



DIXIE NATIONAL RODEO PARADE – FEBRUARY 2019 – JACKSON, MS

The Rebel Rose

Mary Ann Forrest
OCR Chapter #23

Brandon, MS
March 2019

IN THIS ISSUE

Order of Confederate Rose

Charla Lewis – Vice-President - Editor

What We Do

We support all endeavors sponsored by the Mississippi Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans. Each chapter is free to focus on activities important to its own sponsoring SCV Camp as well as supporting SCV state and national efforts. The OCR will support all endeavors sponsored by the SCV, including but not limited to, the preservation of ALL Confederate symbols. That support, as well as ideas and talents will determine the direction each OCR Chapter will take.

Purpose

We assist the Mississippi Division Sons of Confederate Veterans and the local camps in historical, educational, benevolent, and social functions,

especially the preservation of Confederate symbols. It is a way for you to support our Confederate heritage, which is now under attack. We formed in 1993 to aid and further the cause of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, and to support all endeavors sponsored by the SCV.

Membership

The Order of Confederate Rose is open to all ladies, twelve years of age or older, regardless of ancestry. It is non-racial, non-political, and non-sectarian. The Order of Confederate Rose will not compete with the United Daughters of the Confederacy, or with any other genealogical organization. We invite members from other genealogical organizations to join with us.



Salvation Army SOUPER Bowl
- Jackson, MS



Upcoming Service Projects & Activities

Chapter Events – February 2019

- MAF February Meeting – February 2, 2018
- Salvation Army SOUPer Bowl – Sunday, February 3, 2019
- Dixie National Parade – February 9, 2019 – Jackson, MS



Words from the President:

Brandi Gray

March is upon us, and we have already accomplished so much in the last three months. February was our Salvation Army “Souper Bowl” event and Charla Lewis, Robbie Lewis, and Susan Jones volunteered and got to meet the Governor and First Lady! The Dixie National Parade also had a great turnout! Ladies marched in full Civil War dress as well as many of our SCV members and children rode the float. It was cold, but we made it! We also started our food drive for the VA Hospital Pantry, and we will deliver the goods purchased with money raised from our Bake Sale and donations March 12. I’d say we had a pretty good month, and I continue to appreciate each and every one of you. See you all at the March meeting!

ON THE HOME FRONT!



Susan Jones represented the Mary Ann Forrest OCR Black Roses at the 3rd Annual Pilgrimage to the Tomb of the Unknown at Beauvoir. She helps us shine and sure makes her ancestors proud!



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Facebook: Order of Confederate Rose Mary Ann Forrest Chapter

Website: www.maryannforrestocr.com

E-mail: maryannforrestocr@yahoo.com

Brandi Gray – President – 601-896-8652

Charla Lewis – Vice-President – Editor – charlie_070485@yahoo.com

Brandi Gray – President
Charla Lewis – Vice-President
Robin Pitts – Secretary

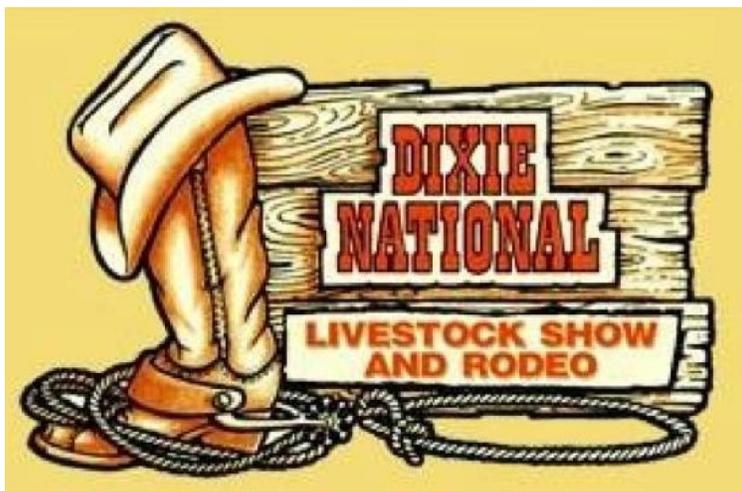
New Roses

We welcomed new member Alanna Osborne at our February meeting. Since she wanted to join a chapter closer to home, she transferred her membership to our chapter. We're so excited you picked us, and that precious baby girl of yours is too adorable.



