

Jan

1815



CELEBRATING THE SESQUICENTENNIAL OF THE WAR FOR SOUTHERN INDEPENDENCE



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THE CHARGE GIVEN BY GENERAL STEPHEN D. LEE
 TO THE SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

“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”

ALERT! ALERT! ALERT!



Hope you enjoy the information in this month’s Dispatch.
 Next Month: Whatever Happened To “Whistling Dick?”



Thoughts from the interim editor:

OK, here we are. It’s a new year with lots of opportunities and challenges ahead.

Our membership is down and attendance at the Camp Meetings is abysmal. Both of these matters need to be

addressed by the new officers and members together.

The good news is that the management at the Old Western Sizzlin’ has changed and Lenard is working hard to bring up the quality of the food. Mike Merritt, Carl Ford and I can attest that there is a marked improvement in that regard.

Also the carpet in the meeting area has been changed and the overall decor has been updated.

So come on back, bring your wife and kids, we’re a family oriented organization, let’s see some family!

PRAYER REQUESTS



PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU NEED TO PUT SOMEONE ON THE PRAYER LIST.

E-mail: jay_b_good@msn.com or csaford@hotmail.com or call 601-649-1867 at work.



UPCOMING EVENTS: **LEE-JACKSON BANQUET**

January 31 At Bethlehem Baptist Church in Laurel.

If you're looking for that perfect gift for your wife, husband or friend, you can't do any better than buying tickets to the Annual Lee-Jackson Birthday shindig (George would say "Supper" your editor would call it a "Dinner," but it's really a Banquet!).

Tickets, defying yankee inspired inflation brought on by the current corrupt administration, remain an incredible bargain at \$15.00 Per Person!

It will be held at Bethlehem Baptist Church in Laurel, (off Hwy 84 East across from Walker's Dairy Barn) at 5:30pm. Our speaker will be the ever-entertaining and informative Rev. Cecil Fayard who will, no doubt, wax eloquent in his praise of these great men and the cause for which they fought.

To make a reservation, you can call Carl during the day at 601-649-1867 and tell him you're coming and how many will be with you, or e-mail him at csaford@hotmail.com with the same information.

You can send a check or simply pay at the door but, if you say you're coming and don't show, you'll still have to pay! Come and support your Southern Heritage, eat some great food and enjoy wonderful fellowship with your friends. Remember, we need your reservations as soon as possible!

COME ON, LET'S MAKE THIS THE BEST ATTENDED EVENT EVER!



General Robert E. Lee, was well aware of the dangers of alcohol and its notoriety in destroying the character of young men. During the war, some of Lee's younger officers were known to enjoy a good drink and Lee wanted to make his disapproval known. After seeing a jug of strong drink brought to an officer's tent, Lee had a jug dispatched to his own tent. He then invited the young officers to share a drink of "the best." Due to Lee's known aversion for liquor, they were taken aback by the invitation. Nonetheless, they accepted but were chagrined when Lee filled their glasses with buttermilk!

Source: "The Maxims of Robert E. Lee for Young Gentlemen," Edited by Richard G. Williams, Jr.



The November issue of the American Legion Magazine listed the "Top 100 Most Beloved Veterans" Number one was Audie Murphy, one of the most decorated soldiers of WWII

Theodore Roosevelt, the only US President to receive the Medal of Honor for Valor in Combat came in at #3.

General George S. Patton was #5 and General Robert E. Lee was #8!

U.S. Grant came in at #10 (Boo!)

While "Stonewall" Jackson was a distant #22.

William T. Sherman snuck in at #39 (Boo! Hiss!) and Joshua Chamberlin, the "Hero of Little Round Top," is #40.

Others names include:

Actor Jimmy Stewart #11

The Father of our Country, George Washington #2

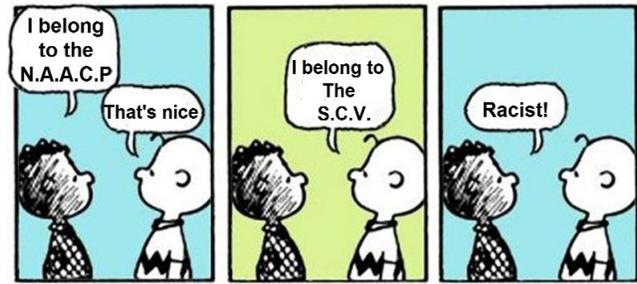
The "Four Chaplains" collectively at #16

and

Douglas "Dugout Doug" MacArthur was #18

You can view the entire list at

www.legion.org/belovedveterans



BRICKS FOR BEAUVOIR
This effort has been endorsed by the General Executive Council of the Sons of Confederate Veterans

