisions in order to create an ethnic balance among divisions and their commanders.

Due to the length of Curtis's supply lines and a lack of the reinforcements needed for a further advance, Curtis decided to remain in position. He fortified an excellent defensive line on the north side of the creek, placing artillery for an expected Confederate assault from the south.

The Confederate major general, Earl Van Dorn, had been appointed as the overall commander of the Trans-Mississippi District to quell a simmering conflict between the Confederate generals Sterling Price of Missouri and Benjamin McCulloch of Texas. Van Dorn's Trans-Mississippi District totaled approximately 16,000 men, which included 800 Indian troops, Price's Missouri State Guard contingents and other Missouri units, and McCulloch's contingent of cavalry, infantry, and artillery from Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Missouri.

Van Dorn was aware of the Federal movements into Arkansas and was intent on destroying Curtis's Army of the Southwest and reopening the gateway into Missouri. He intended to flank Curtis and attack his rear, forcing Curtis to retreat north or be encircled and destroyed. Van Dorn had ordered his army to travel light so each soldier carried only three days' rations, forty rounds of ammunition, and a blanket. Each division was allowed an ammunition train and an additional day of rations. All other supplies, including tents and cooking utensils, were to be left behind.

## Prelude

### Key Commanders (Army of the Southwest)



Brig. Gen. Samuel R. Curtis, Commanding



Brig. Gen. Franz Sigel, 1st and 2d Divisions

On March 4, 1862, instead of attacking Curtis' position head on, Van Dorn split his army into two divisions under Price and McCulloch, ordering a march north along the Bentonville Detour to get behind Curtis and cut his lines of communication. For speed, Van Dorn left his supply trains behind, which proved a crucial decision. Amid a freezing storm, the Confederates made a three-day forced march from Fayetteville through Elm Springs and Osage Spring to Bentonville, arriving stretched out along the road, hungry and tired.

### **Action at Bentonville, Arkansas**

Warned by scouts and Arkansas unionists, Curtis rapidly concentrated his outlying units behind Little Sugar Creek, placing William Vandever's 700-man brigade, who marched 42 miles (68 km) in 16 hours from Huntsville to Little Sugar Creek. But Curtis's right flank also suffered from Sigel's having sent a 360-man task force to the west, where they would miss the next three days of fighting. Sigel also withdrew

a cavalry patrol from the road on which the Confederate army was advancing; however, Colonel Frederick Schaefer of the 2nd Missouri Infantry, on his own initiative, extended his patrols to cover the gap. When Van Dorn's advance guard blundered into one of these patrols near Elm Springs, the Federals were alerted. Still, Sigel was so slow in evacuating Bentonville that his rear guard was nearly snared by Van Dorn on March 6 as he advanced.

Waiting until the Confederate advance was nearly upon him, Sigel ordered his 600 men and six guns to fall back on a road leading northeast toward Curtis's position. The Confederate 1st Missouri Cavalry led by Elijah Gates attacked from the south to cut off Sigel's retreat. They managed to surprise and capture a company of the 36th Illinois, but many were freed when Sigel's withdrawing men unexpectedly bumped into them. Sigel managed to fight his way through Gates' men, helped by a blunder by confederate Brig. Gen. James M. McIntosh.

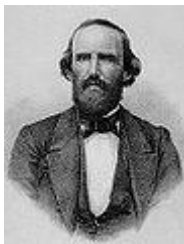
### **Key Commanders (Trans-Mississippi District)**



