



David's Dispatch

1st Lt. David Richard Reynolds Camp #2270
Sons of Confederate Veterans
Mount Pleasant, Texas



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Winner of the SCV National Best Newsletter Award 2016, 2017 & 2018

Winner of Outstanding Camp 2021 at National Reunion

Winner of Outstanding Camp 2022 at National Reunion

Winner of the Texas Division Best Newsletter Award 2017, 2018, 2020 & 2021

2021 Outstanding Camp & 2021 Best Website

Winner of 4-Star Camp Award at 2022 Texas Reunion

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and the American Civil War: by Kenneth Noe. I've asked Rodney to include some interesting tidbits in this issue of the Dispatch. I may be able to twist Rodney's arm and get him to give a short program on this subject at our September meeting.

Deo Vindice!

Commander, Dennis Beckham



NEXT MEETING

Monday, Aug. 22th 6:30 p.m.

Start eating at 6:00 p.m.

Herschel's Restaurant

1612 S. Jefferson Ave, Mount Pleasant, Texas



COMMANDER'S CORNER

by Dennis Beckham



Compatriots: We had a great turnout for our July meeting at Herschel's. Wasn't that a great respite from Old Union in this unrelenting heat wave? It was so good to see Kid at the meeting. Congratulations to all of our National award recipients. These awards were well deserved. This heat wave prompted me to do a little searching for how weather affected the WBTS. I am reading the book "The Howling Storm: Weather, Climate,

UPCOMING EVENTS

2023 SCV National Reunion

www.2023scvreunion.org

Hosted by The James McKeller Camp #648

Hot Springs, Arkansas

July 19,20,21,22nd 2023



Our Charge...

"To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will commit the vindication of the cause for which we fought. To your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate soldier's good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles which he loved and which you love also, and those ideals which made him glorious and which you also cherish." Remember, it is your duty to see that the true history of the South is presented to future generations!

*Lt. General Stephen Dill Lee, Commander General,
United Confederate Veterans,
New Orleans, Louisiana April 25, 1906*



A BLAST FROM THE PAST

Elihu Chris Beckham was Commander Dennis Beckham's First Cousin, Four Times Removed. Elihu's father, Joshua Mayberry Beckham was the brother to Commander Beckham's 3GGF Hartwell Proctor Beckham. Hartwell was killed in 1860 by Bill Franklin in a scrape over the rights to haul freight between Batesville and Mountain View, Arkansas.

INTRODUCTION

The journal kept by Elihu Chris Beckham has been published through the years by other historical groups and twice in the newspapers of this county. It ran in serial form in the EXPOSITOR, the first paper ever printed at Mountain View, in 1887. The STONE COUNTY LEADER published the journal in serial form in 1962.

Elihu Chris Beckham, born July 13, 1840, in Hardin County,

Tennessee, was the second of eleven children born to Joshua Mayberry Beckham and Catharine Hinkle Beckham. In the spring of 1845, the Beckhams left Hardin Co. for Arkansas in the company of Catharine Hinkle Beckham's father, William Hinkle (1792-1867), her brothers, Jesse Hinkle of Izard Co., Andrew J. Hinkle, William R. Hinkle, and sisters, Fannie, Mary, and Sarena. Later two more Hinkle brothers followed the family to Arkansas; Baltis Hinkle and John Hinkle who married Arena Beckham. Several other families of Hardin County Tennessee followed these families to Stone County---they include the Nesbitts, the Wades, the McCaslands, the Whites, and the Cyperts. On December 16, 1869, Elihu C. Beckham married Rhoda Elizabeth Lancaster, the daughter of William Ewing Lancaster (1824-1870)--Confederate' 2nd Lieutenant. Co. D. Fristoe's Regiment, Missouri Cavalry--and Amanda Wilson Lancaster. Eleven children were born to Elihu and Rhoda, four dying in infancy, two surviving, in 1962--Mrs. Houston Hinkle and Mrs. Dona Ivy of Mountain View.

