

November 2019

The Hughes News

**Official Publication of the
Brigadier General John T Hughes Camp # 614, SCV
And
Lt. Col. John R. Boyd Chapter # 236, MOS&B
Independence, Missouri**



**Sante Fe, New Mexico during the War
Population 4600. In the background you can see the Palace of the Governors.
Some of the buildings you see here still exist in Santa Fe today.**



The Hughes News

Camp # 614

November 2019

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Message From The Commander, Jason Coffman

Confederate Patriots

We had quite a few members of Hughes Camp and Boyd Chapter at the Missouri Secession Day Dinner on November 2nd. That was a good time. It was good to see folks from our Camp and Boyd Chapter support the event.



Hughes Camp will have it's annual Christmas Party on December 8th at the Lion's Club in Missouri City, our usual spot. Get there about 2, then we'll eat around 3 or 3:30 pm. Hughes camp will provide the meat and drinks. Please bring a side dish or desert to share. Also, bring a white elephant gift!

Kurt and Billie Holland will be there with their daughter Lindsay and family. Kurt and Billie moved to Southwest Missouri this year, so it will be good to see them back in our area.

The Missouri Division Lee Jackson Dinner will be coming up about January 11th, maybe January 18th. I have not seen details on location etc for that, so there is no registration form included. We don't put out a Hughes News in December, so we'll put a registration form in the January newsletter. Time will be short, so jump on sending that in early January.

Hope everyone has a nice Thanksgiving and Christmas season, and we'll see you at the camp meeting November 14th!

Yours in the Bonds of Confederate Brotherhood,

Jason-Nathaniel: coffman

John T. Hughes Camp 614 Commander

www.hughescamp.org



Camp Calendar

**November 14th 7:00 PM Camp Meeting Courthouse Exchange
113 West Lexington, Independence, MO 64050 (816) 252-0344**

Our speaker this month will be **Jim Beckner**, who's subject will be: **"Hawaii, the Confederate State"** and **Another short topic of delight**. Come on out to see Jim Beckner gives us another glorious speech!

December 8th, 2:00 PM, Hughes Camp Christmas Party Lions Club in Missouri City. Hughes Camp will provide the meat and beverages, please bring a side dish and or desert. We'll do a White Elephant Gift Exchange, for your entertainment, so bring a gift!

NOTE: We don't quite have the Christmas Party location locked down, but we think it will work out to be at that location.



Br. Gen. John T Hughes

What's been happening on the Western Front

Camp Meeting, October 10th

First off, in the last news I told you about Tom Rafiner being our speaker at the September meeting, and that his books are available of Amazon etd. My Bad! Tom's books are also in stock at **James Country Mercantile!** Shop local and or support small business! To heck with the big guys like amazon!

In October, we had Greg Quirin back to give us part 2 of his speech. The title of his subject was: **"Part 2: Desert Rebels: The Confederate Army of New Mexico, 1861-1962"**

Greg picked up where he left off in July, with the Texans under Sibley going into the Arizona Territory, which includes the New Mexico region. The Yankees were also engaged with fighting Apache Indians, and as the Yankees abandoned forts, that emboldened the Apaches.

As Sibley moved north, with the plan to live off the land and captured yankee supplies, they came to Ft. Craig. He decided to bypass the fort versus attacking it to draw Canby (Feds) out into the open to fight. Sibley's men won battles at Bloody Valverde and Socorro. They entered Santa Fe March 7th and stayed there until March 21st. 3 Confederates managed to capture the Cubero Supply Depot, the

Leader of the 3 was Missouri born man named Kavanaugh. In Santa Fe, the Territorial Government evacuated prior to Sibley arriving, and either burned or moved most of the supplies. Same with Albuquerque around March 7/8, the supply depot there was burned. All this adding up to meager supplies for the Confederates!

March 25-28 was the Apache Canyon and Glorieta Pass engagements. Apache Canyon was a surprise engagement and an all day running fight. On the 28th, there was a deliberate meeting at Pigeon's Ranch near Glorieta Pass which was a tactical victory for the Confederates. But then the Confederates suffered a logistical disaster at Johnson's Ranch at the hands of John Ford of the 2nd Colorado, who would later be sent to Missouri to fight against Quantrill. The 2nd Colorado was formidable. Ford managed to capture the Confederates entire wagon train of supplies.