Example:

Pvt. James W. McCluney
6th MS CAV. CO. F

Make Checks in the amount of \$50.00 per brick to
Mississippi Division, SCV

For: *Beauvoir Memorial Brick Fund* on the memo line

Mail Checks to:

Mississippi Division, SCV

C/O Larry McCluney, MS-Div AOT Councilman

1412 North Park Dr.

Greenwood, MS 38930

Bricks will be placed in a plaza around the tomb of
Unknown Confederate Soldier at Beauvoir.



Arizona during the War for Southern Independence

The people of Arizona had long desired to be separated from the United States Territory of New Mexico, of which they were then a part. After repeated attempts to petition Congress for the creation of a separate Arizona Territory had failed, they noted with interest the events which unfolded beginning with the election of Abraham Lincoln to the Presidency of the United States in November 1860.

Beginning on December 20, 1860, seven Southern States left the Union. In February 1861 delegates from these States met at Montgomery, Alabama, to form a new nation, the Confederate States of America.

On March 16, 1861, a Convention of the people of Arizona met at Mesilla (a town located near the present-day city of Las Cruces, New Mexico) to declare the secession of their territory from the rule of the United States and to ask for annexation by the Confederate States of America. At this Convention the people of Arizona voted to secede from the Union and to join their future to that of the Confederate States of America.

On March 28, 1861, pursuant to the seventh resolution passed by the Mesilla Convention (which invited the citizens of the western portion of Arizona to "*join us in this movement*"), another Convention was held at Tucson. This Convention was chaired by Mark Aldrich (a man from Illinois who had been, ironically, a friend of both Stephen A. Douglas and Abraham Lincoln), who had been Tucson's first American mayor, and who was now the richest merchant in Tucson.

The Tucson Convention ratified the proceedings of the Mesilla Convention, and elected provisional officers for the new Confederate Territory. Dr. Lewis Owings of Mesilla was elected Provisional Governor of the Territory, and Granville Henderson Oury of Tucson was elected as Delegate to the Confederate Congress. The Confederacy was not yet ready to accept new Territories, however, and so Arizona would have to wait again for Territorial status, for the time being.

On August 1, 1861, after defeating the Federal garrison of Fort Filmore (located near Mesilla), Baylor declared the creation of a new Confederate Territory of Arizona and installed himself as Governor.

Returning to Mesilla, John R. Baylor, CSA, put in motion the second part of his plan. On August 1, he issued a "*Proclamation to the People of the Territory of Arizona*," which began as follows:

"The social and political condition of Arizona being little short of general anarchy, and the people being literally destitute of law, order, and protection, the said Territory, from the date hereof, is hereby declared temporarily organized as a military government until such time as Congress may otherwise provide.

I, John R. Baylor, Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding the Confederate Army in the Territory of Arizona, hereby take possession of said Territory in the name and behalf of the Confederate States of America.

For all purposes herein specified, and until otherwise decreed or provided, the Territory of Arizona shall comprise

all that portion of New Mexico lying south of the thirty-fourth parallel of north latitude."

By the end of August all of the Territorial offices were filled. And indeed, it is interesting to note that the District Courts and Probate Courts of the new Territory were in operation almost immediately after Baylor declared them in existence. The records of the First District Probate Court (at Mesilla), for instance, begin on August 8, 1861, exactly one week after Baylor's proclamation. Thus, within a very short time, Confederate government in the Territory of Arizona was in operation.

It soon became apparent that the people of Arizona were firmly behind Baylor's creation of a Confederate Territory of Arizona. On August 28, 1861 a Convention of the People of Arizona was held at Tucson. This convention ratified Baylor's action of August 1, and elected a Delegate from the Territory of Arizona to the Confederate States Congress. Once again, Granville Henderson Oury was elected to this position (as he had at earlier conventions in April 1860 and March 1861). Governor Baylor accepted the proceedings of this Convention, including the nomination of Oury as Territorial Delegate, and by October 1, 1861, Granville Oury was on his way to Richmond, there to assume his seat in the Confederate Congress.

