



SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS, TEXAS DIVISION

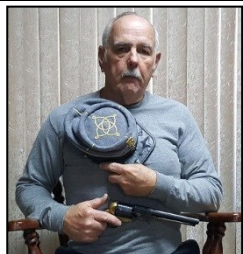
THE JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP NEWS

www.reaganscvcamp.org

VOLUME 10, ISSUE 4

APRIL 2018

COMMANDER'S DISPATCH



Our newest member, Andrew Petty, presented a wonderful program on the New York town that seceded from the Union. The town did not rejoin the Union until after the second world war when Truman was president! The Program was entertaining and informative. It was presented with humor and enthusiasm. Thanks go out to our new member Andrew Petty. Our programs just get better and better!

Our meals are great and we just need more compatriots to enjoy them with us. Thanks to all who brought food.

We missed many of our compatriots this month. It is just that time of year when a lot of people have busy schedules. We have one new member and one in progress. WE ARE GROWING!

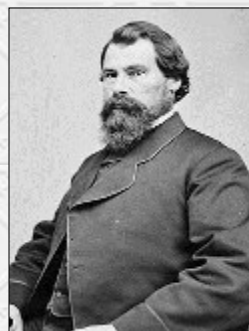
If you have acquaintances who need to find information on their ancestor's Confederate military

service, please contact me. I did a historical check on our newest potential member and found all of his Civil War history. I enjoyed doing this research and I am willing to do it for anyone who wishes to join our camp.

John H. Reagan Camp is planning for a fundraiser for this summer. The goal is to create interest in our great organization and we need to boost the treasury.

Thanks for the compatriots who mowed and cleaned the Plaza. The sale of bricks with Confederate ancestors information on them has been a successful fundraiser for our plaza. We encourage anyone with a confederate ancestor to add a brick to our walk of fame. You ancestors deserve recognition for their heroic service! Anyone wishing to purchase a brick should contact Dan Dyer or myself.

Please continue to pray for all who are working to preserve our heritage.



John H. Reagan

About 1863

Oct 8, 1818 – March 6, 1905

Post Master General of the Confederate States of America

Secretary of the Treasury CSA

U. S. Senator from Texas

U. S. Rep. from Texas

District Judge

Texas State Representative

First Chairman - Railroad

Commission of Texas

A Founder and President of the Texas State Historical Association

Richard Thornton
Commander,
John H. Reagan
Camp
#2156, SCV

CAMP MEETINGS

3rd Thursday of Each Month
06:30 PM

Snacks and drinks served
at each meeting.

Palestine Masonic Lodge
401 W. Debard Street
Palestine, Texas

(Located behind the Sacred Heart
Catholic Church)

Guests are welcome!
Bring the family.

www.reaganscvcamp.org

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The John H. Reagan Camp #2156 welcomes its newest member, Andrew Petty to the SCV. Andrew started off his first night as a member by presenting the historical program! What a way to start!

Prayer List

- Forrest Bradberry—Camp Historian
- Compatriot J.B. Mason
- Toni Ray (wife of past comdr Rudy Ray)
- Past 1st Lt. Gary Williams
- Past Davis/Reagan UDC Pres. Dollye Jeffus
- Rod Skelton (former Camp Chaplain)
- United Daughters of the Confederacy
- The Sovereign State of Texas
- The United States of America
- The Sons of Confederate Veterans

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 17 - May Meeting

May 18-19 Ft. Lancaster Western Frontier Days
(see page 11 for details)

June 8-9 Tx. Div. Silent Auction
(see page 12 for details)

June 21 - June Meeting

July 19 - July Meeting

Aug 16 - August Meeting

Sept 30 - September Meeting



This flag flies in honor and memory of over 1,000 Confederate veterans from Anderson County who marched off to war, one third of whom never returned, and the over 500 Confederate veterans from all across the South who are buried in this county. They fought for liberty and independence from a tyrannical and oppressive government. Provided by the John H. Reagan Camp # 2156, Sons of Confederate Veterans. www.reaganscvcamp.org

Above: Reagan Camp's battle flag and sign displayed proudly at intersection of FM 315 and Anderson Cty Rd 448, ten miles north of Palestine.

“NOTHING FILLS ME WITH DEEPER SADNESS THAN TO SEE A SOUTHERN MAN APOLOGIZING FOR THE DEFENSE WE MADE OF OUR INHERITANCE. OUR CAUSE WAS SO JUST, SO SACRED, THAT HAD I KNOWN ALL THAT HAS COME TO PASS, HAD I KNOWN WHAT WAS TO BE INFLICTED UPON ME, ALL THAT MY COUNTRY WAS TO SUFFER, ALL THAT OUR POSTERITY WAS TO ENDURE, I WOULD DO IT ALL OVER AGAIN.”

-PRESIDENT JEFFERSON DAVIS-

“DUTY IS THE MOST SUBLIME WORD IN OUR LANGUAGE. DO YOUR DUTY IN ALL THINGS. YOU CANNOT DO MORE. YOU SHOULD NEVER WISH TO DO LESS.”

-GENERAL
ROBERT E. LEE-



JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP #2156
 APRIL MEETING
 APRIL 19, 2018



The April Meeting was held on April 19, 2018 at the Palestine Masonic Lodge. The night started off with a delicious meal. We would like to thank Richard Thornton for bringing the homemade spaghetti, David Franklin for bringing the fried chicken tenders, rolls, gravy, sweet tea, and buttermilk pie (from the Oxbow Pie Shop), Marc Robinson for bringing the cake, and Doug Smith for bringing the Blue Bell Ice Cream.