By April 7-24, with all it's munitions and supplies destroyed, Sibley decided he must evacuate the territory or be destroyed. They retreated and it was a tough 7 week march back to San Antonio, TX

Many thanks to Greg for this information! He's very knowledgeable about the New Mexico campaign, and gave a very energetic presentation!



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Health and Welfare update:

It came to my attention today that Camp Member Gordon Fristoe suffered a stroke in August and is now living in a long term care facility. He is staying at Villages of Jackson Creek, 3980 S. Jackson Dr. Independence, MO 64057 and is in the Memory Care Unit. He can have visitors. I'm not sure how the stroke has affected Gordon physically, but he does have some memory issues, per his daughter. But she said he does remember people, but has short term memory loss. That said, I'm sure he would love some visitors, stop by to see him if you can.

They are attempting to get him into a Veterans home, but there is a waiting list for that. Gordon is a vet, US Army I believe, and he did do at least one tour in Vietnam.

Gordon has always been a good supporter of his Confederate Ancestors, but his health has kept him from attending meetings for a couple of years now.

Let's all pray for Gordon's full recovery.

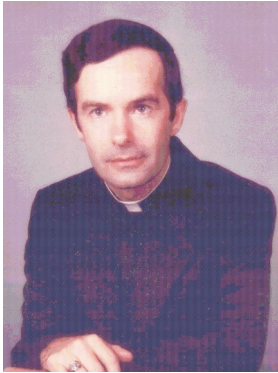
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Thanks to James Country Mercantile, Steven Cockrell, Jerry Spencer, Joe Ferrara, John Yeatman, Andy Johnson, Matt Knapp, George Baker, Steve Ferguson, Burgess Williams, Bob Capps. Thanks for helping to keep the presses rolling!

Salute!



Chaplain's Corner, Hughes Camp Chaplain Richard W Rudd



Robert L. Stevenson's Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde made its debut in 1886. The story is related by Gabriel Utterson, a lawyer and friend of Henry Jekyll. Struggling to suppress his dark inclinations, personified by Edward Hyde, the good Doctor, being a man of science, relies on his own efforts by

concocting an elixir. When taken for an extended period of time, the body develops a resistance to a drug and increasingly stronger doses are needed until the drug is finally rendered ineffective. So it was with Jekyll and Hyde. Jekyll became more reliant on the serum while Hyde built up a resistance to it, becoming stronger and stronger. Fearing Hyde would eventually achieve dominance over him, Jekyll, in desperation, ceases to exist, presumably due to suicide. Without the proper antidote, Hyde ultimately destroys himself by simultaneously destroying his host.

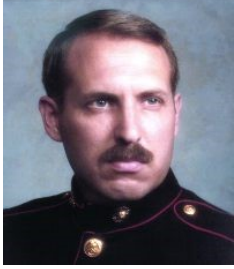
This duality of conflicting natures or philosophies can be observed between two people and between two groups of people, as Jacob contended with Esau, David with Saul, and the Israelites with the Canaanites. However, "Jekyll and Hyde" has become a euphemism for two diametrically opposed forces competing for dominance within the same body, whether it be that of an individual or a corporate body of people, especially a nation. From its founding, the US has been a nation struggling to reconcile two different political philosophies. The South, striving to preserve the spirit of '76 embodying the ideals of the Founding Fathers and true federalism, sought to repress and ultimately to free itself from the dominating spirit of the North. As Jekyll resisted Hyde, so Confederate resisted Yankee. A series of political remedies were tried and failed, intensifying to the level of armed conflict. The Yankee grew stronger, overpowered the Confederate, and the spirit of '76 became a casualty.

Although the search for a remedy through open warfare ended in 1865, the Jekyll and Hyde duel continues to this very day. Some groups like Antifa would like to revive fighting in the streets, but the epicenter of battle has reverted back to the political

arena for now; the liberal vs the conservative, the Democrat vs the Republican. Congress is a microcosm of the nation; the House of Representatives vs the Senate and the members within each house jockey for dominance against each other. "And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand." (Mk. 3:25) The America of the 21st century remains as divided and contentious as that of the 19th century. Like once mighty Rome, will America collapse, not by foreign force, but by domestic crumbling from within? Will America share the same final fate as Jekyll and Hyde—a national suicide? It does not have to be, but if the current course continues to be followed, then it has been said, "What has been is what will be, and what has been done is what will be done; and there is nothing new under the sun." (Eccles. 1:9)