After the War Between the States, Elihu's sole possessions were \$3.60 in silver and an old gun. He attended school during 1866 and in 1868 he became assistant teacher at Flatwoods; in 1867 he returned to Hardin Co. Tennessee to make a crop; and in the fall of that year returned to Mountain View and began clerking in a dry goods store in Riggsville. From 1869 to 1886 he continued teaching at Flatwoods. In 1882 he was elected tax assessor of Stone County, served two terms, was out one, and was reelected in 1892 on the People's ticket. He as a member of Flatwoods Missionary Baptist Church, a high priest in the A. F. & A. M., Blue Mtn. Chapter No. 62, and also a member of the I. O. O. F.

On October 4, 1862 Elihu was wounded by a ball through the back of the neck at the Battle of Corinth, Mississippi. While serving on a jury of the U. S. Court in Little Rock, he was stricken with paralysis on Nov. 4, 1894 (believed to be caused by the old war wound). Elihu returned to his home place and lay paralyzed for the next 29 years until his death on October 14, 1923, at the age of 83. Rhoda E. Beckham died May 29, 1938 at the age of 87.

Where I Was, What I Saw

During the War

[A journal kept by Elihu Chris Beckham during the War Between the States]

I left the home of my father, Joshua M. Beckham, (then in Izard County, now in Stone County, Ark.) on Oct. 27, 1861, in company with Felix O. Pittman, James S. Nelson and Whitmon Whitfield. We were boys together, all born in 1840. Nelson died at Jacksonport, Arkansas from a relapse of measles, in March, 1862, and was buried there, where his remains still sleep. Whitfield died in Alabama Creek, Miss., on the 16th day of May, 1863. Pittman is still living in Izard Co., Ark. There was also an old man with us by the name of Walter H. Clark.

Nothing of interest transpired until we reached Pocahontas, Ark., which place we reached the last day of Oct., 1861 and were mustered into the C. S. Army, McCarver's Regiment, 14th Ark., C. G. Elkin's Co. K on the first day of Nov. 1861, where we built winter quarters and remained drilling and doing guard duty till the 14th day of Feb. 1862, at which time we shouldered our knapsacks and muskets, took up the line of march for the boat landing, boarded the streamer S. H. Tucker, landed at

Jacksonport on the 15th camped on the bank of White River one night, boarded our streamer and started back up Black River next morning. The boat being loaded very heavily and the river low and very crooked, so our boat struck the bank often and came very near being stove several times. I remember while running up the river, there was a gang of wild turkeys in the timber and we were firing on them at long range with our old banded muskets and David Bone killed a fine one just as the boat sided against the bank and he jumped ashore, ran and got the turkey, and back on board before she left the bank.

We passed Pocahontas the 17th landed about twelve miles below Pittman's Ferry and marched to that place the 18th. We left Pittman's Ferry the 23rd, camped at Camp Elkins that night, camped at Boliver's Mill the next night and back into our old winter quarters the 25th of February.

While at Pittman's Ferry, my father, Matthew Pittman, and Dr. Wm. Brown came to see us. They started for home the 1st day of March.

Right here, I will say that there were only two companies of McCarver's Regiment with us at that time, the other four companies having left for Bowling Green, Ky., sometime before my enlistment. These companies were commanded by Capt's Elkins, Wold, Matheny, Airington, Shimpock, and Nunn. Several of the soldiers died while here, mostly with measles, among whom were David Bone, Porter Bone, Joel Battles, Irman Donahoo and Joe Miller. Sgt. Sam Taylor, while in play with John Strother, accidentally broke his leg and was sent home at the same time and never came back to us.