Maj. Gen. Earl Van Dorn, Commanding



Maj. Gen. Sterling Price, Mo. St. Guard

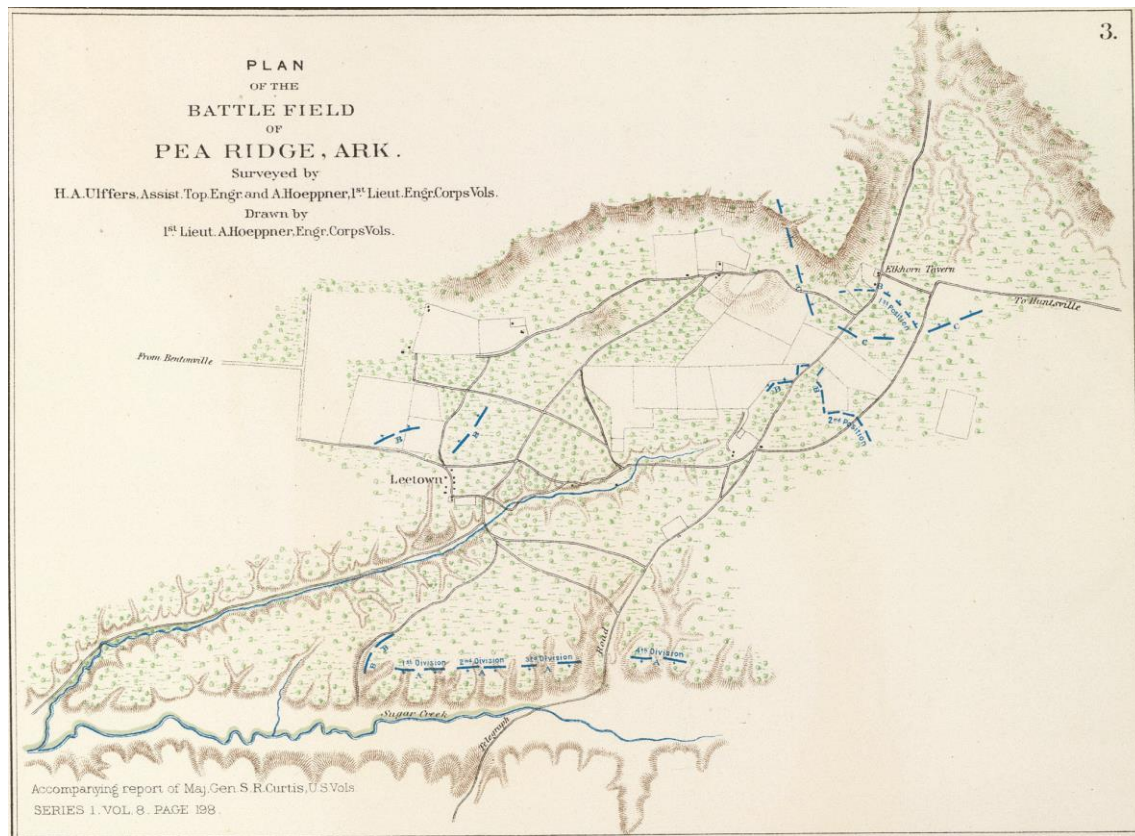


Brig. Gen. Benjamin McCulloch,  
McCulloch's Division



Brig. Gen. Albert Pike, Department of  
Indian Territory

McIntosh had planned to envelop Sigel's force from the northwest while Gates closed the trap on the south. However, McIntosh mistakenly took his 3,000-man cavalry brigade too far up a northerly road. After marching three miles out of his way, he turned his troopers onto the road leading east into the Little Sugar Creek valley. By the time they reached the site where Sigel's northeast road met McIntosh's east-bound road, the Federal general's men had already passed the intersection thus avoiding a disaster. When the 3rd Texas Cavalry charged, they ran smack into Sigel's main line. The Confederates lost 10 killed and about 20 wounded to Federal artillery and rifle fire and the Union position held.



Plan of the Battlefield of Pea Ridge

Curtis placed his four small divisions astride the Telegraph or Wire Road in a fortified position atop the bluffs north of Little Sugar Creek. From the creek, the Telegraph Road went northeast to Elkhorn Tavern where it intersected the Huntsville Road leading east, and Ford Road leading west. From Elkhorn, the Wire Road continued north and down into Cross Timber Hollow before crossing the border into Missouri. From there, the Federal supply line followed the Telegraph Road northeast to St. Louis. The hamlet of Leetown lay north-west of the Telegraph Road, about halfway between Curtis's position on the bluffs and Ford Road. Curtis made his headquarters at Pratt's Store, located on the Wire Road between Elkhorn and Little Sugar Creek.

