

SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS, TEXAS DIVISION

THE JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP NEWS www.reaganscvcamp.org

VOLUME 11, ISSUE 8

Commander's Dispatch

Our camp is truly fortunate to have so many individuals to present great programs. This month our program was on the Val Verde, New Mexico campaign given by compatriot Calvin Nicholson our 2nd Lt. Commander. There was a great deal of information in the program and Calvin's knowledge of cannon and artillery was very educational. The conversation after his program drifted into the cannon now located in Fairfield. TX. We all enjoyed the program and left will more knowledge about our ancestors.

This month's camp meal was like past months – good ole southern food. Our ancestors would have felt at home at our table. Dessert was strawberry cake and Bluebell ice cream. Our camp meetings are open to all visitors. We hope to see more visitors in the future. We are still receiving new members and we are grateful.

Next month our program will be presented Andrew Petty the name of the program will be "Bad Moon on the Rise". I have no idea what the subject will be on. Come and join us because Andrew gives a great program!

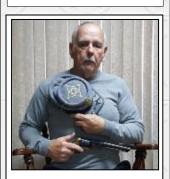
Richard Thornton

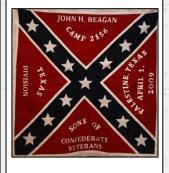
AUGUST 2019



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





CAMP MEETINGS

3rd Tuesday of Each Month
06:30 PM
With a meal served
at each meeting.
Commercial Bank of Texas on the
corner of N. Mallard & E. Lacy Street

The Bank is located just south of the Anderson County Courthouse Annex.

Guests are welcome! Bring the family.

www.reaganscvcamp.org www.reaganscvcamp.or

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Commander's Dispatch	1
Calendar of Events	2
August Meeting Pics	3
August Historical Program by Calvin Nicholson	4-10
August in the life of John H. Reagan	11
Honoring Your Ancestor	12
R.E. Lee Calendar	13
Tx Civ. War History for August	14
Confederate Plaza Info	15
Reagan Camp Contacts	16

VOLUME 11, Issue 8 PAGE 2

Memorial Plaza Groundskeeping Calendar

August 2019 - Andrew Harris

Sept 2019 - Richard Thornton

Oct 2019 - Alton Moore

Nov. 2019 - Dan Dyer

Dec 2019 - Dan Dyer

Jan 2020 - Randy Huffman

Feb 2020 - Randy Huffman

March 2020 - Calvin Nicholson

April 2020 - Andrew Petty

May 2020 - David Franklin

June 2020 - Marc Robinson

July 2020 - Dwight Franklin

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The Reagan Camp will have monthly meetings on the 3rd Tuesday of each month in the Commercial Bank of Texas meeting room.

Tuesday August 20—August Meeting Program by Calvin Nicholson (part 2)

Tuesday September 16 - September Meeting Program by Andrew Petty

"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-

Prayer List

- Compatriot Forrest Bradberry
- Compatriot J.B. Mason
- Adjutant Dan Dyer's sister
- 2nd Lt Commander Calvin Nicholson
- Toni Ray (wife of past comdr Rudy Ray)
- Compatriot Vernon Holliman
- Past Reagan Camp Historian 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



This flag flies in honor and memory of over 1,000 Confederate veterans from Anderson County who marched offto 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.

"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 AUGUST MEETING INFO AND PICS





The August meeting was held on August 20th in the banquet room of the Commercial Bank of Texas. The night started off with a meal of homemade spaghetti with meat sauce, garlic bread, devilled eggs, pinto beans with hambone, homemade cornbread, a strawberry cake and Blue Bell Ice Cream! Everything was delicious, and we had more food than we could eat! Thanks to Richard Thornton, David Franklin, Doug Smith and Dwight Franklin for providing the meal. We had several who were not able to attend the meeting, but we still had 12 men who enjoyed being able to meet and eat together. Following the meal, 2nd Lt., Calvin Nicholson, presented the historical program on the Valverde Cannons (part 2). You can see the notes from his program on the following pages.

The September meeting will be held on Sept. 17th. Hope to see you there.









We appreciate Commander Richard Thornton's wife. She usually sends a homemade dessert to go along with the main dish that she cooks. Everything that she prepares is always delicious!









Calvin presented a very informative historical program to the Reagan Camp at the August meeting. He has allowed us to print his notes for those who were unable to attend the meeting. We really appreciate Calvin for all the he does for the SCV and the John H. Reagan Camp. On this page and the following pages are his notes from the meeting.