Upon Granville Oury's arrival at the Confederate capital at Richmond, Virginia, events began to move swiftly toward the final resolution of Arizona's status and its future relationship with the Confederate States of America. Oury met with President Jefferson Davis and other important Confederate leaders, and although he was not formally seated in the Confederate Congress as a delegate from the Territory of Arizona (as the said Territory did not as yet legally exist), he began to meet with Congressional leadership and to assist in drafting the legislation that would eventually lead to the formal creation of the Confederate Territory of Arizona.

On November 22, 1861, John H. Reagan, a Texas Congressman and Postmaster General of the Confederacy, introduced a bill into the Confederate Congress which would formally create a Confederate Territory of Arizona.

Granville Henderson Oury was active in the debates that resulted, and would see his efforts crowned with success. On January 13, 1862, after two months of debate and legislative wrangling, the Confederate Congress passed the "*Act to Organize the Territory of Arizona*," as the Reagan bill was called. The last section of the Act (Section 17) provided, however, that the provisions of the act would be in suspension until the President of the Confederate States issued a Proclamation declaring it to be in full force and effect and had appointed officers for the Territory. Thus, even though Congress had passed the Reagan bill, the Confederate Territory of Arizona still did not legally exist.

This situation was to persist for another month, until February 14, 1862. On that date, President Jefferson Davis issued the following Proclamation:

"I, Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederate States of America, do issue this, my proclamation, declaring said "Act to organize the Territory of Arizona" to be in full force and operation, and that I have proceeded to appoint the officers therein provided to be appointed in and for said Territory."

When Jefferson Davis set his hand and seal to this document, the Confederate Territory of Arizona became a full-fledged, legal reality. The aspirations of the people of Arizona, which had been building since 1854, were finally realized. Arizona was born.

One of the most serious problems Governor Baylor faced when he assumed power in Arizona was the depredations of the various Apache bands, who were at the time engaged in what one contemporary source has called "*a saturnalia of slaughter*" so severe that "*the last glimmer of civilization seemed about to be quenched in blood.*" Apache raiding parties burned wagon trains, raided and looted mines and ranches, and even besieged sizeable towns such as Pinos Altos and Tubac. Prisoners taken by the Apaches were often tortured horribly. The entire Territory was in a state of terror and chaos, and it was up to Baylor to find a way to restore order. Taking a page from the history of his home State, Baylor decided to raise a regiment of Rangers for frontier defense. Like the famous Texas Rangers with which he was familiar, this regiment of Arizona Rangers would consist several companies of cavalry, which would patrol the frontier areas of the Confederate Territory of Arizona. Recruiting for this regiment began in December 1861, with Sherod Hunter (a native of Tennessee who had settled near the present town of Deming, New Mexico, in the mid-1850s) commissioned as Captain of the first Company. The company was enlisted for "three years, or the war," and was composed of (to quote the *MESILLA TIMES*, the largest newspaper in Arizona at that time) "*picked men, inured to the hardships of frontier life, and conversant with its details.*" The company was mustered into the Confederate service on January 25, 1862 at Mesilla.

Captain Sherod Hunter and Company A, Baylor's Regiment of Arizona Rangers, were ordered to proceed to Tucson on February 10, 1862. They arrived on February 28, 1862, and held a formal ceremony at which they raised a Confederate First National Flag over the town plaza on March 1. It was probably in a rush of patriotism following this ceremony that Private Richardo, a Hispanic youth from Tucson, joined the company.

It is unknown if any of the four men buried at Dragoon Springs took part in the engagements which Captain Sherod Hunter's command fought against the Union California Column during March and April of 1862. Probably they did not, as most of Hunter's command remained in Tucson as a garrison throughout the campaign.

On May 5, 1862, these men were among a foraging party which had been sent from Tucson to gather stray cattle in the vicinity of the abandoned Butterfield Overland Stagecoach Station at Dragoon Springs, located about 16 miles east of

present-day Benson, Arizona. As they entered a narrow box canyon wherein the springs are located, the party was ambushed by a large band of Apache warriors, numbering as many as 100 men and commanded by the great war chiefs, Francisco and Cochise. Most of the Confederate force managed to escape with their lives, but they left behind 25 horses, 30 mules, and four of their comrades...the men who have found their eternal rest at Dragoon Springs.