On the 2nd day of April, we took up the line of march and reached Jacksonport the 5th. At

Jacksonport, we boarded a streamer and started as a re-enforcement to Corinth, Miss., April 6, being the first day of the memorable battle of Shiloh. We sailed down White River, out at its mouth, then up the great Mississippi, and landed at Memphis, Tenn., on the 9th, where we met some of the wounded from Shiloh, among whom was Walter H. Clark Jr., who gave us the first account of the Battle of Shiloh.

We marched through Memphis to the Memphis & Charleston Depot and just before the train started, we were ordered to take up the march back, boarded a steamer, and away we went up the Mississippi just at dark, we landed at Fort Pillow, fifty miles above Memphis, Tenn., on the Tenn. side. Just before landing, as I was standing on the hurricane deck, I saw something that looked like a gigantic lightning bug flying with incredible speed through the heavy timber of the river bottom. I could not tell how far the thing was away, neither did I know what it was, but you can bet that before the ten days were out that we remained there, I knew what it was. Just as the thing got opposite our boat, it flashed, then was gone, but about that time, we heard a report that told us that it was one of Uncle Sam's "baby walkers" which was the first bomb-shell I had ever seen. We landed at Fort Pillow the 9th, camped in the fort ten days, then went to what is called Randolph; five miles below. Next morning early, after going into Ft. Pillow, while cooking breakfast, I heard something in the air above me. I thought it was some kind of fowls flying very fast and was looking up to see what it was, when all at once I saw what it was. I saw a little cloud of

smoke, then came the report, then more whizzing, then came the pieces of shell. One piece struck a stump nearby. Some of the boys went and got it and brought it to our tent. It weighed twenty-one pounds. If a man could have kept from being scared, it would have been amusing to watch the boys dart into their tents when a shell would explode. Sometimes the shells would come tolerably thick, then they would cease for a while. The most of them fell short, and only one man was killed during the ten days we were there. Most of the soldiers were sick, and two of our company died there, Viz: Lt. LaVere and Carroll Lawhorn.

Fort Pillow was the muddiest fort of any other place that I ever saw; and the meanest water on the continent. There were scarcely enough well men to do the guard duty. I remember that we worked about three days mounting a fifteen-inch mortar. The boys said, "Just let them federal gun-boats stay till we get this mortar planted; we will give them Hail Columbia." So they got her ready, charged her well with a fifteen inch shell and turned her loose and she split open just like a rail cut.

We left Ft. Pillow the 19th and went to Randolph the same day and stayed there until the 24th, when we went, by water, to Memphis; from Memphis to Corinth, Miss, on the 25th. At Corinth we went seven places. We camped about two miles south-east of Corinth, where the reorganization took place. Our six companies of McCarver's Regiment and Semoy's Regiment were consolidated and formed the 21st Arkansas. Jordan E. Craven's of Clarksville was elected Colonel; W. G. Matheny of Evening Shade, Lt. Colonel; a man by the name of Dowdle, Major; James Martin, 1st Lieutenant;

Newt. Pucket, 2nd Lieutenant (Lt. Pucket died in Johnson's Island Prison just before the close of the war), Newt, was a good fellow and liked by all his company. The old officers that did not get an office went home. I never saw McCarver again and do not know what became of him.

(To be continued)

LAST MEETING

We enjoyed the comfortable surroundings of an air conditioned room with various choices of foods. The following SCV National Awards were presented to:

Alvin Rex McGee- Distinguished Service Medal
 Danny Kid Tillery- SCV Leadership Award
 Talks with White Buffalo- SCV Commendation Medal

Dennis Beckham- SCV Commendation Medal
 Rodney Glen Love- Meritorious service Medal

1st Lt. David Richard Reynolds Camp #2270 was one of two recipients of the Outstanding Camp Award for 2022.

The members voted to purchase streamers for deceased members. These streamers will be Black in color with White lettering and will bear the name of the deceased member along with their Birth and Death Date. These will be attached to our camp flag.