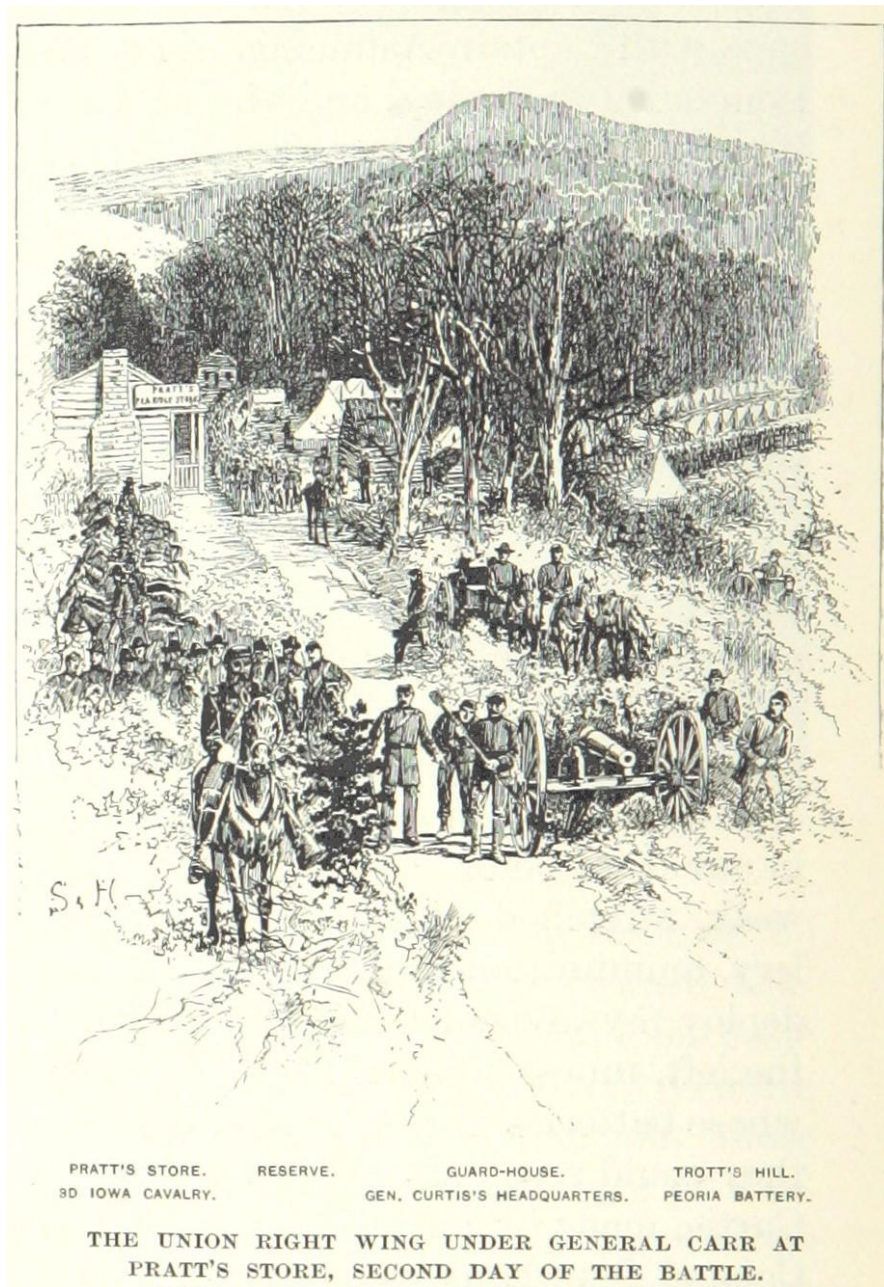
Van Dorn sought the Federal rear via the Bentonville Detour. This ran from Camp Stephens, west of Curtis's position, northeast onto the Pea Ridge plateau. At Twelve Corner

Church, which still stands today, Ford Road branched east to Elkhorn; the Detour continued northeast, meeting the Wire Road just north of Cross Timber Hollow. South of the Bentonville Detour, west of Cross Timber Hollow, and north of Ford Road lay the militarily impassable Big Mountain.

On the night of March 6, Col. Grenville Dodge, with Curtis's approval, led several parties to obstruct the Bentonville Detour, felling trees on the road between Twelve Corner Church and Cross Timber Hollow. That same evening, Van Dorn's army, Price's Division leading, began the long march to Cross Timber Hollow. The night march was slowed by clearing Dodge's obstructions, Van Dorn's lack of an engineer corps, poor staff work, and the soldiers' exhaustion.



## Aftermath



Curtis's headquarters at Pratt's Store

Federal forces reported 203 killed, 980 wounded and 201 missing for a total of 1,384 casualties. Of these, Carr's 4th Division lost 682, almost all in its action on the first day, and Davis' 3rd Division lost 344. Both Asboth and Carr were wounded but remained in command of their divisions.

Van Dorn reported his losses as 800 killed and wounded, with between 200 and 300 prisoners, but these are probably too low. A more recent estimate is that the Confederates suffered approximately 2,000 casualties in the Battle of Pea Ridge.

These losses included a large proportion of senior officers. Generals McCulloch, McIntosh, and William Y. Slack were killed or mortally wounded, and Price wounded. Among colonels, Hébert was captured, and Benjamin Rives was mortally wounded, with two other colonels captured and one wounded.