Following the meal, the camp heard an excellent historical program by the Reagan Camp's newest member, Andrew Petty, titled, "**The Confederate Yankees in Upstate New York, The Town Line Secession**"

If you aren't coming to the meetings, we want to invite you to join us. We have our camp meeting each Thursday evening at 6:30 at the Palestine Masonic Lodge which is located at 401 West Debard Street in Palestine. It is at the intersection of West Debard and North Queen streets.



Photographs courtesy of 1st Lt. Commander David Franklin



**JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP #2156
APRIL HISTORICAL MEETING
BY ANDREW PETTY**



John H. Reagan Camp's newest member, Andrew Petty, presented the John H. Reagan Camp with an excellent program for the Historical Meeting for April. Since the subject referred to Confederate Yankees in New York, Andrew prepared a display so the camp members could see the location in the state where things took place. (Various pictures of the display are included in the next few pages).

Andrew was kind enough to allow us to use his notes so those who were unable to attend could also know about the events that took place.

**The Confederate Yankees in Upstate New York
The Town Line Secession**

by Andrew Petty

If one were to ask the question of where the last rebel stronghold in the U.S. was located, the final remnants of the Confederacy to surrender and rejoin the United States, what would be the most logical guess? Might it be some far flung region of the South, an isolated patch of Dixie stuck off in the corner of Texas, or Alabama, or any one of the other states which seceded? Those would all be reasonable answers, but they would also be incorrect. Believe it or not, the last vestige of the South lay more than 300 miles north of the Mason-Dixon Line, and held off swearing an oath of allegiance to the Union for an incredible 84 years.

The mystery place being referred to is none other than the tiny community of Town Line, located in- of all places- New York. Geographically speaking, it's about as far removed from the Confederacy as one can get. The town is situated 14 miles east of Buffalo, and approximately 20 miles away from the Canadian border. To give a little more background on Town Line- it gets its name from the fact that it straddles the line between the larger municipalities of Lancaster and Alden. The area was first settled in 1812 but wouldn't become an organized area of population until 1844. Though today it has around 2,300 inhabitants, at the start of the Civil War, Town Line claimed 300 residents, as well as a hotel, a Lutheran church, one store, a wagon shop, and two blacksmith shops.

On the surface at least, Town Line seemed the most unlikely of places to align with the Confederacy. Aside from its New York address, the town was largely founded by first generation German immigrants. Germany (which at the time was controlled by Prussia) had banned serfdom in 1807, and officially declared its opposition to slavery in 1815 at the Congress of Vienna, so there was no pro-slavery sentiment to speak of. Furthermore, the area had voted in favor of Abraham Lincoln in the election

- Continued on the next page -



JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP #2156
APRIL HISTORICAL MEETING
BY ANDREW PETTY



of 1860. In fact, much of upstate New York had voted for Lincoln, giving him the state's 35 electoral votes. Given this, it's curious that Town Line would desire to secede in the first place.

However, a deeper look reveals some possible pro-secessionist sentiments. New York City itself was mulling secession at the dawn of the Civil War, and contrary to the rest of the state, had overwhelmingly voted for Lincoln's opponent Stephen Douglas. In addition, the area was the financial hub for the entire nation, and was making more than a tidy profit on supplying the South with everything from manufactured goods to running an illegal slave trade within the city itself. In fact, New York City accounted for 2/3 of all the federal revenue, and the city politicians felt that Gotham could make it well enough on its own. It was estimated that the city was collecting forty cents on every dollar paid for Southern cotton. Many elite businessmen feared that, should the South secede, then the revenue would disappear along with them.

Another, perhaps more pressing concern was that free blacks would threaten to take employment opportunities away from immigrants, which formed a substantial part of New York City's demographic base. Mayor Fernando Wood, who came from a mercantile background, had bitterly opposed the Thirteenth Amendment and was a staunchly outspoken critic of Abraham Lincoln. Wood was one of the more prominent members of the organization known as the Copperheads, a group of anti-war Northern Democrats sympathetic to the Confederate cause and who favored a peace agreement with the South. In fact, Wood urged against violence, stating in his impassioned speech to the city council that freedom should be achieved "peaceably if we can, forcibly if we must." In an early form of nonviolent protest, he convinced the city's newspapers to print sensationalistic storylines to encourage dissent. The New York Herald proclaimed that, "if Lincoln is elected, you will have to compete with the labor of four million emancipated Negroes." Benjamin Wood, the mayor's brother and editor of the New York Daily News, wrote, "we shall find Negroes among us thicker than blackberries swarming everywhere."

In order to protect the city's lucrative interests, Mayor Wood even went so far as to draft a proposal suggesting NYC secede and form its own sovereign nation called "Tri-Insula", Latin for "three islands". The new territory would comprise the three islands of Long Island, Staten Island, and Manhattan. The idea initially started to gain steam, backed by a petition with over 40,000 signatures collected. Yet, the idea faced setbacks from the beginning- New York City was relatively easy to blockade, and Brooklyn was a Unionist stronghold. After the subsequent attack on Ft. Sumter and Lincoln's show of force indicating he meant business, the idea of secession quickly died, drowned out by pro-Unionist sympathies. The South, dismayed that New York City would remain with the Union, harbored deep resentment and accused the city of "moving heaven and earth for our destruction."

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**JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP #2156
APRIL HISTORICAL MEETING
BY ANDREW PETTY**



Not so with Town Line, however. Nobody knows for sure the exact reason Town Line seceded- and it should be noted at this point that much of the history surrounding the event is oral tradition. While everyone agrees the secessionist vote took place, there is very little, if any, empirical evidence to verify this- there are no known newspaper clippings referring to such, and most of the individuals who would have been involved in the vote had long since passed away by the time the story made national headlines, which will be referred to in a later part of the narrative.



