

Upcoming Events

- **October 2, 2014**—FOR General Membership Meeting, 6:00 pm, Raymond Visitor Center
- **October 10, 2014**—Presence with the Past Cemetery Stroll, 6:30 pm, Raymond Cemetery
- **October 17, 2014**—Presence with the Past Cemetery Stroll, 6:30 pm, Raymond Cemetery

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Confederate Battery Work

We are so excited to begin the improvements at the Confederate Battery at the corner of Port Gibson Street and Old Port Gibson Road (near the old Magna Plant.) Friends of Raymond has a lease for the property where a Confederate force of about 3,000 soldiers under General John Gregg attempted to defend the area against a Union force of about 12,000 soldiers under General James McPherson. The Confederates set up three cannons at this site, and FOR has placed replicas of these cannons here. Our plans are to further develop the site with a parking area, walking path, and landscaping.

We will remove a section of the chain link fence to provide easier access to the site and begin landscaping the area. We are excited about this project and will keep everyone posted about our progress.



New FOR Generals

We are pleased to welcome these new Generals to the Friends of Raymond ranks. These members contributed \$5,000 to Friends of Raymond and are now lifetime members. We appreciate all FOR Generals for their contributions, both monetary and volunteer work.

- ◇ **Jean Soman (honoring Col. Marcus Spiegel, 120th OH)**
- ◇ **The Mississippi Brigade**
- ◇ **Captain Roger B. Hansen**
- ◇ **The J.P. Martin Foundation**



Park Day 2014

On Saturday, April 5, 2014, FOR volunteers met at the Raymond Military Park for the annual Park Day clean-up event. Park Day is nationally sponsored by the Civil War Trust, the nation's largest nonprofit battlefield preservation organization, with History™ Channel and "Take Pride in America." This was the 18th year for the event, and it is one of the events that Friends of Raymond sponsors each year. We had 38 participants, including 25 guests who were touring with **Parker Hills**. Participants picked up trash, cleaned the flowerbeds around the Generals Monument, cleaned the battlefield signs, cut down overhanging limbs around the Walking

Trail, and put out fireant pesticide. After work was completed, we shared a cook-out meal of hot dogs with all the trimmings, chips, cookies, and drinks. We enjoyed the day which was very pleasant, clear, and warm. Be sure to make plans to attend next year's Park Day which is usually in late March or early April. You can also visit the Civil War Trust web site at www.civilwar.org to keep up with more news about Civil War battlefield preservation across the country.



Civil War Diorama



Visitors from Raymond, Edwards, Jackson, Clinton, and even Seattle, Washington, attended the Civil War Diorama event held at McKenzie Arena on April 25-26, 2014. This event featured large dioramas provided and assembled by **Jack Moss** and **Jim Drake**, both from Raymond, MS. Jack depicted the Battle of

Raymond which was fought on May 12, 1863, on the outskirts of Raymond, MS

near Fourteen Mile Creek. Jim depicted the Battle of Champion Hill which was fought on May 16, 1863, near Edwards, MS. Both battles were important in General Ulysses Grant's Campaign for Vicksburg and were contributing factors in the final outcome of the Civil War. The dioramas included hundreds of soldiers, both Union and Confederate, with artillery, horses, and terrain that closely mirrored the actual battlefields. We thank both Jack and Jim for their very hard work to bring this event to our area and their efforts in helping preserve the history of these important battles.

FOR Membership—Join Us!

Friends of Raymond (FOR) is a community-based, all volunteer group of people who are keenly interested in preservation of the historic sites around Raymond, MS, including the Raymond Military Park and other sites involved in the Campaign for Vicksburg. The work of FOR is totally supported by tax-deductible memberships and donations with some grant funding when available. All FOR funds are used for improvements to historic sites, such as trails, bridges, signage, and cannons; maintenance of the Military Park such as mowing, debris removal, and sign and structures maintenance; and sponsorship of events such as pilgrimages, reenactments, Mississippi Pioneer Days, dioramas, lectures, and musical programs. The FOR Board of Directors meets monthly to discuss projects, both planned and in progress, and manage the business affairs of the organization.

We invite anyone who is not a current member of FOR to join us in this work. We have had members from 27 states across the U.S. and two other countries (Canada and the United Kingdom). You can be a FOR member for ANY dollar amount that you want to donate. Your donation

is tax-deductible since FOR is a 501(c)(3) organization. It's easy to become a member – just send us your membership donation with your contact information, and we will add you to our membership list (on-line membership coming soon on our web site.) Here are more membership details:

General **\$5,000**
 One-time payment, lifetime membership, entitled to attend and vote at all General Membership meetings, quarterly meetings, quarterly newsletter, name engraved on Generals Monument at Raymond Military Park

Voting Member **\$100 and above**
 Annual membership, entitled to attend and vote at all General Membership meetings, quarterly meetings, quarterly newsletter

Friends **Under \$100**
 Annual membership, entitled to attend all General Membership meetings, quarterly meetings, quarterly newsletter

***Remember—
 your
 donation to
 FOR is tax-
 deductible***

YES! Count me in! I/we would like to support the mission of **the FRIENDS OF RAYMOND**. I/we have enclosed a check for \$_____.

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Please return this form with your check made payable to:

Friends of Raymond
 P. O. Box 1000
 Raymond, MS 39154
www.friendsofraymond.org

Friends of Raymond, Inc., has tax exempt status under IRS Code 501(c)(3). As such, all membership contributions and donations are tax deductible.



Friends of Raymond

P. O. Box 1000
Raymond, MS 39154

Email:
friendsofraymond@outlook.com

Web:
www.friendsofraymond.org

FORward

Friends of Raymond

We Want Your Feedback!

The Board of Friends of Raymond wants to hear from YOU.....

Give us your feedback, comments, suggestions, ideas and discussions about the Friends of Raymond organization. We want to serve the community and our members and future members, so let us know what you think would move the organization forward. We are interested in any feedback you have, especially:

- ◇ **Communication**—How do you like to receive information about FOR? What is the best way get to let you know about FOR events? What would you like to see on the FOR website, Facebook page, and the FORward newsletter?
- ◇ **Events**—What kinds of events have you enjoyed in the past? What events would you like to see in the future?
- ◇ **Projects**—What kinds of projects do you think FOR should consider? What projects would you be willing to participate in as a volunteer?
- ◇ **Meetings**—How often would you attend general membership meetings? What do you think should be the meeting agenda?
- ◇ **Memberships and donations**—What suggestions do you have regarding membership payments and donations?