You are cordially invited to attend the

Annual Friends of Raymond General Membership Meeting & Covered Dish Dinner

Thursday, January 8, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.

At the home of

Mayor Isla Tullos
234 Town Square
Raymond, MS

Agenda:
Election of New Board Members
Update on FOR Activities

Please bring:
A covered dish and your vote

Membership renewals can be paid at the meeting, or mailed to:

Friends of Raymond
P. O. Box 1000
Raymond, MS 39154

Friends: donations under $100.00
Voting Memberships: $100.00 and above
Generals (Lifetime Membership): $5,000.00

Please join us for fun in preservation!
A Message from the President—
The Year in Review

Ben H. Fatherree  
President, Board of Directors  
Friends of Raymond

The Friends of Raymond had a busy and productive 2014. However, our organization lost one of its most generous and prominent supporters in January with the death of Dennis Driscoll of Safety Harbor, Florida. Driscoll sponsored the first four cannons in FOR’s artillery ridge display at a cost of $10,000. Without his kind backing, our mission of replicating the artillery pieces in action at the Battle of Raymond may never have come to fruition.

FOR activities in 2014 included:

- Signing a 25-year lease with Hinds Community College in February for approximately one acre of land where the Confederate artillery is located in front of the old Magna America plant. FOR board members Mickey Roth and Billy Pape removed the dilapidated chain-link fence in front of the battery, providing a clear view and easy access. Plans are in motion to build a parking lot on Old Port Gibson Road in front of the battery large enough to serve a tour bus.

- FOR welcomed four new Generals whose names were added to the monument at the walking trail. These were Captain Roger Hansen, Jean Somans (honoring Colonel Marcus Spiegel of the 120th Ohio regiment), the Mississippi Brigade, and the J.P. Martin Foundation.

- Our annual Park Day was held on April 5, with approximately 50 people participating. The group included a busload of licensed park guides being led on an educational briefing by Gen. Parker Hills.

FOR Day
March 28, 2015

Make plans now to join other volunteers at the annual Park Day on Saturday, March 28, 2015. We meet at the Raymond Military Park at 9:00 am to sign up, get T-shirts and patches, get work assignments, and later eat a picnic lunch.

This is an annual event sponsored by the Civil War Trust and The History Channel to clean up and preserve historic Civil War battlefields all over the U.S. Bring gloves, ant poison, and landscaping tools such as clippers, garbage bags, pruners, rakes, and chain.
Also in April, Jack Moss and Jim Drake constructed dioramas of the battles of Raymond and Champion Hill for public viewing in the McKenzie Arena at Hinds Community College. Their efforts were much appreciated.

FOR revived its Raymond Cemetery Stroll after a hiatus of three years. The events on October 10 and 17 were well attended.

Anticipating arrival of a large tour group, FOR held a “mini” Park Day to spruce up the battlefield on November 1. The group included Civil War aficionados from around the United States and was led by Ed Bearss and Terry Winschel. Bearss is the former chief historian of the National Park Service and is a legendary Civil War scholar and tour guide, still active at the age of 91. Winschel is a former chief historian at the Vicksburg National Military Park and a staunch supporter of FOR.

In a major undertaking, Gen. Hills supervised the construction and installation of eight historical interpretive signs marking the locations of Confederate units at the Battle of Raymond. The signs are of the same type and quality as those at the Vicksburg National Military Park. FOR particularly thanks John L. Nau and Doug Waters who contributed $10,000 and $5,000 respectively to the project.

THANK YOU to all our DONORS and VOLUNTEERS!
Friends of Raymond
P. O. Box 1000
Raymond, MS 39154
Email: friendsofraymond@outlook.com
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:

- **FRIEND** Under $100
- **VOTING MEMBER** $100 and above
- **GENERAL** $5,000

Membership dues and donations for 2015 can be mailed to Friends of Raymond at the address above.

**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 friendsofraymond@outlook.com.