Thus, these men have a unique place in the history of the War Between the States. They are the most westerly Confederate battle deaths of the war, and the only such to occur within the confines of what is today modern Arizona. The Battle of Picacho Pass, "*the westernmost conflict of the Civil War*", was fought on April 15, 1862. It took place between Tucson and Phoenix near Picacho Peak but it was not until General Carelton and the California Volunteers recaptured Tucson in June 1862 and drove out Confederate forces that Arizona was once again under Union control and Arizona became a territory under the Union flag February 26, 1863.

Colonel John R. Baylor of the Confederate States of America defeated Union troops in Arizona and New Mexico in March 1861 and Arizona became a Confederate Territory when it was annexed by President Jefferson Davis. Baylor was later named governor in January 1862 setting up a territorial government for the Confederacy with its own constitution.



Black Confederate Pensioners After the Civil War by James G. Hollandsworth Jr.

The service of African Americans with the Confederate army during the American Civil War has long intrigued historians and Civil War buffs. Were these men soldiers or servants? Did they get shot? Why did they serve, and what was the nature of the relationship between black servants and their white masters in uniform? The answers to these questions may never be completely understood, but one thing is clear from a variety of sources: African Americans were an integral part of the Confederate war effort.

Black southerners contributed to the Confederate war effort in four ways:

First, as slaves, they provided the labor that fueled the Southern cotton economy and maintained the production of foodstuffs and other commodities.

Second, slaves were rented to or drafted by the Confederate government to work on specific projects related to the South's military infrastructure, such as bridges and railroads.

Third, black southerners were part of the work force in the Confederacy's war-related foundries, munitions factories, and mines. In addition, they transported food and war material to the front by wagon, and provided services to wounded and sick soldiers in Confederate hospitals.

Last, a large number of black southerners went to war with the Confederate army as noncombatants, serving as personal servants, company cooks, and grooms.

The lack of reliable information presents a problem with developing a better picture of what black noncombatants did with the Confederate army. Documentation for the use of slave labor on fortifications and railroads is extensive because that type of labor was a matter of official policy and subject to contractual arrangements. The services of black workers in Confederate arsenals, mines, and hospitals were also documented. Unfortunately, the same sort of documentation does not exist for black noncombatants with the Confederate army because their service was not officially recognized. Consequently, the primary source of information regarding their service is anecdotal, and anecdotes do not provide a reliable basis for drawing historical conclusions. Anecdotes usually originate from a single source and thus lack corroboration. The shortcoming of anecdotes can be illustrated by the widely accepted—but inaccurate—generalization that most African Americans serving with the Confederate army were sent home after 1862.

Fortunately, there is another source of information about the service of these men. Although the information it provides is not as colorful as that found in the anecdotes recorded by Confederate veterans, it has the advantage of having been collected systematically and verified by witnesses. That source of information consists of their applications for Confederate pensions after the war.

Black Confederate pensioners

Veterans of the Union army who were disabled as a result of their service during the Civil War were eligible for a federal pension as early as 1868. However, disabled Confederate veterans had to wait until their Confederate allies regained political control of the Southern states after Reconstruction to apply for pensions sponsored by the individual states.

Although Confederate pensions were limited initially to disabled veterans, it was not long before eligibility was expanded to include veterans who were poor and in need. North Carolina and Florida led the way in 1885, and by 1898 all of the states that had seceded from the Union offered pensions to indigent Confederate veterans. Missouri and Kentucky followed suit in 1911 and 1912, respectively. These states, with the exception of Missouri, also extended coverage to indigent widows of veterans, as long as they did not remarry. African Americans who had served with the Confederate army were not included—except in Mississippi, which had included African Americans in the state's pension program from its beginning in 1888. It was not until 1921 that another state extended the eligibility for pensions to African Americans who had served as servants with the Confederate army. Unfortunately, black southerners who applied for Confederate pensions in the 1920s were, for the most part, very old men. Consequently, the number of black pensioners was small compared to the large number of Confederate veterans in the states that had allowed for pensions decades earlier. For example, Mississippi, which was the only state to include African Americans from its program's beginning in 1888, had 1,739 black

pensioners; North Carolina, which first offered pensions in 1927 had 121; South Carolina, which first offered pensions in 1923, had 328; Tennessee, which first offered pensions in 1921, had 195; and Virginia, which first offered pensions in 1924, had 424 black pensioners.