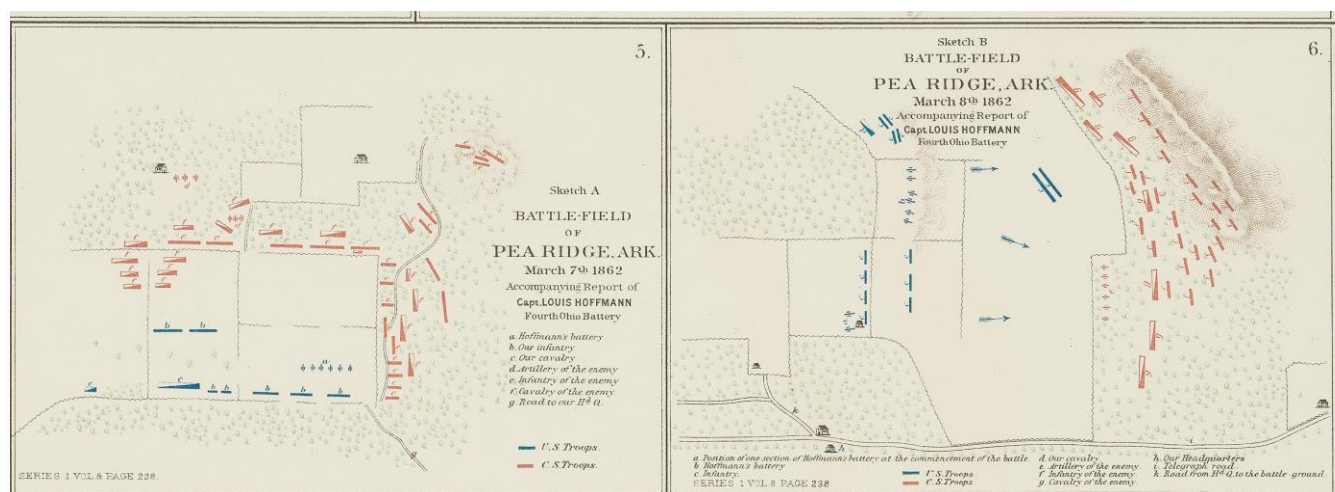
Separated from their supply train, Van Dorn's main body retreated through very sparsely settled country for a week, living off what little food they could take from the inhabitants. They finally reunited with their supply train south of the Boston Mountains, but thousands of Price's troops deserted and returned to Missouri. Pike meanwhile, believing that the Confederate army had been destroyed, returned to the Indian Territory. Van Dorn refused to admit that he was defeated "but only failed in my intentions". With the defeat at Pea Ridge, the Confederates never again seriously threatened the state of Missouri. Within weeks Van Dorn's army was transferred across the Mississippi River to bolster the Confederate Army of Tennessee, leaving Arkansas virtually defenseless.

With his victory, Curtis sent some of his troops east of the Mississippi and proceeded with the remainder of his army to move east to West Plains, Missouri. Then he turned south into undefended Northeast Arkansas.

He had hopes of capturing Little Rock, but this proved impossible because of a lack of supplies and because guerrillas had cut his supply lines. Instead, following the approximate course of the White River, Curtis continued south and seized Helena, Arkansas, on July 12.

Curtis remained confident and exercised effective overall control of his outnumbered army through the two days of fighting. He was well served by three of his four division commanders, Osterhaus, Davis and Carr. His brigade commanders Dodge, Vandever and Greusel also performed well. Sigel's generalship on the morning of March 8 was generally commended. However, his erratic behavior on other occasions and his attempt to claim credit for the victory led to a rift with Curtis. Sigel was soon transferred to a command in Virginia.

Van Dorn ignored logistics and failed to control his army. When McCulloch was killed, his division fell apart while Van Dorn absorbed himself in the tactical details of Price's fight. His staff lost contact with his wagon train at a critical moment and committed many other errors. Of all the Southern officers, Henry Little showed the most ability, becoming the "de facto commander of Price's division" at the end of the battle.



Pea Ridge - Day 1 and Day 2



## Lee's Surrender

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1865 April 09

In Appomattox Court House, Virginia, Confederate General Robert E. Lee surrenders his 28,000 troops to Union General Ulysses S. Grant, effectively ending the American Civil War. Forced to abandon the Confederate capital of Richmond, blocked from joining the surviving Confederate force in North Carolina, and harassed constantly by Union cavalry, Lee had no other option.

In retreating from the Union army's Appomattox Campaign, the Army of Northern Virginia had stumbled through the Virginia countryside stripped of food and supplies. At one point, Union cavalry forces under General Philip Sheridan had actually outrun Lee's army, blocking their retreat and taking 6,000 prisoners at Sayler's Creek. Desertions were mounting daily, and by April 8 the Confederates were surrounded with no possibility of escape. On April 9, Lee sent a message to Grant announcing his willingness to surrender. The two generals met in the parlor of the Wilmer McLean home at one o'clock in the afternoon.

Lee and Grant, both holding the highest rank in their respective armies, had known each other slightly during the Mexican War and exchanged awkward personal inquiries. Characteristically, Grant arrived in his muddy field uniform while Lee had turned out in full dress attire, complete with sash and sword. Lee asked for the terms, and Grant hurriedly wrote them out. All officers and men were to be pardoned, and they would be sent home with their private property—most important, the horses, which could be used for a late spring planting. Officers would keep their side arms, and Lee's starving men would be given Union rations.

Shushing a band that had begun to play in celebration, General Grant told his officers, "The war is over. The Rebels are our countrymen again." Although scattered resistance continued for several weeks, for all practical purposes the Civil War had come to an end.