The best guess anyone has as to the reasons behind the vote stem from Lincoln's call to be drafted into the Union army. Many of the German immigrants who had settled into this community had fled Prussia after the 1848 Revolutions because of their mandatory conscription policies, and felt the President was attempting to enforce the same measure upon them. Being such a small community, most of Town Line's able-bodied men would have probably been called up, and with most of them being farmers, this meant leaving many fields unattended. Opposition to the draft was not unique to Town Line- in fact, so hated and despised was the draft order in the statute of New York had in 1863, the issue would culminate in the New York City draft riots, which left 120 people dead.

Stoking the fires of secession were two local businessmen- George Bruce, owner of the nearby Bank of Lancaster; and Thurston Carpenter, a local merchant and "argumentative invalid", according to the local townsfolk. As the story goes, Bruce (who had Democratic sympathies) would frequently debate Carpenter (who was staunchly Republican) over the politics of the day. As there was apparently nothing better to do, these verbal arguments were literally "the talk of the town". Matters came to a head one day when Carpenter accused Bruce of being a "Copperhead", which by this time had become a virus and odious slur. To use a Southern euphemism, "those were fightin' words". As a result, Bruce challenged Carpenter to put the issue to a vote. By a margin of 85-40, this tiny, bucolic section of Americana decided to withdraw from the Union. Of course, this vote was more symbolic than anything, and held no legal standing. Town Line wasn't even incorporated- it was just a hamlet. Neither the Confederacy nor the Union officially recognized, or probably even took notice, of Town Line's act of defiance.

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**JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP #2156
APRIL HISTORICAL MEETING
BY ANDREW PETTY**



No federal troops were sent in to quell the insurrection. Indeed, Town Line still paid its due taxes, the postal service still ran, and business appeared to carry on as usual. In fact, despite its decision to secede, Town Line still sent 20 men to fight for the Union, though five individuals managed to sneak across state lines to Virginia and enter into Confederate service.

As the war waged onward, and it became readily apparent that the Confederacy would wind up on the losing side, rumors ran amok that citizens in the surrounding towns, who were still very much pro-Union, were going to invade Town Line and lynch anyone who had voted in favor of secession. As a result, the ones who still supported the Confederacy became less publicly visible, and several eventually fled across the border to Canada, fearing reprisals. Eventually, the whole talk of wanting to secede eventually simmered down, and after the war, the entire matter became largely forgotten.

Fast forward to 1945. The United States had just achieved victory in WWII, and a patriotic sentiment swept over the nation. Americans from coast to coast were rejoicing. Even the city of Vicksburg, the "Gibraltar of the Confederacy" which had refused to celebrate the 4th of July ever since the city fell on that date 82 years before, made amends and renounced their Confederate ties. So too, did Dade County, Georgia, which had grown impatient with the state dragging its feet over whether to secede during the Civil War and had pre-empted the course of action by seceding from both Georgia and the United States as a whole. It was also brought back into the fold.

Not Town Line, though. As newspaper stories heralded the reintroduction of places such as Vicksburg and Dade County, an astute reporter from the Buffalo Courier Express newspaper had discovered that, while Town Line had conducted a vote of secession all those years ago, it had never held a convention to decide whether or not to rejoin the Union. Figuratively speaking, Town Line stood as the last corner of the Confederacy. The story immediately became a local sensation, not least because soldiers returning home for the war were rather displeased that their home town still proudly touted themselves as making a final "last stand" against the Union. An informal poll conducted by the same newspaper revealed that, out of 30 people polled, 29 of them still favored alignment with the South. This clearly did not sit well with either the veterans nor a now vocal majority of Town Line, who felt that the issue had been blown way out of proportion. Other places appealed to the citizens of Town Line to reconsider their stance.

The mayors of Alden and Lancaster both contacted their respective newspapers, articulating that, "If Georgia and Mississippi feel the war is over, so do we." Even Dade County, Georgia chimed in, with 97 year old Confederate veteran T. W. Downing writing that, "Town Line ought to give the United States a good second chance." In exasperation, a citizen named Stephen Feeley formed a reconstruction committee and wrote a letter to President Harry Truman petitioning him on how to go about rejoining the Union. Amazingly, Truman responded.

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JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP #2156
APRIL HISTORICAL MEETING
BY ANDREW PETTY



His solution was a rather tongue-in-cheek suggestion: "Why don't you run down the fattest calf in Erie County, barbecue it, and serve it with fixin's in the old blacksmith shop where the ruckus started? Who can tell? The dissidents might decide to resume citizenship."

On October 27, 1945, the citizens of Town Line did just that. Taking the President's advice, there was held a sumptuous banquet, complete with barbecued veal, sandwiches, and coffee. This event was not to actually vote on the matter of whether to remain seceded or not, but rather to decide on whether the matter should be voted upon in the first place. The meal seemed to have quelled the animosity of even the most spirited dissidents, and it was agreed upon that the matter would be put on the official ballot, with the date slated for January 24, 1946.

On the day of the vote, the entire community turned out for the festivities. By this time, the town had been thrust into the national spotlight, owing to Truman's press. The whole event was as farcical as it was fanciful- for a day, Town Line renamed its center Truman Square (an ironic distinction given that New York's governor at the time, Thomas E. Dewey, would be famously defeated by Truman in the 1948 Presidential election). A dachshund named Damn Yankee moseyed its way through the crowd of spectators. The surreal scene was punctuated by the personal presence of one Cesar Romero (who would later star as the Joker in Adam West's Batman), and was specially deputized for the purpose of tallying the votes. For the first time in 84 years, by a vote of 90-23, Town Line acquiesced and became part of the United States once again. The symbolic Confederate battle flag, raised above the blacksmith shop for the occasion, was ceremonially lowered and replaced by the Stars and Stripes. Even though it had now officially rejoined the Union, there were still pockets of Town Line which reveled in their past status as having once been part of the Confederacy.