Buried Confederate Cannons

The Confederate Artillery

During the Civil War, the Texas Mounted Volunteers attempted to conquer New Mexico for the Confederacy. The historical record shows the Texans fought with a fair amount of fire power with several batteries

of artillery. On Feb. 21, 1862, these artillery units inflicted great damage to the Union soldiers at Valverde, including the capture of McRae's Union Battery. This gave the Texans an additional five guns; three 6-pounders and two 12-pound howitzers.

The Texas Artillery, including the captured Valverde guns, fought decisively at the Battle of Glorietta a month later. However, the Texans suffered a devastating blow when a detachment of Colorado Volunteers destroyed the entire Confederate supply train during the battle. About 70 supply wagons were set ablaze and over 500 mules and horses, used for hauling the wagons and artillery, were driven off.

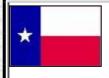
With the loss of the supply train, the Texans lost just about everything they owned, except the clothes on their backs. Food, medical supplies, ammunition, regimental records, blankets and the personal belongings of the men literally went up in smoke. The only supplies left were Col. Steele's supply wagons in Mesilla, nearly 300 miles away, and some captured stores in Albuquerque. A few days after Glorietta, the hungry Texans marched into Albuquerque, the first leg of their 1,000 mile retreat back to San Antonio, Texas.

It is not known with certainty how many cannons the Texans had after the Battle of Glorietta, how many were buried during the retreat, and how many arrived in San Antonio, Texas. Much of what is known has been pieced together over 100 years after the fact.

THE BURIED CONFEDERATE CANNONS

Gen. Sibley made the decision to abandon about half of this artillery in Albuquerque to lighten their load and to use the carriages for hauling the few supplies they had left.

Late Friday night, April 11, the Texans dug a hole in a corral northeast of the Albuquerque Plaza, and secretly buried eight cannons of Reily's and Wood's artilleries. This was to ensure the discarded cannons would not fall into Union -continued on the next page-





The Texans fought the Union forces at Peralta. Teel's 6-pounders, and a couple of Valverde cannons, were used against Canby's men in the day-long skirmish. Following Peralta, Sibley moved his command to the west side of the Rio Grande, while Canby remained on the east bank. The two enemy forces marched down opposite sides of the Rio Grande for several days.

On April 17th, the Texans camped at the confluence of the Rio Puerco and Rio Grande, only to find the Union Army camped directly across the river. After sundown, the Texans left this camp, marching toward Ladrone Peak in the pitch dark. About noon the following day, they finally reached water at Silver Creek on the Rio Salado, about 12 miles west of present day I-25.

ALONG THE RIO SALADO

On April 19, they continued west along the Rio Salado towards "the box", then southward along the La Jencia canyon. Pvt. Albert Peticolas described the day in his diary: "We have no road, and today the first mile or two was through a very narrow canion with perpendicular walls of rock (the Rio Salado west of Silver Creek)...We halted 15 or 20 minutes at the spring at the head of the creek (probably Saracino Springs at the head of La Jencia Creek)... When we got to the point where you must leave the canion, the hill was extremely steep and high. Scurry got down from his horse, called for volunteers to help the artillery up the hill, and took hold of the cannon rope himself. Men flocked to the piece and the whole 5 (McRae's five cannons) were soon drawn safely to the top of the hill. Green has the other batter (Teel's four cannons)." Peticolas clearly identifies NINE cannons with the brigade in the La Jencia. This becomes very important in just two more days.

The La Jencia is a hidden geological wonder of Socorro County. Driving between Socorro and Magdalena, it appears the land from U.S. 60 to Ladrone Peak is perfectly flat. In reality, the La Jencia and Rio Salado carve a chasm through this country that is more than 300 feet deep in places, forming a miniature Grand Canyon. Traveling along the Rio Salado and La Jencia, the Texans found themselves virtually trapped in these canyons. Several miles into the La Jencia, the Texans came to a very rocky narrows. This is where Peticolas describes the place "where they had to leave the canion." Historians never experiencing these deep and desolate canyons can never fully appreciate the plight of the Texans through this part of their retreat.

After leaving the La Jencia, the Texans marched across the plains and camped at Ojo del Pueblo, near present day Magdalena. Hauling the artillery along the route of the sandy and mountainous retreat was becoming cumbersome, as expressed by Peticolas: "Sunday, 20 April 1862. Some talk of spiking the artillery and leaving it; 2nd Regt. And Green have gotten tired in one day of helping their battery along, but it was not done. Scurry undertakes to take them through and will not consent to leave behind us the only trophies we have been able to keep of our victories."

From this dieary entry, it was clear that the McRae cannons, the "trophies," were with Scurry's command (Peticolas' regiment) and Teel's Battery assigned to Lt. Col. Green. This also seemingly proves that none of McRae's five cannons were buried in Albuquerque, as some historians believe.