## *Johnston's Surrender*

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In early April 1865, Union General William T. Sherman was relentlessly pursuing Confederate General Joseph E. Johnston through North Carolina. When news of Lee's surrender to Grant reached Johnston on April 14th, he sent a message to Sherman asking for a meeting to discuss terms of his army's surrender.

The two generals opened negotiations on April 16th. Because his army was not surrounded, nor in the poor condition that Lee's Army of Northern Virginia had been in when it surrendered, Johnston wanted terms different than those Grant had given to Lee. Aware of the guidance President Lincoln had given to General Grant at City Point, Sherman decided to offer generous terms for the surrender of Johnston's men. Like most senior Union officials, Sherman feared that Johnston's men might disband quietly and take to the hills and fight a protracted, guerrilla war.

On April 18th, Sherman offered Johnston terms similar to those Grant gave to Lee. In addition, Sherman would grant all surrendering Confederates United States citizenship. Pleased with these terms, Sherman forwarded them to Washington for approval. Unfortunately, many Northerners sharply criticized Sherman for being too lenient. Senator William Sprague summed up the feelings of many in Congress when he wrote a letter to President Andrew Johnson calling for the immediate removal of Sherman from command.

Seeing his friend in trouble, Grant traveled to North Carolina and Sherman's side. Upon arriving at Sherman's headquarters, Grant explained the situation in Washington, and in the North following the assassination of President Lincoln. Then Grant showed Sherman a letter from Lincoln on the former president's feelings regarding the surrender of Confederate forces. Sherman immediately requested another meeting with Johnston.

In the meantime, over 8,000 men had deserted Johnston's army. Realizing his men were tired of fighting and on the brink of total desertion, Johnston signed the surrender of his army to Sherman on April 26, 1865. His soldiers were to stack their arms at Greensboro, North Carolina, and go home, while Johnston had to sign a statement saying he would never again take up arms against the United States. This completed the second largest surrender of Confederate soldiers.



## *Pvt. W.D. Chain Camp #2253*

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The Pvt. W.D. Chain camp held our monthly meeting with members of the new Blair Camp and Shelby's Oklahoma Ironmen Camp #1356 out of Duncan and the Mechanized Calvary attending.





## *Clem Vann Rogers Camp #481*



Top: Group Photo from Lee-Jackson-Rogers Dinner; Bottom L-R: CIC Paul Gramling; Camp #481 Commander Erik McBroom

Clem Vann Rogers camp meets on the 2nd Thursday each month. Meeting located at the All American Dixie Diner at 11201 NE 23rd in Nicoma Park. The camp has a variety of projects each month on personalities of the war or events

during the war from camp members or those in the Division. Rose Hill Cemetery in Ardmore has been a project of the camp for over 24 years. Memorial Day is the largest event the camp maintains with members maintaining graves and

the war monument in the Confederate section. Last year the monument was severely vandalized. Camp members Terry Pierce and Kevin Easterling have put in countless hours repairing the damage. Members of the camp perform living history events at Cabin Creek, Jefferson Texas and Pleasant Hill LA. The group is the 16th Arkansas Infantry of the Joe Wright Guards. The annual Lee-Jackson-Rogers dinner was a great turnout in January attended by former CIC Paul Gramling and his lady as our

guest speaker. The CIC of the Sons of Union Veterans was also in attendance along with new Oklahoma Division Commander Virgil Chain and Division Lt. Commander Kevin Easterling. Division Commander Jim Orebaugh passed away in December and his service was attended by camp members Kevin Easterling, Terry Pierce and Erik McBroom. Over the last year the camp lost two long time members who passed to the next life - William Hinkle and Robert Depew.



Rose Hill Cemetery Project





## *Captain James J. McAlester Camp #775*

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Adjutant Steve Ward of **Captain James J. McAlester Camp 775** of McAlester submitted the following report and photographs of the Camp's First Quarter activities:

The Camp meets on the third Saturday of the month, held at our usual meeting place, Angel's Diner in McAlester. The January meeting, by some peculiarity, was very poorly attended, which was a surprise for the few who did attend. Nevertheless, we followed the agenda and had a great meeting. Highlights include the drawing for the Battle of Sulphur Creek Trestle Bridge framed print. Guest Andrea Skelton reached over her head into a container containing hundreds of tickets and drew the winning ticket - Harold Tydings of Broken Arrow. Adjutant Steve Ward delivered the prized print to Compatriot Tydings' house. He was delighted to be the winning recipient of this classic artwork. Total money raised: \$2,175. Well done, Division! This moves us even closer to getting our mega-flagpole in the ground.