For example, Blair's Hardware and Plumbing still calls itself "The Last Rebel Business" having been founded in 1944, two years before the vote to return to the U.S. Indeed, the Town Line Fire Department still had the battle flag with the motto "Last of the Rebels" emblazoned on their patch until 2011, when it was replaced with the state flag of New York. Thus concludes the saga of the little town that, for over 80 years, maintained its status as sympathizers of the South.

We appreciate Andrew for the excellent program. It was great!

New York Town Rejoins Union

TOWN LINE, N. Y., Jan. 24.—(UP)—Jeff Davis' Confederacy lost its last stronghold in the United States today as residents of this small country hamlet voted to re-join the union.

In an atmosphere more hilarious than serious, 113 villagers yielded to community pressure, Hollywood glamor and the stirring battle songs of a 44-piece high school band to vote 90 to 23 in favor of rescinding their forefathers' allegiance to the Confederacy.

Bolstered by a free lunch of barbecued veal sandwiches and coffee, the hardy residents braved cold, damp weather to gather in an open air mass meeting before a dilapidated old blacksmith shop where the original articles of secession were signed in 1861.

After a brief opening ceremony by village heads from the back of an old hay wagon, resplendent in red and white bunting, the assemblage retired to the local firehouse to witness the premier showing of

the 20th Century-Fox production, "Colonel Effingham's raid."

Returning to the cold environs of "Truman square," crossroads center of town, remained in honor of the President last fall, villagers received official ballots and the vote was taken.

Film stars Cesar Romero and Martha Stewart, making personal appearances in conjunction with the film showing, tabulated the votes.

After the vote was announced, the Stars and Bars flag of the Confederacy was lowered without fanfare from a staff over the old blacksmith shop. The Stars and Stripes were immediately raised by Romero and Martha Stewart as the band played the "Star Spangled Banner."

Until today, Town Line had been part of the Confederacy. The fact, obscured through the years, came to light last July after Dade county, Georgia, and Vicksburg, Miss., rejoined the union. This made the western New York hamlet the nation's last Confederate stronghold.



JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP #2156
APRIL HISTORICAL MEETING
BY ANDREW PETTY



Confederacy Makes Final Stand Today

● Town Line, N. Y., INS — The old southern Confederacy of Jeff Davis makes its last stand today — 500 miles north of the Mason-Dixon line.

For on this day, the 250 citizens of Town Line, which lies 14 miles east of Buffalo, are voting on whether to rejoin the union after a stubborn absence of 85 years—since Civil War days.

An improvised theater is the scene of the voting. Nearby is the old blacksmith shop where the 1861 residents of Town Line signed the articles of secession because they were having trouble with runaway slaves fleeing along the underground to Canada.

There is every reason now to believe the village is convinced the Civil War is ended and the South lost.

The citizens voted in 1861 for secession, 85 to 40. That fact seemed to have escaped everyone's attention until last year when Vicksburg, Miss., and Dade County, Ga., voted to return to the fold.

A "reconstruction" committee was formed but then the Town Line Fire association voted 29-1 against returning to the union. Faced with this opposition, the committee wrote to President Truman for advice. He replied: "Why don't you run down the fattest calf in Erie county, barbecue it and serve it with fixin's in the old blacksmith shop, where the ruckus started? Who can tell? The dissidents might decide to resume citizenship."

And that's what they're doing today.

Town Line Votes Return to Union in Special Election

TOWN LINE, Jan. 24. (AP)—By an overwhelming vote of 90 to 23, Town Line came back into the union today after an absence of 85 years.

The stars and bars of the confederacy which waved over the blacksmith shop were hauled down and the Stars and Stripes were run up after the ballot count. A crowd of over 500 sang the "Star Spangled Banner" and recited a "Pledge of Allegiance."

With blacksmith Henry Urshel acting as official collector, ballots were placed in a wooden box atop a schoolhouse desk on which articles of secession were signed late in 1861 in the same shop, then a schoolhouse.

No satisfactory explanation has been forthcoming as to why the tiny community, 14 miles east of Buffalo and 500 miles from the nearest confederate state, took such action, or why it neglected to vote itself back into the union at the close of the Civil War.

The actual count of ballots was made by two "disinterested" non-residents, movie actors Cesar Romero and Martha Stewart, present for the world premiere of a motion picture stressing the theme of unity between north and south.

A public holiday was in effect, be-

ginning at noon, for Town Line's "Back-to-the-Union" Day.

Residents, former residents and curiosity-seekers thronged the bunting-draped main street. The firemen's hall which served as a "theater" for the moving picture premiere was so crowded that two showings were necessary.

Last October a "fatted calf barbecue" was held at the suggestion of President Truman as a peace vehicle to get the prodigal hamlet back into the union.

Festivities opened today with a similar "Truman lunch" of barbecued veal sandwiches and coffee served at the blacksmith shop. The crowd then paraded to the premiere and back behind a 42-piece Lancaster High School band.

Feelings before the balloting were mixed. Urshel, the 74-year-old blacksmith, who was the first to vote, declared: "We Town Liners should set an example of unity. It's about time we came back into the union."

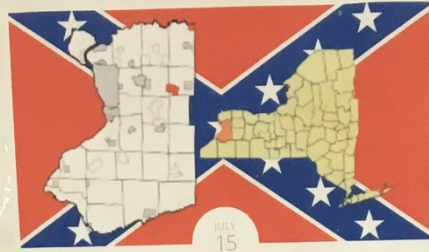
Mrs. Louise Falconer, native of Fredericksburg, Va., and a 10-year resident of Town Line, took the opposite view. Her sentiments, she said, were expressed by a sandwich sign which was worn by her small Cocker Spaniel "Dutchess," and read "Damn Yank."