The drama being acted out on the national stage is an external and visible consequence of the internal and invisible dramatic struggle playing out within each one of us. St. Paul personifies the two natures competing for dominance over us as two men engaged in conflict. He says, "Put off the old man (old nature) that...is corrupt through deceitful lusts...and put on the new man (new nature) ..." (Eph. 4:22, 24) The old man is the natural inclination to do evil we receive from Adam. When we place out trust in Christ, we receive the new man Who is "...the Holy Spirit Who dwells within us." (II Tim. 1:44) Then the struggle intensifies, as Paul explains, "For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh; for these are opposed to each other..." (Gal. 5:17) As Jekyll became increasingly aware of Hyde, so the Christian becomes increasingly aware of their sinful nature and exclaims with Paul, "I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but do what I hate." And again, "For I do not do the good I want,

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Historians Corner, Paul R Petersen

Paul is the Author of *Quantrill of Missouri*, *Quantrill in Texas*, *Quantrill at Lawrence* and *Lost Souls of the Lost Township*. Petersen is a retired U.S. Marine Corps master sergeant and a highly decorated infantry combat veteran of the Vietnam War, Operation Desert Storm, and Operation Iraqi Freedom. He is a member of the William Clarke Quantrill Society, the James-Younger Gang Association, the Sons of the American Revolution, and the Jackson County and Missouri State Historical Societies.

Sam Wells

Though he survived the shells, he became a casualty of the war.

Sam Wells was just 14 years old when the Civil War started. Like many young men in Jackson County he was inextricably drawn into the conflict by personal events. His father George Washington Wells was a prosperous farmer living south of Independence in the Valley of the Little Blue. Following the Battle of White Oak Creek in August 1862, George Wells climbed a high rock ledge to watch Colonel William Clarke Quantrill's command rout a Yankee attack. As he was cheering for the Southern side the frustrated Yankee's turned their weapons on the unarmed spectator shooting him dead. Well's house was later burned to the ground. His son Sam soon found himself riding in Quantrill's guerrilla company trying to avenge himself of the wrongs caused by the atrocities of the marauding Kansas Jayhawkers. Wells joined a long list of Quantrill's men who suffered greatly from wartime atrocities. Sam's uncle, John Hagen was murdered by a Yankee patrol in retaliation for the telegraph wire near his home being cut. The Wells family lived in close proximity to one of the Youngers' farms in Jackson County. Henry Younger was a devout Christian man whose one of many generousities included the donation of 160 acres for the establishment of the Jackson County Poor Farm. If it hadn't of been for the war his eldest son Cole was slated to go into the ministry but the murder of his father by Union militia early in the war shaped his future in another direction. Besides the death of his father Yankees burned down three of the Youngers' homes causing their mother an early death.

Wells also fought besides the James brothers whose step-father, Reuben Samuels, was mercilessly hung by Union militia in Clay County in May of 1863. Fortunately his family managed to cut him down saving his life but not before a lack of oxygen caused him brain damage. Not far from

the house Jesse received a brutal scourging causing him to join his older brother Frank in Quantrill's command. Before Jesse rode off to join his brother Union militia visited the James farm stripping his mother to the waist and whipping her so severely with a black snake whip she miscarried.

After the war Quantrill's men fared no better. Bob and Cole Younger tried to return to their Cass County home and settle down but Union vigilantes continued to raid their farm going so far as to steal their horses, cutting the harness as the brothers were in the field plowing. Former Yankees attacked the Younger home, broke in the doors and windows, and rushed upon their mother Bursheba with drawn revolvers. They demanded to know where Cole and James were hiding. When they failed to find the former guerrillas, the soldiers carried young John Younger to the barn, placed a rope around his neck, and lifted him off the ground to get him to tell where his brothers had gone. Three times they pulled him off his feet, but he did not say a word and lost consciousness. They laid him on the ground, and with the rope still buried in his flesh, the vigilantes beat him with sticks and the butts of their rifles and hacked at him with knives.

History relates that Jesse James was seriously wounded by Federal soldiers while trying to surrender at the end of the war. With Frank James following Colonel William Quantrill into Kentucky in the war's final days he was not at first permitted to return to Missouri. When Frank did finally return to his home in Clay County he was challenged by four former Union soldiers who started a provocation in order to murder him, which resulted in Frank killing two and seriously wounding the third while the fourth

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***Rudd Continued from Page 4...***

but the evil I do not want is what I do." (Rom. 7:15) In the heat of the battle, we cry out, "Who will deliver me...?" (Rom. 7:24) Unlike Jekyll, who underestimated the strength of his adversary and relied on himself by formulating a potion and lost the battle with Hyde, the Christian can declare with confidence, "But thanks be to God, Who gives us the victory through out Lord Jesus Christ." (I Cor. 15:57) And so we, as a corporate body of Americans, can experience victory and regain our place in this world among nations if we as a people return to the faith of our Fathers.