The streamers will be for the following deceased members:

Burnis Lloyd Covington 10/5/1925- 3/11/2019
 Jerry Don Reynolds 03/17/1955- 11/30/2019
 Timothy Ray Fletcher 12/11/1950- 5/9/2020
 Jerry Dean Lester 08/31/1949- 01/22/2021
 Dennis Lloyd Gunn 09/23/1941- 09/27/2021

"Gone but Not Forgotten"

SOME BATTLES FOUGHT DURING THE MONTH OF AUGUST

Battle of Cedar Mountain - Cedar Mountain Virginia

9 August 1862 - General Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson verses General Nathaniel P. Banks. Casualties: 1338 Confederate, 2353 Union!

Battle of Wilson's Creek - Battle of Wilson's Creek Missouri

10 August 1861 - General Benjamin McCulloch verses General Nathaniel Lyon. Casualties: 1184 Confederate, 1235 Union!

Battle of Deep Bottom Run or Strawberry Plains - Deep Bottom Run Virginia

13-20 August 1864 - General Robert E. Lee verses General Ulysses S. Grant. Casualties: 1000 Confederates, 2899 Union!

Battle of Globe Tavern or Weldon Rail Road - Globe Tavern Virginia

18-21 August 1864 - General Robert E. Lee verses General Ulysses S. Grant. Casualties: 1619 Confederates, 4445 Union!

Battle of Reams Station - Reams Station Virginia

25 August 1864 - General Ambrose P. Hill verses General Winfred S. Hancock. Casualties: 800 Confederate, 2742 Union!

Battle of Richmond Kentucky - Richmond Kentucky

29-30 August 1862 - General Edmund Kirby Smith verses General William Nelson. Casualties: 459 Confederate, 5353 Union!

Second Battle of Manassas - Manassas Virginia

29-30 August 1862 - General Robert E. Lee verses General John Pope. Casualties: 8397 Confederate, 14,754 Union!

Battle of Jonesboro - Jonesboro Georgia

31 August - 1 September 1864 - General William J. Hardee verses General William T. Sherman.
Casualties: 2636 Confederates, 1453 Union!

WEATHER AND EVENTS DURING THE WAR

April—June 1862

During the first half of the Peninsula Campaign, Union general George B. McClellan continually complains that he cannot advance to Richmond because of rainy weather and flooded rivers, among other impediments.

September 1, 1862

Confederate general Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson clashes with Union general Isaac Stevens at the Battle of Chantilly during a heavy thunderstorm.

December 31, 1862

The USS *Monitor* sinks off the coast of Cape Hatteras, North Carolina, during a monstrous gale.

January 20—22, 1863

Union general Ambrose E. Burnside leads troops on the "Mud March," a failed winter offensive in Virginia, during torrential rains and heavy mud, lowering Union morale.

May 2, 1863

At the Battle of Chancellorsville, Confederate general Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson's troops are able to accomplish their famous flanking maneuver undetected thanks to the absence of dust because of earlier rain showers.

March 22, 1864

The "Great Snowball Battle" takes place between regiments of the Confederate Army of Tennessee in Dalton, Georgia.

May 5—6, 1864

During the Battle of the Wilderness, hot weather contributes to the spread of forest fires. On the

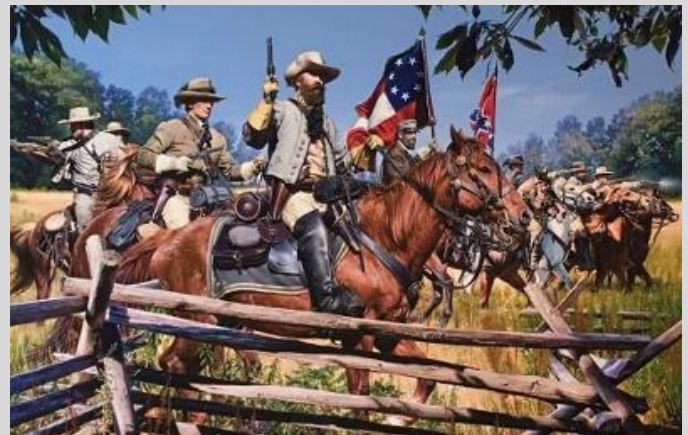
subsequent march to Spotsylvania Court House on May 7, men experience heat stroke and exhaustion as the temperature rises.