SOUPer Bowl...
Susan, Robbie,
and Charla were
the official drink
servers. We love
serving the
Jackson
community at
this event each
year.





Dixie National Rodeo Parade



MAF OCR Rosebuds & SCV Cadet



Confederate Lady Spotlight

Loreta Janeta Velazquez
Lieutenant
June 26, 1842 - 1897?

Just about everything that historians know about Loreta Janeta Velazquez comes from her book, *The Woman in Battle: A Narrative of the Exploits, Adventures, and Travels of Madame Loreta Janeta Velazquez, Otherwise Known as Lieutenant Harry T. Buford, Confederate States Army*. Some of the incidents in the book have been verified, but there are many facts still in question.

What is known is that Velazquez was born in Cuba on June 26, 1842 to a wealthy family. In 1849, she was sent to school in New Orleans, where she resided with her aunt. At the age of 14, she eloped with an officer in the Texas army. When Texas seceded from the Union in 1861, her husband joined the Confederate army and Velazquez pleaded with him to allow her to join him. Undeterred by her husband's refusal, Velazquez had a uniform made and disguised herself as a man, taking the name Harry T. Buford.

Now displaying the self-awarded rank of lieutenant, Velazquez moved to Arkansas, where she proceeded to raise a regiment of volunteers. Locating her husband in Florida, Velazquez brought the regiment to him, presenting herself as their commanding officer. Her husband's reaction is not recorded in history, as just a few days later he was killed in a shooting accident.

Velazquez headed north, acting as an "independent soldier," she joined up with a regiment just in time to fight at the Battle of First Manassas (Bull Run) and the Battle of Ball's Bluff. Shortly afterwards, she once again donned female attire and went to Washington, DC, where she was able to gather intelligence for the Confederacy. Upon her return to the South, Velazquez was made an official member of the detective corps.

Apparently espionage did not hold enough excitement for Velazquez, and she once again sought action on the battlefield. Resuming her disguise as Lieutenant Buford, she traveled to Tennessee, joining up with another regiment to fight at the Battle of Fort Donelson on February 11, 1862. Velazquez was wounded in the foot, and fearing that her true gender would be revealed if she sought medical treatment in camp, she fled back to her home in New Orleans.

Still in her male disguise, Velazquez was arrested in New Orleans for being a possible Union spy. She was cleared of the charges, but was fined for impersonating a man, and released. She immediately headed back to Tennessee, in search of another regiment to join. As luck would have it, she found the regiment she had originally recruited in Arkansas, and fought with them at the Battle of Shiloh on April 6-7, 1862. While on burial detail, she was wounded in the side by an exploding shell, and an army doctor discovered her true gender. Velazquez decided at this point to end her career as a soldier, and she returned to New Orleans.

Not content to sit out the rest of the war, Velazquez then went to Richmond to volunteer her services as a spy. She was able to travel freely in both the South and the North, working in both male and female disguises. It was during this time that she married Confederate Captain Thomas DeCaulp; unfortunately, he died in a hospital a short time later.

After the war, Velazquez married a man identified only as Major Wasson, and immigrated to Venezuela. After his death, she moved back to the United States, where she traveled extensively in the West, and gave birth to a baby boy. In 1876, Velazquez, in need of money to support her child, decided to publish her memoirs. *The Woman in Battle* was dedicated to her Confederate comrades "who, although they fought in a losing cause, succeeded by their valor in winning the admiration of the world." The public reaction to the book at the time was mixed—Confederate General Jubal Early denounced it as pure fiction—but modern scholars have found some of it to be quite accurate.

With the release of her book, Velazquez may have married for a fourth time and is last documented as living in Nevada. The date of her death is thought to be 1897, but there is no supporting evidence for this. In response to those who criticized the account of her life, she said that she hoped she would be judged with impartiality, as she only did what she thought to be right.