Andrea Skelton provided table centerpieces that each displayed a battle flag and the "Stainless Banner". Her efforts certainly added to the room's atmosphere and a request was made to bring them again next month. Thank you, Andrea! Commander Patrick Self sadly reported that Compatriot Stephen Whitlock's wife succumbed to Covid-19 on Jan. 12 around 7:30pm after a valiant fight. The Camp saluted Generals Lee and Jackson and their fine personal attributes were discussed. We then honored them again with a Lee-Jackson Banquet after the meeting. Following the banquet, Camp members retrieved Confederate wreaths from two McAlester cemeteries.



McAlester Camp Commander Patrick Self (pointing down) along with Chaplain Bob Pattison and Quartermaster Bret Hinds (far right) share a laugh over Camp Adjutant Steve Ward (far left) and his homemade "Dixie Denims" as Generals Lee and Jackson look on at the J.J. McAlester gravesite.

Mother Nature was with us as the roads thawed enough to have a good turnout at the February McAlester Camp meeting. It was a good meeting with great fellowship. It is always good to meet with fellow Confederate-minded men. With today's "cancel culture" jumping on anyone and anything that doesn't agree with their agenda, it is refreshing to know that there are men who still stand for their beliefs. Chaplain Bob Pattison gave a "fill-in-the-blank" quiz on Bible verses, by reading scripture and leaving out key word(s). The Compatriot that provided the correct missing word(s) won a Hostess snack treat. We thank Chaplain Pattison for challenging our Biblical knowledge.

We reviewed the January 28 funeral of Division Commander James L. Orebaugh. Camp 775 had respectfully sent a standing arrangement of red and white flowers with the message, "With Deepest Sympathy, and with Great Honor, We Salute the Life of Commander James L. Orebaugh". The service was very Confederate oriented; Commander Orebaugh would be proud. Camp 775 was represented at the service by Camp Commander Patrick Self, along with Camp Adjutant Steve Ward and his wife, Kathy.



Cherokee (NE) Brigade Commander Steve Sanders was unable to give the presentation at the February meeting due to road conditions from his home, so Camp Lt. Commander Bently Couch accepted the last minute call and gave a very enjoyable program on the much-hated Union General, Benjamin "Beast" Butler. A special THANK YOU to Lt. Commander Couch for providing the program on such short notice.

The March McAlester meeting started off with a last-minute change of venue, but we adapted and overcame the situation. And as it turned out, it may have been a blessing. Almost every member present was pleased with the change. After consulting with both Angel's Diner and the manager of the new venue, Camp 775 will now meet monthly at the new venue, "Great Balls Of Fire", a family fun center and bowling alley just south of Angel's Diner. The new venue has its own menu. Though not as extensive as Angel's menu, everything that was ordered by Camp 775 members was given a "thumbs up".

Adjutant Steve Ward informed the members of the passing of Compatriot James Nevels' wife Nancy on Sunday, March 14 at age 76. Chaplain Bob Pattison gave the Invocation and lifted our compatriot James Nevels during his time of mourning. Chaplain Pattison then quizzed the members on events leading up to the crucifixion of Jesus. Those providing the correct answer(s) were rewarded with Moon Pies. The mega-flag project was briefly discussed. The March 6 DEC Meeting was reviewed as well as the approaching 2021 Oklahoma Division Convention & Reunion. Members were brought up-to-date on Camp 775 members/families affected by the Covid-19 virus. Doyle Van Burnell was present and was officially inducted into the SCV and Camp 775. Congratulations to Doyle and welcome aboard!



New member Doyle Van Burnell (right) received his membership certificate from McAlester Camp Commander Patrick Self (left) after being inducted into the SCV and Camp 775 by Camp Chaplain Bob Pattison.

A special thank you to Andrea Skelton for providing the beautiful table centerpieces, and to Susie Fowler for baking and selling five of her delicious zucchini bread loaves, with the money being donated to the mega-flag fund.

Quartermaster Bret Hinds gave an interesting presentation on the Battle of Sabine Pass with great visual aids. It was clearly evident that he put in a lot of work to produce a quality presentation.



Quartermaster Bret Hinds gives his informative presentation on the Battle of Sabine Pass with an excellent diorama of the area.

During our noon meal and fellowship, State Representative David Smith arrived and gave the Camp promising news on the "missing" Perryville monument. He also gave some information on legislation pending in the Oklahoma House of Representatives. Camp members adjourned to Oak Hill Cemetery and placed Confederate battle flags on known Confederate veteran graves. The flags were graciously donated by Lt. Commander Bently Couch. Thank you Bently!

With 36 members strong, the McAlester Camp shows no signs of slowing down!



McAlester Camp 775 members pose for a photo with the glorious Confederate battle flag at the J.J. McAlester grave before placing the flags on the graves of Confederate heroes buried here in Oak Hill Cemetery after the March Camp meeting.