From Ojo del Pueblo (Magdalena), the Texans marched along the western edge of the Magdalena Mountains to the Texas Springs, then south along the San Mateos, roughly following what is not N.M. 107. On April 21, Peticolas wrote: "...passed in sight of Ft. Craig...Climbed a high steep hill,, dragging up the 8 heavy guns..." Historians have struggled with this entry for years. If the Texans





had nine cannons on April 19, what happened to one of them by April 21? That answer has been in Socorro for over 50 years.

THE MISSING CANNON — FOUND

In the early 1950s, several ranch hands were moving cattle across the La Jencia onto the plains for grazing. They were passing through a natural driveway caused by a collapse of the arroyo wall. Robert Fajardo, one of the ranch hands, noticed a large black pipe sticking out of the sand at the top of the arroyo. He asked Harry Badger, owner of the La Jencia Ranch, of that was an irrigation pipe or perhaps an old well casing. Nobody seemed to know. Fajardo went over to the black pipe to investigate and discovered it was a cannon barrel! Fajardo brought it into Socorro and showed it off for several years. Many identified it as a Civil War 12-pound howitzer.

The cannon passed from hand-to-hand over several years. In the 1960s, it was obtained by local history buff Herbert Ross. Many Socorroans remember well the cannon in front of the Ross home on Abeyta Street, until it disappeared in the late 1970s.

The cannon was stolen by an Albuquerque man named Howard Elam, who had just gotten out of prison for stealing historical documents from the UNM Library. He used the stolen barrel as a mold to make fake cannons, which he planted out in the desert near the Ladrones. Elam scammed investors into financing expeditions to find the missing Confederate cannons. And sure enough, now and again, Elam's expedition would find one! The scam went on for several years, milking people for thousands of dollars. Elam was eventually arrested, tried, and sent to prison — again.

After the trial, Bernalillo court records show the cannon barrel was returned to Gabe Ross by the New Mexico State Police. The author, along with friend Claude Ramzel, was shown the cannon barrel shortly after it's return. (If memory serves correctly, it was either Serial Number 47 or 247). Unfortunately, Mr. Ross refuses a quick inspection to properly identify the cannon or record the serial number. Is it one of Teel's 6-puonders or McRae's 12-pounders? (Note: the history of this cannon and Howard Elam will be presented in a future El Defensor Chieftain article.)

It can only be speculated how the cannon ended up buried west of Socorro. Likely, the axle or one of the carriage wheels broke while hauling the cannon out of the La Jencia. The soldiers buried it where it was rendered useless, knowing they were being followed by Capt. Graydon's Spy Company.

Until recently, the La Jencia Ranch was owned by Orbin and Pam Winton. In 1984, their son, Kurt, found a cannon ball in the La Jencia, about a quarter mile south of the ranch headquarters, or about a mile south of where the cannon was found.

This verifies the Texans climbed out of the La Jencia at different locations. It is possible this second location is where the limber wagons were being pulled out of the arroyo. One may have tipped, spilling some of its contents, such as cannon balls, into the sand. One of those spilled cannon balls was found by Kurt Winton not long ago.

OTHER BURIED CANNONS?

Years after the Civil War, Maj. Teel told a newspaper reporter, "We had buried some guns in the mountains west of Fort Craig," but could not remember the exact number. Was Teel referring to the single gun buried on the La Jencia? Or, were two or three more buried elsewhere along the path of the retreat?





If indeed buried, as Teel reported, these 6-pound brass guns have never been found. If buried along the route of retreat, this author believes they are likely somewhere between the Rio Salado and Monticello Canyon.

The Texans arrived in San Antonio, Texas, with their trophies, the McRae canons. The July 12, 1862, San Antonio Herald reported their arrival as follows: "The splendid battery captured from the Lincolnites at Valverde arrived in town last Monday. It consists of six bras pieces; two twelve pound filed pieces, three six pound guns and one twelve pound howitzer, all in fine condition."

This, of course, is an incorrect accounting of the captured McRae battery, known to be five guns, three 6-pounders and two 12-pound howitzers. Either they picked up a gun along the way, or only one gun remained of Teel's battery. What is for certain, of the nine guns in the Rio Salado, six arrived in Texas. This seemingly verifies three pieces never left New Mexico (or perhaps, Socorro County!) Gabe Ross has one. Where are the other two?

Most historians are oblivious to the cannon found in the La Jencia. Only Don Alberts, in his book "Rebels on the Rio Grande," acknowledges the cannon found west of Socorro. Proper identification of the Socorro cannon would verify whether it was one of Teel's or McRae's that was abandoned in the La Jencia.

YEARS LATER ...