Name: _____
 Address/City/Zip: _____
 Phone: _____ DOB: _____
 E-Mail: _____
 SCV Member's Referral: _____
 OCR Member's Referral: _____
 Are you interested in (Check all that apply)? 1) Starting a new Chapter _____ 2) Joining an existing Chapter _____
 3) Joining as an at-large-member _____ 4) General Information _____
 Mail Application and \$20.00 dues to:
 Sandy Smith, MSOCR Secretary/Treasurer... P.O. Box 112... Bruce, MS 38915
 Or call (601) 662-983-3218 or (C) 662-414-1092 Or E-mail to sas12@brucetelephone.com

To join an existing OCR Chapter of an SCV Camp, see the list inside or contact the Society to see if new chapters have formed since this brochure was printed.

To establish a new Chapter of the OCR, you must have a least seven (7) members. Your group will need to decide on a chapter name, and fill out the Charter application. You will need a letter of recommendation from the affiliate SCV camp. Please check with the Society about the dues. These items should be sent to the MS Society of Order of Confederate Rose, and they will issue the charter. A sample packet of these forms, a list of the steps to take, and fuller information on the OCR can be obtained by contacting the MS Society or visiting us online.

Mississippi Society OCR
<http://msocr.weebly.com/>

If there is not an OCR chapter in your town, you may join the Mississippi Society OCR as a Member-at-Large. Contact us for more details.



An Invitation to Join the Mississippi Society Order of Confederate Rose

What is the OCR?

The Order of the Confederate Rose is an independent support group to the Mississippi Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans (MDSCV) and the local camps thereof, governed by its own bylaws and standing rules. The organization is nonprofit, nonracial, nonpolitical and nonsectarian. Our annual meeting, open to all members, is held during the annual convention of the MDSCV. We encourage all to attend.

Who may join the OCR?

In MS, age requirements are 12 years or older ladies. At-large membership is open to anyone 12 years or older. OCR will not compete with the UDC or any other genealogical organization. You do not need a relative in the SCV, nor an ancestor in the CSA. All you need is a desire to support our Confederate Heritage. We invite members of other genealogical societies to join as well.

What will the OCR do?

Our goal is to aid and further the cause of the SCV and to support endeavors sponsored by the SCV when they request our assistance. Each state is free to focus on projects or problems important to its own area as well as to support efforts of national scope. The OCR will aid the SCV by providing additional communications, promoting educational programs and organizing social functions.

How did the OCR get its name?

Mrs. Rose O'Neal Greenhow was a 40 year old widow, a mother of four and a passionate secessionist when the War Between the States broke out. She ran an elaborate spy ring, for the Confederacy, from her home on 16th Street in Washington, D.C.

Following her arrest for spying by the U.S. War Department, Mrs. Greenhow was confined in her home and then in Old Capital Prison in Washington with her eight year old daughter for five months.

After being paroled and agreeing to never return to Washington, Mrs. Greenhow was greeted by cheering crowds in Virginia. She soon went to England to raise funds for the Confederacy.

In 1864, after a year abroad, Mrs. Greenhow boarded a British blockade-runner, the Condor, to take her home. just prior to arriving at her destination, the vessel ran aground at the mouth of

the Cape Fear River near Wilmington, NC. To avoid the pursuing Union gunboat, Mrs. Greenhow attempted to flee in a rowboat. When the small boat capsized, Mrs. Greenhow was dragged under the water due to the weight of the gold, royalties from her book, sewn into her dress.

In October 1864, Rose O'Neal Greenhow was buried with full military honors in Oakdale Cemetery, Wilmington, NC. Her coffin was wrapped in the Confederate flag and carried by Confederate troops.



MAF OCR Upcoming Activities

OCR MAF EVENTS	
1.	Saturday, March 9 th – MS OCR Quarterly OCR Meeting – Bruce, MS
2.	Saturday, March 16 th – Johnston-White MS Div. 4th Brigade Picnic – More details to come!
3.	Saturday, April 7 th – I-55 Flag Dedication – 2:00 P.M.
4.	Saturday, April 13 th – Confederate Memorial Service – Historic Brandon Cemetery with the Lowry Rifles of Rankin County – 10:00 A.M. – MAF OCR ladies will dress out in mourning attire.
5.	Saturday, April 27 th – State SCV/ORC Confederate Memorial Service – Beauvoir – Biloxi, MS – 2:00 P.M.