May 15, 1864

At the Battle of New Market, a terrific downpour ensues. While crossing a wheat field, Confederate soldiers' feet get stuck in the mud, earning the field the title the "field of lost shoes."

February 1865

Union general William T. Sherman and his men successfully march into South Carolina despite massive storms. Sherman proceeds to take Columbia and Charleston.





Isaiah 55:8-9

8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.

9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Do we trust Him, to do we must understand His way of doing things mostly different than how we would do it.

Who are we to question God's thinking & His way of doing things when He created this entire universe.

We just have to blindly trust Him, He that made this human form in His own image.

We must trust that He knows what He's doing & that He knows next how to answer our prayers & meet our needs.

God Bless, Chaplain Shawn Tully

GUARDIAN NEWS



Our camp #2270 has 280 graves attended by 14 members. Remember to be a full Guardian your grave must have either a Confederate headstone, a

Confederate footstone or some other device to identify grave as Confederate Veteran. Be sure to start to look into completing your responsibility to your veteran's graves. As usual, I'll leave you with the question that Phil Davis, Past Chairman of both the National and Texas Division Guardian Program always asks, **"Are you a Guardian?"**

If not, why not?

BIRTHDAYS

August 1st – Dennis Beckham

August 8th – Mary Ann Brock

August 11th – Barbara Davey

ANNIVERSARIES

August 5th – Dave & Barbara Davey

August 12th – Rodney & Billie Love

August 17th – Charles & Jeanette Merka



CAMP SONG

**Sons of Confederate Veterans
By: Harry King**

**We are the Sons of Confederate Veterans
We wear the grey with Southern Pride
In honor of our great forefathers
Who went to battle, who fought and died**

**We are the Sons of Confederate Veterans
In every camp we take a stand
To preserve our Southern Culture
The memory of every fighting man**

**We guard the Heritage of God and Family
The cornerstone of our History
From old Jeff Davis to Stonewall Jackson
And our commander Robert E. Lee**

**We are the Sons of Confederate Veterans
who shed their blood and stood their ground
From Manassas to the fields of Shiloh
Until they drove old Dixie down**

**We are the Sons of Confederate Veterans
from the Heart of Texas to the Caroline's
Shenandoah Valley and the Blue Ridge Mountains
Louisiana to the Georgis Pines**

**So all you Johnny Rebs give a Rebel Yell
Like your forefathers when duty called
And hold your head up high in sacred honor
of the fighting heroes who gave it all**

**We are the sons of Confederate Veterans
We wear the grey with southern pride
In honor of our brave forefathers
Who went to battle who fought and died**

**Who fought for Dixie
Who fought and died!**

CAMP PHOTOS



**Commander Dennis Beckham presents Past
Commander Rex McGee with Distinguished
Service Medal**



**Commander Dennis Beckham presents Past
Commander Danny "Kid" Tillery with SCV
Leadership Medal**



**Past Commander Joe Reynolds presenting
Commander Dennis Beckham with SCV
Commendation Medal**



**Commander Dennis Beckham presents Adjutant
Rodney Love with Meritorious Service Medal**



**Commander Dennis Beckham and Joe Reynolds
presents Talk with White Buffalo with SCV
Commendation Medal**



**1st Lt. Commander Steve Austin and Past
Commander Kid Tillery relax in the A/C of
Herschel's Restaurant while Adjutant Rodney
Love sweats over minutes**



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Opinions expressed by individual writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect official positions of the

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(Cutoff for articles is 20th of the month)