The Friends of Raymond Board of Directors welcomes three “new” Board members for 2014. The three Board members elected for 2014—2016 terms are all former Board members—Ben Fatherree, Alicia Crowder, and Charles Davis. The Board manages the business, property, and affairs of the organization. Board members meet monthly, and official meeting minutes are kept.

The 2014 FOR Board of Directors and Officers are:

- **Ben Fatherree** — President
- **Mickey Roth** — Vice President
- **Dan Hogan** — Treasurer
- **Alicia Crowder** — Secretary
- **Charles Davis**
- **Scott Kilby**
- **Phil Kuhn**
- **Billy Pape**
- **Isla Tullos**

Civil War Dioramas—Apr.25-26

Make plans to see the Battle of Raymond and Battle of Champion Hill in miniature! This event is cosponsored by the Friends of Raymond and the Champion Hill Heritage Foundation to promote education about these important events leading to the capture of Vicksburg and to encourage historic preservation of these battlefield sites.

The event will be held on Friday, April 25, and Saturday, April 26, 2014, at McKenzie Arena on Seven Springs Road in Raymond, MS. Admission is only $5.00 per person (children and adults) and the funds will be used toward the preservation efforts of Friends of Raymond and the Champion Hill Heritage Foundation.

The Battle of Raymond is being presented by Jack Moss of Raymond. Jack is setting up a large display of Confederate and Union soldiers with cannons and cavalry on an area representing the topography of the battlefield at Raymond.

The Battle of Champion Hill will be presented by Jim Drake and will include another large display of Confederate and Union soldiers with their artillery and cavalry. The diorama will display the topography which contributed to the battle decisions and outcomes for both sides.

In addition, there will be speakers on both days who will tell about Civil War history related to these two battles. This will be an excellent learning experience for young people in history classes and for anyone who is interested in the history of this area. Watch our Facebook page (Friends of Raymond) and our web site (www.friendsofraymond.org) for more details about speaker schedules and times.

Send us an email at our new address: friendsofraymond@outlook.com
On Saturday, April 5, 2014, Friends of Raymond will join volunteer groups all over the country to clean up, preserve, and protect Civil War battlefields. Park Day is sponsored by the Civil War Trust and the History Channel each year to bring attention to the need for preservation of Civil War battlefield and historic sites.

Friends of Raymond invites members, folks in the Raymond community, students, Scouts, and other interested people to participate in Park Day. This also serves as the General Membership meeting for Friends of Raymond, 2nd quarter.

We will meet at the Raymond Military Park beginning at 9:00 a.m. You can register at the entrance to the Walking Trail off Port Gibson Rd. Please bring tools such as grass and shrub clippers; work gloves and hats; ant insecticide; garbage bags; and other clean-up tools.

After we finish the clean-up, everyone is invited to eat lunch at the Park. We will enjoy hot dogs, chips, and drinks. In addition to lunch, we will also enjoy a brief history presentation. T-shirts and patches will be available for participants also. So be sure to join us for volunteer work and fellowship at Park Day!
This year, Friends of Raymond will begin work to further develop the Raymond Military Park for visitors to stop by and learn about this historic event in our state. Over the last year, we have discussed ideas for developing the various battlefield sites near the Walking Trail, Artillery Ridge, along Highway 18, McPherson Ridge, and at the Confederate Battery. We seek to adhere to our mission which is to preserve, interpret, manage, and promote historic sites in Raymond, and we want to make the battlefield sites more accessible to the general public.

After much studying, discussion, thought, and even debate, we concluded that providing additional parking areas at the battlefield sites is a way to make them more accessible and visible as places of interest. We selected these sites for parking areas:

- Highway 18, near Fourteen Mile Creek
- Artillery Ridge
- McPherson Ridge
- Highway 18, near Raymond Military Park sign
- Texas Monument
- Confederate Battery on Old Port Gibson Road

The Board studied proposed plans for parking areas and developed cost estimates. Outgoing Board President Mickey Roth talked with Hinds County officials and Hinds Community College officials about the Confederate Battery area which is on property owned by HCC and was able to obtain a lease for the ground on which the Confederate cannons are located. Plans there include making a parking area along Old Port Gibson Road with steps leading up to the Confederate Battery and relocation of a fence. This will greatly increase the visibility of the Confederate Battery which is sometimes overlooked.

In addition, the Board was able to obtain permission from the Mississippi Department of Transportation to place parking areas along the Highway 18 near Fourteen Mile Creek, Artillery Ridge, McPherson Ridge, the Raymond Military Park sign, and the Texas Monument. These parking areas will be gravel and should provide safer means to access these sites from Highway 18.

We are very excited about these efforts getting underway soon. They will be completed in phases as funding permits. If anyone has questions or suggestions for development of these sites, please email us with your input. These plans will develop further as we make progress, and we will keep you updated.
Friends of Raymond

P. O. Box 1000
Raymond, MS 39154

Email:
friends@friendsofraymond.org

Web:
www.friendsofraymond.org

Friends of Raymond: Mission & Membership

The mission of the Friends of Raymond is to preserve, interpret, manage, and promote significant historic sites in Raymond, Mississippi, and the surrounding area and to receive contributions or grants from any and all sources to be used for one or more of these purposes.

Friends of Raymond was founded in 1998 as a non-profit, 501(c)(3) corporation, and all memberships and donations are tax deductible. Membership dues are:

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<tr>
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<tr>
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Membership dues and donations for 2012 can be mailed to Friends of Raymond at the address above, or can be paid on-line through the FOR web site (www.friendsofraymond.org) using a credit card or PayPal.

WE NEED YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS! We are trying to save postage for the newsletter by emailing it to those FOR members and interested persons for whom we have email addresses. You can help—send us your email address at friends@friendsofraymond.org.