We are always in need of items for goodie-bags to distribute at our Recruitment Tents. Please, let Brandi or Charla know if you'd like to help!

Have you made plans to be at the SCV/OCR Reunion our host camp, Camp # 265 is hosting in June in Brandon, MS?

March 9th – State OCR Meeting in Bruce– 12:00 Noon – Make plans to attend – Lighthouse Baptist Church 377 Highway 32 E Bruce, MS 38915

Civil War / Mississippi Facebook Pages Spotlight:

- In Honor Of Our Southern Ancestors and Confederate Soldiers*

Happy Birthday MAF Members:

March

<i>Charlene Gray 3/5</i>	<i>Leslie Rodrigue 3/21</i>
<i>Regina Jones 3/5</i>	<i>Shiann Craft 3/23</i>
<i>Roberta Baker 3/6</i>	<i>Susan Lampkin 3/24</i>
<i>Mary Lou Ayers 3/9</i>	<i>Varonica Evans 3/24</i>
<i>Lynn Broome 3/13</i>	<i>Kathy Spratlin 3/30</i>
<i>Debby Warren 3/16</i>	<i>Kim Hinton 3/30</i>
<i>Maureen Chatham 3/19</i>	

Send any pictures or news you would like to see printed to Charla Lewis for upcoming newsletters. The next printing will be in March. Deadline to submit is Monday, March 18, 2019.

charlie_070485@yahoo.com

Next Meeting:

March 2nd: Bass Pro – 5:00 P.M. – Bring a friend or two!

February 2019 Meeting

Recorded by: Robbie Lewis, Events Coordinator

- President Brandi Gray called the meeting to order at 5:15 P.M.
- January Minutes read and approved; 1st by Tara; 2nd by Melanie; all approved
- We welcomed Alanna Osborne, New [transfer] member.
- Brandi and Robbie reported out on past and upcoming events.
 - Sunday, February 3rd – Salvation Army SOUPer Bowl – Ag Museum, Jackson, MS- Anyone can attend; Robbie, Charla, and Susan will serve drinks.
 - Saturday, February 9th – Dixie National Rodeo Parade – Create float for ladies to ride
 - Friday, February 22nd – Son of a Gun Movie Premiere- Blue Barn Theatre in Port Gibson – 7:00 P.M. MAF OCR member, Melanie Benton, stars in this movie.
 - Friday, March 1st – Krewe De Roux Mardi Gras Parade – Brandon, MS – 6:00 – 9:00 P.M.
 - March 9th - OCR State Meeting at Lighthouse Baptist Church in Bruce, MS – Margery B. Rogers Clark OCR is hosting – 12:00 Noon – Their SCV host camp # 1969 Calhoun Avengers is feeding us free of charge.
 - March 16th – 4th Brigade Johnston-White Picnic at Pleasant Hill United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall – Louisville, MS – 10:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.
 - April 7th – I55 Flag Dedication – 2:00 P.M.
 - April 13th – Confederate Memorial Service Brandon Cemetery 10:00 A.M. – Please, dress in mourning attire – hosted by the Lowry Rifles ** NOTICE – DATE CHANGE **
 - April 27th – State Confederate Memorial Service – Beauvoir – Dinner on the Grounds at 2:00 P.M. in the cemetery. Please, bring side dishes.
- February/March Service Project – March 2nd – Bake Sale at Ramey’s – Will use money to purchase food for the newly established VA Hospital Food Pantry.
- April will present several opportunities for memorial services, so clear your calendar.
- Deadline to submit news for March Newsletter is February 18th.
- Adjourned meeting at 5:45 P.M.

Editor, Charla Lewis, reserves the right to accept or reject within reason any article submitted and to edit submitted articles for length, clarity, or in any way deemed appropriate and necessary.



Mary Ann Forrest OCR ladies and Rankin Rough & Ready Camp # 265 men traveled to West Monroe, LA to attend their Mardi Gras Parade and to support the LA SCV that participates in the parade each year.