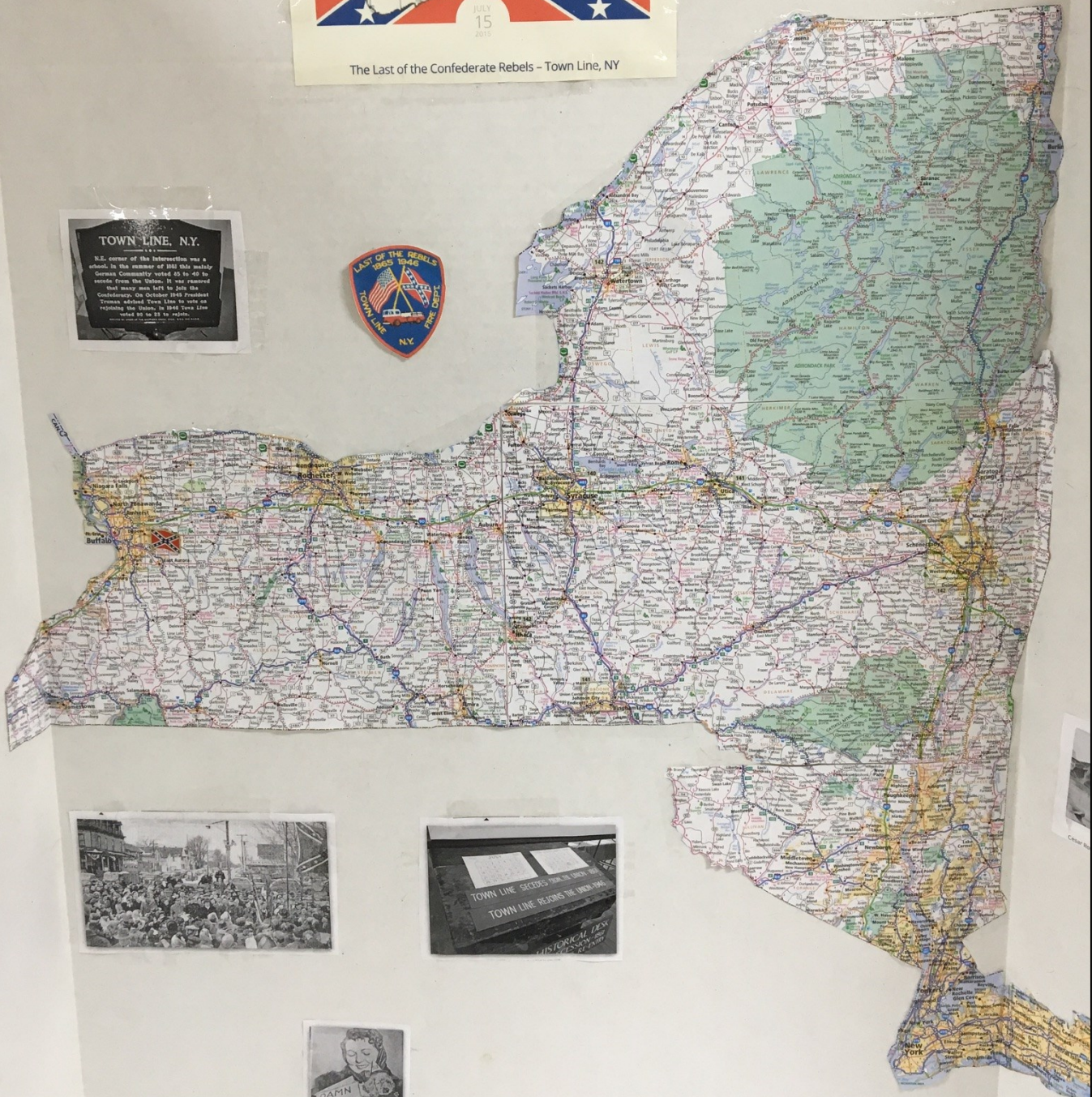
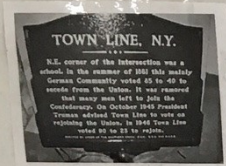
Town Line voters cast their ballots in 1946



JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP #2156 APRIL HISTORICAL MEETING BY ANDREW PETTY



The Last of the Confederate Rebels - Town Line, NY



Special thanks to 1st. Lt. Cmdr David Franklin for photographs of the meeting.



**UPCOMING EVENT
FORT LANCASTER WESTERN FRONTIER DAYS
MAY 18-19, 2018**



**FORT LANCASTER WESTERN FRONTIER DAYS
18-19MAY2018**

Compatriots,

We have been invited to this outstanding annual event at Fort Lancaster, TX as participants and visitors. The following is from a letter received from the Fort Lancaster Historic Site Manager, Jefferson R Spilman, and Site Educator, Wilson White. You and your families will benefit from the weekend's activities and I cordially invite as many Texas Division members and families to attend this year's event.

Regards,

David McMahan Commander Texas Division, SCV

dmctx.scv@gmail.com

xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx Letter from Site Manager xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Dear Fort Lancaster Western Frontier Days Participant,

Your participation is vital to the success of our event! We hope your schedule allows you to join us on Friday, May 18, 2018 and Saturday, May 19, 2018. In order to provide the best possible program, participation is by invitation only. If you would like us to invite additional participants, please forward their contact information for consideration.

Please complete the attached [registration form](#) and return it to us as soon as you can. All groups must preregister and all participants must sign a release of liability when they arrive.

Program Description: Please provide a brief description of your group and interpretive program. We include this information in a handout to teachers and general public.

On-site Registration: All participants must check-in upon arrival.

Early Arrivals: Please plan to arrive after 1:00 pm on Thursday, May 17. Due to site preparation, exhibit areas may not be available any earlier. Please contact **432-836-4391** if you need to arrive before 1pm.