## Major James McHenry Camp #2310

Commander Steve Ward of **Major James McHenry Camp 2310** of Broken Arrow submitted the following report of the Camp's 2021 First Quarter activities:

The Broken Arrow Camp meets on the second Saturday afternoon of each month, held at our meeting place in Broken Arrow. The January Camp meeting was well attended despite our Camp being less than one year old. The current Camp roster from IHQ shows that we officially have 18 members in our Camp. Starting as a newly chartered camp with 9 members in March 2020, this Camp has now doubled in size thanks largely to the recruiting efforts of our Lt. Commander Jeff Paulk. We are equal to or larger

than 15 Oklahoma camps. Not a bad start! The Broken Arrow Camp was honored to have Steven Simmons and Carl Ward inducted into the SCV and Camp 2310 by Commander Steve Ward. Carl's wife, Samantha Lake, became an honorable Friend of the SCV. We applauded their dedication to the Confederate cause. We discussed the mega-flag project being moved from Indian Nation Turnpike near Hanna to Highway 177 between Shawnee and Tecumseh. The passing of Division Commander James L. Orebaugh was also discussed along with future funeral arrangements. A few announcements from IHQ were also shared among the attendees.



Steven Simmons (left) and Carl Ward (middle) were inducted as new members to the Broken Arrow Camp 2310 by Commander Steve Ward. We were honored to have Carl's wife, Samantha Lake (right), join us as a Friend of the SCV.

Important topics of discussion were the Georgia Senate runoff election being stolen in January, as well as the January 6 break-in at the U.S. Capitol by Antifa members before, during, and after Trump's farewell speech to many of his supporters who gathered in D.C. Photos were circulated of a man carrying a Confederate flag from one room of the Capitol to the other, but he seemed to be a sightseer with no animosity. Commander Ward discussed the stark reality that our country is quickly spiraling downward into a totalitarian government with blatant tyranny, and President Jefferson Davis said it best when he said, *"The principle for which we contend is bound to reassert itself, though it may be at another time and in another form."*

The funeral service for Division Commander James L. Orebaugh was an excellent example of a funeral for an SCV member. The Oklahoma Division Color Guard was there to perform their honor service, which they did splendidly. Camp 2310 was represented at the service by Camp Commander Steve Ward, along with Camp Lt. Commander Jeff Paulk.

Snow and bitter cold weather prevented us from meeting in February, but the March meeting was here before we knew it. The meeting was well attended, and as a bonus it was good to see spouses joining their husbands in attendance.



Hot topics of discussion included two Letters to the Editor published in the March-April *Confederate Veteran* magazine written by two Oklahoma compatriots, Ponca City Camp Commander Charley Wilson and Broken Arrow Camp Lt. Commander Jeff Paulk (read aloud by Commander Ward). Both wrote a rebuttal on why the SCV logo should NOT be changed to omit the ANV battle flag, as suggested by another SCV member in the previous January-February issue. Both rebuttals are well worth reading if you have not already done so. They will explain why we should not cave to political correctness and liberalism, and why the SCV needs to rid itself of the same from all levels of our organization. Our Confederate ancestors were right, and we should act, think, and be Confederate. We also discussed a Broken Arrow Confederate graves project and Camp member Confederate ancestor histories project headed up by Compatriot Erik Goepfert. We've seen the impressive work Erik has done with his own ancestry, and we look forward to seeing what he can do as he collects the Broken Arrow Camp members' Confederate ancestry.



A sample of Compatriot Erik Goepfert's Confederate ancestry.

The March 6 DEC meeting recap was discussed. Commander Ward read two articles titled, "*We May Lose Because We Don't Care About Our History*" by Al Benson, Jr, and "*Now is the Best Time To Be Southern*" by Jason Morgan. The open discussion that followed was enlightening and everyone had something to say about the situation our country is in. With Confederate blood coursing through our veins, we fully understand the tyranny our country is forcing upon us and will do whatever it takes to keep our country the Constitutional Republic that it was designed to be.

# *Colonel Tandy Walker Camp #2207*

## December 2020



Left to Right: Lt. Cmdr Ronald Gwynn and Philip Cobb; John Conley, Chaplain Warren Boles and James Bohrer; Clarence Hopper, Michael Leddy and David Netterville

The December meeting of Colonel Tandy Walker had eleven members and one guest. Discussion was held on donations to the Mega-Flag fund, the Cross of Honor donated to our camp to be placed on the grave of a deserving Confederate soldier, placement of Confederate Christmas Wreaths on Pottawatomie County Confederate graves. We also discussed transferring seven men from our camp to a new camp in Ada, Oklahoma. Member Glenn Hunt to be the provisional Commander.

