



Rebel Underground

Sons of Confederate Veterans
Major John C. Hutto Camp # 443
Jasper, Alabama

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Please join the Major John C. Hutto
Camp on Sunday, September 15, 2019, at
2:00 pm for our regular camp meeting

Alabama Division Commander
Carl Jones speaking

Pictured left courtesy of Phillip Nix at the
Battle for Decatur are Ole York Light
Artillery Crew Members: Phillip Nix, Billy
Bonner, James Blackston & Larry Hayes

Make Dixie Great Again

There is a distinct “God, Family, Country,” American culture. Along with the foundation of God-given freedom, life, liberty, the pursuit of happiness, and small non-intrusive government.

Our culture is what made America a great nation. As one people one culture, we stand strong and offer the best hope for our country and the world. If we are at odds as many, self-interested entities we fail. We lose what our ancestors sacrificed to provide for us. We smother out the torch of freedom kept ablaze by those who came before us and struggled mightily for freedom.

When freedom’s light goes out in America, the rest of the world will too be in dangerous darkness. God Blessed America.

[American Journal](#)

With great pleasure your camp commander announces that the Major John C. Hutto Camp and the Ole York Light Artillery helped to maintain the “torch of freedom” over the weekend. Several members of the artillery participated in the Battle for Decatur on Saturday & Sunday, 31 August and 01 September.

The 155th Anniversary Re-enactment of the Battle for Decatur!

Before the back bone of the Army of Tennessee was shattered at Nashville, and before the bloody fields of Franklin, there was Decatur. In late 1864 the Army of Tennessee, now under the command of General John Bell Hood, began his campaign towards Nashville in an effort to lure Sherman into battle. First, he had to cross the Tennessee River.

Hood first planned to cross in Guntersville, Alabama, but learned it was heavily

guarded. Reports of the “lightly guarded” Decatur, and fear of Federal gunboats at Guntersville, Hood changed his plans. He would finally arrive on the 26th of October 1864, where he would face between 3,000 to 5,000 Federals.

Hood sent out skirmishers towards the main fortification, which were soon driven out. Hood realized he could not take Decatur without heavy casualties, and he needed as many men as possible for his invasion of Tennessee. Finding Decatur “too tough a nut to crack”, Hood withdrew and crossed the Tennessee River in Tuscumbia, Alabama, protected from Federal gunboats by the Muscle Shoals.

Every Labor Day weekend this historic event is recreated with the annual "Battle for Decatur" re-enactment. Confederate and Union forces will face off against one another at Point Mallard Park in Decatur, Alabama.

The Battle for Decatur annual re-enactment depicts the events that happened on the 26th through 29th of October 1864, at the beginning of John Bell Hood's Nashville Campaign. Roughly 40,000 Confederate troops descended upon the fort at Decatur, Alabama intending to cross the Tennessee River (or intending to distract the fort while they crossed the river elsewhere, depending on who's telling the story.)

For the past 35 years the Battle for Decatur re-enactment has commemorated these events. The City of Decatur, Morgan County Commission and Camp 580 Sons of Confederate Veterans, Alabama Division, hosted by the 1st Division, Southern Re-enactors Association continue that tradition.

Visitors, including school children from miles around walked through camps and sutler row, where they interacted with various re-enactors, portraying Confederate and Union troops that fought in the original

Battle for Decatur in 1864.



Friday hosted an all day [school day](#) event for the school children. Saturday opened with a Ladies Tea & Skillet Toss at the adjoining Chapel, next to the registration tent,

Hosted by Mrs. Carrie Thomas Jewellson. Light refreshments and door prizes were enjoyed by all as they learned about a woman that has influenced the United States since the 1830's. Ladies are invited to try their arm at the first ever Skillet Toss! This is a free living history event.

Officers organized the battle by 10am, and the battle commenced at 2pm. The Ole York Light Artillery and the Winston County Grays provided artillery support for the

infantry during the battle at field position Battery A. The day ended with a military period ball at 8pm.



Sunday's event opens to the public at 9am with Officer's Call, and Church Services in the Chapel at 10am, presided over by Reverend Myron Mooney. The final Battle for Decatur commenced at 2pm. The Ole York Light Artillery stood alone at Battery A on the second day, and put up a gallant fight, retiring after the battle satisfied knowing they fought the good fight. Our Confederate ancestors would be proud.



**Corry House, taken as part of the
Historic American Buildings Survey**

The town of Oakman is located in the southwest corner of Walker County between Jasper and Tuscaloosa. It was initially named Day Gap or Day's Gap after the first settler, W. B. Day, who came in 1862 and settled at the lowest point in the mountainous ridges that surround the town, and through which the railroad ran. When

the post office was established in 1884, it was first called York, but the Post Office Department in 1890 changed the name to Oakman in honor of W. G. Oakman, one of the Sloss-Sheffield Iron & Steel Co.

People and Things from the Walker County, Alabama Jasper Mountain Eagle (1906 – 1909)

There are two interesting stories why the town was renamed, Oakman. It is said that sometime around 1888 when a man named Oakman came to Days Gap on the train, he offered the town officials \$10,000.00 to change the town's name to Oakman. After a little consideration, the town's officials decided to accept the offer and the name was changed that very day. The other story is that the town is named after W. G. Oakman of the Sloss-Sheffield Iron and Steel Company.

[Early Oakman Settlers](#), Ruth Teaford Baker

Visit Pond Spring -

The Friends of the Gen Joe Wheeler Foundation invite you to help us preserve his legacy and historic home, located on Hwy 20 near Courtland, AL. We invite you to visit the house and grounds and help support us in our efforts to save this treasure for future generations. Membership in the Foundation is only \$10 per year for Seniors and Students; \$15 Individuals; \$25 Family; \$50 Patrons; \$100 Benefactor. Please email or call Jean Winfrey (Foundation Secretary), at sjwinfrey22@gmail.com, tel 256-682-6167; mailing address: P.O. Box 4713, Huntsville, AL 35813. We also welcome volunteers to help with the grounds work.



www.geneservusa.org



facebook.com/GeneralJosWheelerHome



*Grounds are open Wed-Sat (9am-4pm)
and Sunday (1-5pm). Guided tours of the
museum home are offered on the hour.*

Admission is charged.

The site is closed Monday, Tuesday and all state holidays.

HUTTO CAMP OFFICERS

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