Late Arrivals: Your participation is important to us and we know some of you have a great distance to travel. If you plan to arrive after 6pm, please contact **432-836-4391** to arrange for someone to open the gate when you arrive.

Bringing Horses? Please pre-register your horses. Horse registration requires a copy of a recent Coggins test. A negative result taken within 1 year of May 18th is required.

Artillery Crews: Please indicate how many artillery pieces you will be bringing in the program description and if you intend to fire the ordnance. In an effort to ensure everyone's safety, all members of an artillery crew must be 16 years of age or older.

Camping: You are welcome to camp on-site Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Please note: there are no buildings for lodging. Additionally, there is no water and electricity for RV hook ups.

Meals: Our plan is to serve the following meals: Friday - Breakfast, Lunch, and Supper; Saturday - Breakfast and Lunch.

We look forward to seeing you at Fort Lancaster State Historic Site in May!

Sincerely,

Jefferson R. Spilman, Site Manager

Wilson White, Site Educator

www.visitfortlancaster.com

www.facebook.com/fortlancaster



UPCOMING EVENT
SILENT AUCTION
JUNE 8-9 AT TX DIV REUNION



SILENT AUCTION ITEMS TO SUPPORT HERITAGE DEFENSE FUND
TEXAS DIVISION REUNION, 08-09 JUNE 2018

Compatriots!

The Texas Division needs every camp and member to rise to the cause. Our Heritage Defense Fund pays attorney fees, court costs, local on the ground activities such as flags, etc.



The Texas Division will host the 2018 Heritage Defense [Silent Auction](#) at our Annual Texas Reunion in Nacogdoches June 8-9.

We ask every camp, every delegate, and all members attending to bring a great basket or item representing your camp's namesake, your region, or the Best of Texas products, books, art, etc.

Think of items you would want to bid on.... all for the benefit of Heritage Defense.

We have a Special Room reserved for the Heritage Defense Auction and representatives will be there starting Friday morning to accept your items. Attached is our Heritage Defense Auction Poster to share with your camp and a blank form to describe your auction item. [Complete a form](#) for each item/basket you are bringing. If you have any questions, please contact Golda at golda.foster@gmail.com.

Thank you for your support.

For the South!

David McMahon

Commander

Texas Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans

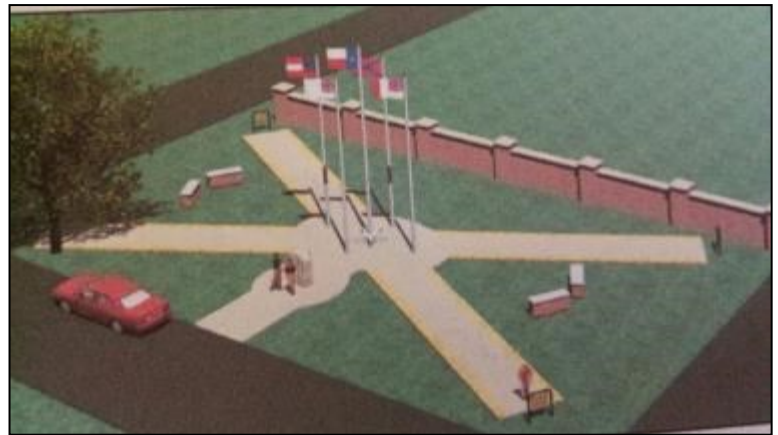
dmctx.scv@gmail.com



A GREAT WAY TO ENSURE THAT YOUR ANCESTOR'S SERVICE AND HONOR IS NOT FORGOTTEN



Many Americans have forgotten that freedom isn't free at all. There have been hundreds of thousands of Americans who have willingly given their life for their country so that we could continue to have the rights of free men. But there is a group of people in our country who have decided that they have the right to take away the rights of others, especially if those others do not agree with their agenda. These people have no respect for the true history of anything that goes against what they want. Although they cannot change true history, they are changing the history books and in so doing are changing what people are taught about the history of our country. These people don't care if they are dishonoring our Confederate ancestors. They care nothing about our ancestor's service. Do you care about preserving your ancestor's service? If so, you can do so by having his service noted in the Confederate Veteran's Memorial Plaza with a paver that will include his name and service information on it for only \$50. It will last for years and years to come and will let countless people see his name and information. It is a wonderful way to give him the recognition that he deserves.



SAMUEL R. CORN CO. B 33RD ALA. INF CSA	PVT. DAVID A. BRAY CO. H 34TH GA. INF. CSA	O. M. ROBERTS CAMP 178 - SCV WAXAHACHIE, TEXAS	UPSHUR COUNTY PATRIOTS CAMP 2109 GILMER, TEXAS	PRIMUS KELLY BODY SERVANT GRIMES COUNTY
GEN. HORACE RANDEL CAMP # 1533 CARTHAGE, TEXAS	ERASTUS W. DAVIS 31ST MISS INFANTRY 1825-1862	WILLIAM A. LOYD 30TH TEXAS CAVALRY COMPANY F PRIVATE	1ST LT. LEWIS P. BROOKS CO. B 7TH GA REGT	ROGER Q. MILLS CHAPTER 2466 UDC
PVT. JOHN LAND 54TH GA. INF CO. H RUSSELL GUARDS	1ST LT. LEWIS P. BROOKS CO. B 7TH GA REGT	PVT THOMAS M. LORD CO. L MARTIN-HOWELL GA LT ART. CSA	CPL J RILEY PATTY 59TH TN MTD INF. CO. A	MARY WEST #26 UDC WACO, TEXAS
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PVT W.C. HERRING 12TH TX INFANTRY CO. K	JOHN PINKNEY MANN PVT. CO. K 13 TEXAS CAV. CSA	WILLIAM H. L. WELLS VA LIGHT ARTILLERY WELLS CLAN PLANO	WILLIAM L. WALTERS PRIVATE CO. K 37TH MISS INF REGT	JESSIE C. ROBERTS 1ST LIEUTENANT 20TH TEXAS CAVALRY