Initially, Mississippi's pensions for Confederate veterans were limited to soldiers or sailors and their former servants with a disability sustained during the war, such as the loss of a limb, that prevented them from engaging in manual labor, and to women who had been widowed during the war and had not remarried. In 1892, Mississippi expanded the eligibility for pensions to include veterans, their former servants, and unmarried widows "*who are now resident in this State, and who are indigent and not able to earn support by their own labor.*"

Pension applications from African Americans in Mississippi were forwarded to the state auditor's office by pension boards in each county. These applications are now on file in the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, where they are intermingled with applications from white soldiers and widows, all of which are filed alphabetically by last name. Black pensioners can be identified by the special application form that servants were required to use. A review of the applications for Confederate pensions in Mississippi—about 36,000—reveals 1,739 applications from African Americans.

Pension Applications

Pension applications for African Americans were different from those used for soldiers or widows. Questions on the applications for servants asked for the applicant's name, age, the name of the person he had served during the Civil War, and the dates of his service. Questions also asked the unit to which the applicant's master had been assigned. This information, coupled with his master's name, allowed pension boards to verify the applicant's service by checking Confederate muster rolls. This step in the approval process was crucial as contemporary records documenting the service of African Americans were nonexistent. There were no muster rolls for these men, most of whom had no last names at the time of their service.

Other Confederate states also wanted to know what black applicants had done in regard to their service during the war, but they limited the applicant's response to a single word or term, such as "body servant." Interestingly, Mississippi did not start asking for this information until 1922, the same year it stopped asking for the applicant's age.

Surprisingly, none of the states, except Mississippi, asked black applicants if they were wounded as a result of their service with the Confederate army. This omission did not mean, however, that such information did not find its way onto application forms, for all states allowed the applicant to state why he should be awarded a pension, and applicants were not hesitant to report wounds received during the war. Nevertheless, information about wounds was not systematically obtained from black applicants, except in Mississippi, and the county pension boards in Mississippi

stopped collecting wound information in 1922.

Confederate pension programs were administered by the states, and all applications, including affidavits, were completed at the county level, even in those states where final approval rested with a state pension board. At least two witnesses, preferably former Confederate soldiers, were required to sign affidavits under oath attesting that the information provided by the applicant was accurate. As a result, applicants, white or black, were usually known by the people who asked for the information on pension applications and affidavits. In contrast, the federal pension program for Union soldiers was administered centrally in Washington, D.C., where a small group of over-worked clerks attempted to sort through thousands of applications from all parts of the country, costing the federal government millions of dollars on fraudulent claims.

Black noncombatants

The proportion of black pensioners among different work categories varied from state to state. The pension statutes in Mississippi, South Carolina, and Tennessee, for example, were intended primarily to reward the service of servants or cooks whose masters were assigned to units in the Confederate army. Despite state variations, an overall pattern of service among the black pensioners is clear. On average, 85 percent of the black pensioners served as servants or cooks with the Confederate army.

The number of black pensioners in Mississippi was large enough to indicate the distribution of black noncombatants within the Confederate army. Unit assignments can be identified for 1,312 black applicants in Mississippi, of which nearly 1,100 were with units raised in the state. Unit assignments of masters (thus that of black noncombatants) by percentage were: infantry, 57 percent; cavalry, 33 percent, artillery, 8 percent; and general staff, 2 percent. Of the seventy-nine infantry and cavalry regiments or battalions with Mississippi designations during the war, only three (4 percent) were not represented by at least one black pensioner after the war.

As black pensioners served in 96 percent of the regiments and battalions from Mississippi, it is evident that African Americans served with every army, in every theater, both early in the war and late. Furthermore, they were at every major battle of the Civil War east of the Mississippi River. When the end came, black noncombatants with Mississippi units were at Appomattox and Bentonville, Mobile, and Selma.

A central question about these men is whether some of them ever became soldiers. Unfortunately, applications submitted by black pensioners do not address this question. By filling out a servant's application, these men acknowledged at the onset that they were noncombatants, not soldiers. African Americans who may have enlisted as soldiers in the Confederate army, which would have entitled them to a larger pension, would have applied using a soldier's pension form.