## January 2021



Oath of Office for Lt. Commander Ronald J. Gwynn

Elections for Camp Commander and Lt. Commander were held at our January meeting. James A. Bohrer and Lt. Commander Ronald

Gwynn ran unopposed for their respective offices. Cmdr Bohrer started reenacting with his father when he was eight years old. Lt Cmdr Gwynn has been a faithful servant for the camp, especially in the recruiting process. A spirited discussion was held about the current attacks on the Sons of Confederate Veterans, the destruction of our Confederate heroes statues and battle flags. A certificate of membership was presented to Charles Cranston whose ancestor was; John Adams Daniel, 2nd Lieutenant, 4th Alabama Battalion, Artillery, Hilliards Legion.

There were thirteen members and nine guests in attendance.





Mike Goodman and Dr. George Andrews



Charles Cranston and Allen Harrison

## February 2021



Ron Gwynn, Philip Cobb and Charles Cranston



Cmdr Bohrer presenting membership certificate to Johnny Wilson

The February meeting was the first time Commander Bohrer conducted a meeting. Commander Bohrer presented a membership certificate to Johnny Wilson whose ancestor was: James Washington Wilson, Private, Co D, 9th Alabama Infantry Regiment, (Wilcoxs'). A new meeting place was discussed because of the growth of the camp. It was decided to move to Van's Pig Stand on North Harrison. They recently added a large private meeting room. We had 11 members and 3 guests in attendance.





Camp Meeting for February

### March 2021



Cmdr Bohrer presenting Terry Ranells his membership certificate

Our first meeting at Van's Pig Stand on North Harrison in Shawnee turned out very well. The servers welcomed us and took very good care of us and asked us to return in April.

Commander Bohrer presented Terry Ranells a membership certificate under the name of his ancestor Charles Trickett, Private, Co. B, 1st Arkansas Infantry Regiment (Colquitt's).

We had 13 members and 5 guests in attendance. We had a report by Glenn Hunt on the chartering of the Ada, OK camp. Commander Bohrer gave information on the Oklahoma

Division Convention and encouraged members to attend. He also presented information on the SCV National Reunion in Metairie, Louisiana on July 21 thru 24.



Cmdr Bohrer presenting Mickey Kluding with the Last Roll of Honor Resolution for husband Gerald Kluding

## *Division Commander's Comments*

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Division Commander Virgil Chain at the 2021 DEC meeting

BROTHERS, I write this letter with feeling and determination. I was sworn in as the Oklahoma Division Commander at the graveside of our past Commander Jim Orebaugh as did Kevin Easterling as I had chosen him to fill my spot as Lt. Commander. We both are going to try and work with all the Camps in the Division to bring forth all our hopes for the Division. I know I have some HUGE shoes to fill, but I have my boots tied tight and the backing of a few GREAT SCV LEADERS. I want you all to feel free to tell me your ideas on where the Oklahoma Division needs to be going. WE can make the SCV better and do BIGGER things. We make this Division, We get things done. I look forward to working with all of y'all. ~Virgil Chain

## *Lt. Commander / Editor's Comments*

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I've been a member of the SCV since 1988. I am honored by the trust of Virgil to ask me to fill the position of LT COMMANDER. Having been a member of the Oklahoma Division for all but 3 years I've seen a lot of changes over the years.

Our unique history of the Indian Territory stands out from the history of the war and the men who settled this Territory. The projects that we as a Division and individual camps helps keep our history alive and the charge presented to us alive.



I knew Jim Orebaugh since I was in high school. My father worked for a company called Digital Equipment Corp while Jim worked for Unisys. Jim became a good friend and mentor over the years. He had asked me on several times to find research items from different sources on Confederate pension to state laws for Confederates and other areas over the years. It was an honor helping him and our history. I have always believed in helping others and the organization anyway possible. When our monument was planned and built, I helped where possible. With the attack and damage to that monument we come together and fix the damage to the best of our ability to tell those individuals we will not be silenced. We are in a

fight to preserve our history from those who would love to shut us up and force us into a endless void. We will never be silenced while we have children to teach and those in the public who have ancestors and want to belong. They now than ever see what is going on across the nation. Some want the connection to say, "Hey, others out here believe in what we do". We need to bring them into our ranks but be sure of the people and where they truly stand. Please, if anyone needs my help or assistance, I'll do my best to help.

~ Kevin Easterling

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#### HOW TO SUBMIT A STORY FOR THE NEWSLETTER

**Editor: Kevin Easterling, Oklahoma Division Lt. Commander**

Sons of Confederate Veterans Oklahoma Division

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#### Brothers of the OK SCV

If have a story you would like to have published in the quarterly newsletter, please send it to the email address above. We would like to hear from all the camps within the division. Please do not send stories regarding re-enactments, we want to know what your camp is doing or memorials of those who have recently passed away.

We can't wait to hear from you on what is going on with your camp.

Oklahoma Division SCV