ROBERT E. LEE CALENDAR



APRIL

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1, 1863 Hooker advises war department that he needs 10,000 shovels for assault on Richmond	2, 1865 Confederates flee Richmond, burning the city before it falls into Union hands.	3, 1865 After years of attempts, Union forces finally occupy Richmond	4, 1862 From Ft. Monroe, Federal troops begin movement towards Richmond.	5, 1862 Andrew Johnson, military governor of Tennessee, suspends city government of Nashville	6, 1862 U.S. Grant caught by surprise attack at Shiloh along Tennessee River	7, 1862 Union bury thousands of dead at Shiloh—some 300 per trench
8, 1864 Grant issues famous order to Meade: "Wherever Lee goes, you will also	9, 1865 One year after that order, Lee surrenders his army at Appomattox	10, 1863 President Lincoln reviews Hooker's army near Falmouth, Va.	11, 1861 Confederate officials visit Fort Sumter and demand to its surrender	12, 1861 Confederates open fire on Ft. Sumter and demand its surrender	13, 1861 After 34 hours of shelling, Ft. Sumter is surrendered to Confederates	14, 1865 Lincoln spends the evening at Ford's Theatre on Good Friday
15, 1865 Lincoln dies at 7:22 am	16, 1862 Lincoln signs a bill ending slavery in District of Columbia	17, 1861 Virginia votes narrowly to secede from Union	18, 1861 R.E. Lee is offered command of Union Army and declines the offer	19, 1865 Washington draped in black for Lincoln's funeral	20, 1861 Lee resigns from U.S. Army after Lincoln offers him command	21, 1861 Stonewall Jackson attends church with VMI cadets then leaves Lexington, never to return alive
22, 1865 Lincoln's funeral train travels through Pennsylvania	23, 1865 John Wilkes Booth is cornered in Virginia	24, 1863 Confederate Congress imposes 10 percent tax on all agricultural products	25, 1865 President Davis arrives in Charlotte, NC, hoping to resume war efforts	26, 1865 Johnston surrenders to Sherman at Durham Station, NC	27, 1822 U.S. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant is born	28, 1865 USS Sultana explodes at Memphis, TN, killing more than 1,200
29, 1865 Lincoln's funeral train reaches Cleveland, OH, where 50,000 pay respects	30, 1864 President Davis' son falls to his death while playing on a balcony at the Confederate White House					



JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP TEXAS CIVIL WAR HISTORY IN MARCH



From the Texas State Historical Association— <https://texasdaybyday.com/#feedCarousel>

March 1, 1861: Texas accepted as a state by the provisional government of the Confederate States of America.

March 2, 1861: Texas Secessionist Convention reconvenes.

March 5, 1861: Texas secessionist convention accepts Confederate statehood.

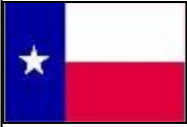
March 11, 1846: U.S. Troops move into disputed land between Nueces and Rio Grande Rivers.

On this day in 1862, Union and Confederate troops fought the key battle of the Civil War in the Far West at Glorieta Pass, New Mexico. When the Texans of Brig. Gen. Henry Hopkins Sibley's Army of New Mexico were defeated by Union forces, Confederate ambitions in the West were checked. In June 1987 a mass grave containing more than thirty bodies, casualties of the battle of Glorieta, was discovered. Only three bodies were identified, among them that of Ebenezer Hanna, the youngest fatality of the battle. All the bodies were reburied in Santa Fe National Cemetery in 1993. Hanna's journal is now in the Texas State Library.

March 28, 1864: Civil War guerrilla leader William Quantrill was arrested by Confederate forces in Bonham, Texas. The Ohio native, wanted for murder in Utah by 1860, collected a group of renegades in the Kansas-Missouri area at the beginning of the Civil War. He fought with Confederate forces at the battle of Wilson's Creek in August 1861 but soon thereafter began irregular independent operations. Quantrill and his band attacked Union camps, patrols, and settlements. While Union authorities declared him an outlaw, Quantrill eventually held the rank of colonel in the Confederate forces. After his infamous sack of Lawrence, Kansas, and the massacre of Union prisoners at Baxter Springs, Quantrill and his men fled to Texas in October of 1863. There he quarreled with his associate, William "Bloody Bill" Anderson, and his band preyed on the citizens of Fannin and Grayson counties. Acts of violence proliferated so much that regular confederate forces had to be assigned to protect residents from the activities of the irregular Confederate forces, and Gen. Henry McCulloch determined to rid North Texas of Quantrill's influence. On March 28, 1864, when Quantrill appeared at Bonham as requested, McCulloch had him arrested on the charge of ordering the murder of a Confederate major. Quantrill escaped that day and returned to his camp near Sherman, pursued by more than 300 state and Confederate troops. He and his men crossed the Red River into Indian Territory. Except for a brief return in May, Quantrill's activities in Texas were at an end. Quantrill was killed by Union forces at the very end of the war.

March 28, 1893 On this day in 1893, Edmund Kirby Smith, former commander of the Trans-Mississippi Department of the Confederacy, died in Sewanee, Tennessee. The Florida native attended West Point, served in the Mexican War, and was an officer in the Second United States Cavalry on the frontier. He entered the Confederate service in 1861 and rose to the rank of lieutenant general in October 1862, when he was given command of the Trans-Mississippi Department, including Texas. His competent administration of the department, sometimes called "Kirby Smith's Confederacy," and successful defense of the region against Union general Nathaniel P. Banks's Red River campaign in 1864 were marred by his inability to cooperate amicably with his principal field commander, Gen. Richard Taylor. In February 1864 Smith was promoted to the rank of full general, and during this time he presided over the Marshall Conferences. Kirby Smith was almost the last Confederate general in the field, but in a hopelessly isolated situation he finally surrendered to Gen. Edward R. S. Canby in June 1865.