Although applications from black pensioners provide relatively straightforward answers to questions that can be easily measured, such as wounds and their nature, they have serious limitations when it comes to dealing with personal feelings about their service. The question of the black noncombatants' motivation, for example, is only partially resolved by information from pension applications. Questions about motivation did not appear on

application forms, and the vast majority of African Americans who labored for the Confederate war effort were slaves. While it is true that many of the slaves who served as black noncombatants may have served willingly, how many – and how willingly – is a matter of speculation. Some black southerners did volunteer.

The responses to questions on the nearly 3,000 applications from Confederate black pensioners reinforce the conviction that black noncombatants were an important part of the Confederate armies, and shed some light on what they did to support the Confederate war effort.

James G. Hollandsworth Jr., Ph.D., is a former professor of psychology and lecturer in history at the University of Southern Mississippi, and the author of "Looking for Bob: Black Confederate Pensioners After the Civil War," which appeared in the winter 2007 edition of *The Journal of Mississippi History*, Vol. LXVIX, No. 4. and from which this article is condensed.



Possum Sez:

When you say "Yes" to others, make sure you're not saying "No" to yourself!



A hearty round of "Huzzah's" for all those who helped with the float and marched in the color guard for the SERTOMA of Laurel Christmas Parade!

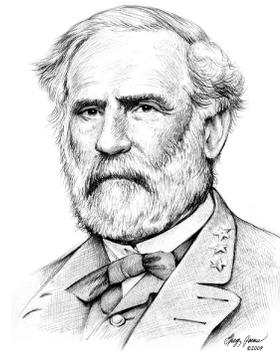
Special thanks to George, Coco, Billy Langley, Irvin Gatlin, Landrum's Country, and of course to John "Big Bang" Parker for his cannon!

The gathering at the Mauldin Community Center was well attended, the food was outstanding, and even Joe Cosper minded his manners.

Young Christopher Brooks, Grandson of Charles Mott, received an "Award of Valor" for his brave actions at the "Battle of Landrum's Country" and ever-ready-to-help-but-not-always-on-time, John "Fearless Jack" Musgrove, received a Brevet Promotion to Corporal in the Color Guard.

By the way, Christopher has attained the advanced age of 12 years and he and his father are now official full members of Camp #227 SCV! Welcome to the Rosin Heels, a finer group of men can't be found!

A great time was had by all, and we managed to fire off a few more rounds from John's Cannon!



JONES COUNTY ROSIN HEELS
ROBERT E. LEE & STONEWALL JACKSON BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION
JANUARY 31st, 2014

“Supper?” “Dinner?” “Banquet?”

The whatever it’s correctly called, annual SCV family reunion in honor of our Heroes will be at Bethlehem Baptist Church near Laurel **AS ALWAYS ON THE LAST SATURDAY OF JANUARY (DOORS OPEN AT 5, WE’LL START SERVING AT 5:30** so you won’t be so late getting home). Uniform up for the Color Guard, otherwise period dress, Sunday clothes, or tee shirts and Jeans (No saggy pants however!) - you know we’re not picky!

Dr. John Fayard will speak, other things will happen, and we’ll get to have a good ole visit!

Yes we will “sing” Auld Lang Syne too!

Amazingly, ticket prices remain \$15.00 per person, and those of you who attended the Conference (if ya didn’t shame on you!) know that you had to take home a “go box,” (AKA *Doggie Bag*) the church youth fed us so well!

We are on a short string because the place they get the meat requires a 1 week notice, so we need to know at least by January 19 if you are planning to come. If we get an extended deadline, John will send out an email, but don’t count on it.

As always, you can pay at the door, PLEASE! JUST LET US KNOW IF YOU ARE COMING!! Mail is PO Box 52, Laurel, 39441.

You can call **Carl days at 601-649-1867** and tell him or John or you can phone Carl at **home nights 601-426-2041** or **Carl’s cell at 601-319-7027**—but **don’t leave a message on the cell!** Technology isn’t Carl’s long suit! He’s fairly certain he can handle messages on the home phone though!

The email is CSAFORD@HOTMAIL.COM (Case doesn’t matter) and we do know how to do that. Make your subject line Lee-Jackson Banquet Reservation.

*

YES, _____ OF US ARE COMING. CHECK IS ENCLOSED:

OR

WE’LL PAY AT THE DOOR BUT PROMISE TO PAY IF WE DON’T MAKE IT

NAME: _____

email for updates (optional) _____

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