Deo Vindice***Father Richard Rudd******Hughes Camp Chaplain***

Petersen continued from page 5... managed to shoot Frank in the hip causing a grievous wound. Friends carried Frank into hiding and summoned a doctor who saved his life.

Later on February 18, 1867, five former Union militiamen rode to the James farm looking for Frank and Jesse. Only Jesse was at home in bed still suffering from wartime wounds. His stepfather, Dr. Reuben Samuel, heard the soldiers on the front porch and inquired what they wanted. When they demanded he open the door, Dr. Samuel asked Jesse what he should do. Jesse saw that all the horses hitched to the fence had cavalry saddles. While a militiaman was hammering on the door with the butt of his pistol, Jesse placed his pistol up to the inside of the door and fired. The soldier on the other side fell back dead as Jesse threw open the door firing rapidly. A second soldier was killed as he tried to run, and two more were seriously wounded. The fifth soldier escaped into the darkness. From this moment on Jesse and Frank were forced to take to the bush as outlaws. This identical scene repeated itself many times to those who had belonged to Quantrill's guerrillas. On April 4, 1868, a gang of former Union soldiers surrounded the home of guerrilla Oliver Shepherd. When he came to the door he was shot twenty times, killing him in front of his wife and children.

Unable to find jobs or work their farms, having their taxes raised beyond reach by Yankee politicians now in power and being constantly hunted day and night but being too proud to suffer being forced from their homes some of these former guerrillas sought the outlaw path. From four long years of mortal combat shared with his friends and neighbors the Youngers and James', Sam Wells decided to join them once again. In July 1876, Sam was accused of being on a venture with Cole and Bob Younger, Frank and Jesse James, Clell Miller, Bill Chadwell and Hobbs Kerry when they robbed the Pacific Railroad at Rocky Cut near Otterville, Missouri. Two months later the same group of men including Jim Younger and minus Hobbs Kerry headed to Northfield, Minnesota to rob the First National Bank. To spare his family any retaliation that may ensue Sam Wells changed his name to Charlie Pitts. The robbery of the First National Bank was not without cause. Union Army Major-General Adelbert Ames, the son-in-law of General Benjamin "Spoons" Butler lived in Northfield. Butler got his nickname from stealing the silverware from Southern homes in Louisiana when he was commander of Union forces there. Cole Younger had learned that Butler had planned to deposit \$75,000 in the Northfield bank. The robbery proved a fiasco. Clell Miller and Bill Chadwell were killed on the streets. The rest of the robbers killed two citizens before leaving in a hail of bullets. Once outside of town Frank and Jesse decided to break away and head back to Missouri on their own. The Youngers were all shot to pieces during the getaway. Cole Younger told Sam, aka Charlie Pitts, that it looked like they would have to surrender and encouraged Sam to escape, but Sam replied he wasn't going to run or desert his friend. Cole looked into Sam's face and stated, "This is where Cole Younger dies!" Sam replied back, "Alright Captain, I can die just as game as you can. Let's get it done!"

Continued on Page 7...

***Petersen continued from page 6...***

The group of men were surrounded by a posse led by Sheriff James Glispin. As Sam stood up to fire the sheriff dropped to one knee and fired back, hitting Sam in the chest, killing him instantly. After the battle the Youngers were sent to prison. Sam Wells known only now as Charlie Pitts was turned over to Dr. Henry Wheeler, the medical examiner as an unclaimed body. The doctor took it to St. Paul, where it was dissected and the skeleton mounted. In 1990 a DNA match proved negative from Joe H. Wells, a great grand nephew. Some claimed that the body dissected was actually Bill Chadwell. Until more tests can be proven to the identification of the remains what is a fact is that Charlie Pitts' Smith & Wesson Russian Model 3 revolver used during the robbery is on display in the Northfield, Minnesota Museum.

Let those without sin, cast the first stone. The Bible

Article by Paul R. Petersen

Ref: Sam Wells photos courtesy of Joe H. Wells family
Author Shirley Wells – Samuel Wells aka “Charlie Pitts”
Paul R. Petersen – Quantrill of Missouri