March 31, 1861: General John Bankhead Magruder reassigned from Arkansas to Texas.



CSA GENERALS FROM TEXAS

GEN. JOHN WILKINS WHITFIELD



Born March 11, 1818, in Franklin, Tennessee, John Wilkins Whitfield was educated in local schools. During the Mexican War he served as captain of the 1st and then lieutenant colonel of the 2nd Tennessee Infantry. About 1835 he moved to Independence, Missouri, and was an Indian agent in Missouri and Arkansas for the next few years. Upon the establishment of Kansas Territory, he was elected its delegate to Congress serving until 1857. He was register for the land office at Doniphan, Kansas, until 1861.

Whitfield entered the Confederate Army as major of the 4th Battalion Texas Cavalry. He later became colonel of the 27th regiment and fought at Pea Ridge (Elkhorn) in 1862, and at the battle of Iuka under Gen Sterling Price where he was painfully wounded. He was commissioned brigadier general on May 9, 1863, while attached to the command of Gen. Earl Van Dorn. He was under Gen. Joseph E Johnston in the Vicksburg campaign of that year and later commanded a brigade composed of his Texas Legion, 3rd, 6th, and 9th Texas Cavalry under Gen. W. H. Jackson in Mississippi. Apparently without a command at the end of the war, Gen. Whitfield was paroled at Columbus, Texas, June 29, 1865.

Thereafter Whitfield made his home in Lavaca County, Texas, where was a representative in the legislature. He died near Hallettsville, Texas, October 29, 1879, and is buried there.

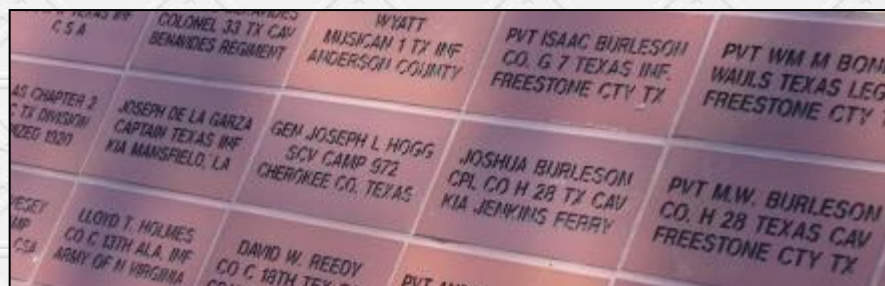




CONFEDERATE VETERANS MEMORIAL PLAZA INFORMATION



The Confederate Veterans Memorial Plaza had the official opening and dedication on April 13, 2013. It is a beautiful Memorial to the Confederate Veterans. Although it is open for visitors, there is still room along the sidewalks for you to purchase a brick paver in the name of your confederate ancestor. This will ensure that your ancestor's service to the confederacy will not be forgotten, but will be remembered for years to come. If you would like to make a donation for a paver, please contact Dan Dyer at E-mail: danielyer497@yahoo.com or Phone: (903) 391-2224



Would you like to honor you ancestor? There is still room in the plaza for you to have a paver with your ancestor's name and military information. You can also acquire a paver in the name of your SCV Camp.



JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP #2156

c/o Dan Dyer, Adjutant/Treasurer
Palestine, Texas 75802
E-mail: danielyer497@yahoo.com
Phone: (903) 391-2224

Richard Thornton
Palestine, Texas
E-mail: tx_tsar@hotmail.com
Phone: 903-729-3864

Dwight Franklin, Chaplain/Newsletter
Editor: dwightfranklin1@yahoo.com

Please visit our website @

www.reaganscvcamp.org

The citizen-soldiers who fought for the Confederacy personified the best qualities of America. The preservation of liberty and freedom was the motivating factor in the South's decision to fight the *Second American Revolution*. The tenacity with which Confederate soldiers fought underscored their belief in the rights guaranteed by the Constitution. These attributes are the underpinning of our democratic society and represent the foundation on which this nation was built.

Today, the **Sons of Confederate Veterans** is preserving the history and legacy of these heroes, so future generations can understand the motives that animated the Southern Cause.

The SCV is the direct heir of the United Confederate Veterans, and the oldest hereditary organization for male descendants of Confederate soldiers. Organized at Richmond, Virginia in 1896, the SCV continues to serve as a historical, patriotic, and non-political organization dedicated to ensuring that a true history of the 1861-1865 period is preserved.

Membership in the **Sons of Confederate Veterans** is open to all male descendants of any veteran who served honorably in the Confederate armed forces. Membership can be obtained through either **lineal or collateral** family lines and kinship to a veteran must be **documented genealogically**. The minimum age for full membership is 12, but there is no minimum for Cadet membership. **Friends of the SCV** memberships are available as well to those who are committed to upholding our charge, but do not have the Confederate ancestry.

THE CHARGE TO THE SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

"To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will commit the vindication of the cause for which we fought. To your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate soldier's good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles which he loved and which you love also, and those ideals which made him glorious and which you also cherish."

Lt. General Stephen Dill Lee, Commander-in-Chief

United Confederate Veterans

New Orleans, Louisiana, April 25, 1906.



Camp meetings: 3rd Thursday of
Each Month - 06:30 PM
Snacks served at each meeting.
Palestine Masonic Lodge
401 West Debard
Palestine, Texas

The lodge is located at the
intersection of North Queen and
West Debard Streets.