After the war, Trevanion Teel became a very successful criminal lawyer, practicing in San Antonio, and later El Paso, Texas. As the story goes, Teel was in Albuquerque and happened to run into Capt. Jack Crawford, of Ft. Craig. Teel told about burying the canons in 1862, not far from where the two were, no doubt, sharing stories over a beer. Teel claimed he could point out the exact location where he had them buried 27 years before.

On Aug. 18, 1889, Crawford and a small crowd of interested persons followed Teel to a location northeast of the Albuquerque plaza, about 500 yards from the San Felipe Church — just about where the Albuquerque museum stands today. The landowner objected and sought to halt the excavation. However, Judge William Lee (A Union Army veteran) ruled against the injunction and added, "Besides, I'm curious if those rebels really buried them there myself."

The excavation began, well witnessed by numerous onlookers, as eight canons were pulled from the dirt. All were marked "U.S." and "C.A. & Co., Boston," the manufacturer.

Due to the "U.S." markings, it was believed these were the captured McRae cannons, while others claimed they were original Confederate guns.

This obviously caused quite a dispute regarding ownership. Since Teel buried these cannons and knew exactly whose canons they were, it is curious why he was silent during this argument. There are many stories as to how these eight cannons were distributed. This author's research suggests four were given to New Mexico, two to Colorado, with one each to Capt. Crawford and Trevanion Teel.

Some of these cannons exist today to support this belief.

Deborah Slaney, curator of the Albuquerque Museum, verifies one original is on display at the museum and a second in storage.





Responding to a request for this article, she graciously inspected the cannons to verify they are Serial Numbers 222 and 223. The two cannons on the Old Town Plaza are actually replicas. The other two were sent to Santa Fe, later melted down in a World War I metal drive — the fate of many Civil War cannons.

In Colorado, one is at the Colorado History Museum and the other is on display at the state Capitol, honoring the service of the Colorado Volunteers.

Crawford supposedly sent his cannon to St. Joseph, Mo., his hometown. It is not known if this gun still exists. Teel was very specific. He requested a cannon his regiment had named "Blue Whistler" due to a unique sound the barrel made when fired. It still exists.

THE BLUE WHISTLER

Teel presented the Blue Whistler, cannon Number 39, to a musical band in El Paso, Texas, called the McGinty Band. It was used by the band for a dozen years, being fired on special occasions.

Trevanion Teel died in Ysleta, Texas, on July 6, 1899, at the age of 74. Following his death and the McGinty Band being, well, disbanded, the cannon was moved to the El Paso City Hall Plaza. Here it remained for 10 years.

On the evening of March 17, 1911, it was stolen and smuggled into Mexico by Francisco Madero and used during the Mexican Revolution. The Blue Whistler, and another called "Long John," were used by the Insurrectos in the attack of Juarez, fought in plain sight of the peoples of El Paso.

The Mexican troops in Juarez surrendered to the insurgents, President Diaz dethroned, and peace was restored to Juarez and northern Mexico. As fate would have it, the man who stole the cannon, Francisco Madero, became the new President of Mexico!

Teel's Number 39 was ceremoniously returned to El Paso on Aug. 18, 1911. The cannon was pulled by mules with two companies of Mexican soldiers to the center of the International Bridge, and draped with Mexican and American flags.

There, it was formally returned to the mayor of El Paso by Mexican Gen. Orozco, with an expression of gratitude for its "loan." The Blue Whistler was returned to the City Hall Plaza.

In 1936, Teel's cannon was moved to the Texas College of Mines. A few years later, it was stolen again by some students who thought it was cute to haul it around the streets of El Paso late one night. Unfortunately, this prank broke the carriage. The broken canon was place din storage for the next 20 years.

When I visited Eastwood High School to photograph the cannon several years ago, a group of students quickly formed and proudly led me to the cannon. Serial Number 39 is clearly stamped on the muzzle. The school's pledge is to keep the history of the cannon alive, which it has respectably done.

If it wasn't for Trevanion Teel, these eight cannons would be lost to history — still buried in the dirt under Albuquerque's Old Town. I think Teel would be proud to know his Blue Whistler is still being cared for so well, even if possibly misidentified.





So where are McRae's cannons? Following their return to San Antonio, Texas, there were used in Louisiana and in the Red River campaign where Lt. Col. Green, second in command of the Sibley Brigade, was killed. After the war, they were buried on a ranch in East Texas, rather than relinquish them to the Union Army under the terms of the Confederate surrender.

During WWI, a couple of surviving veterans pointed out where the cannons had been buried and they were unearthed. The two 6-ound guns were deteriorated beyond repair and were melted down for the war effort.

The two 12-pound brass howitzers, Serial Numbers 528 and 492 were in reasonably good shape and restored. Serial number 528 is not on display at the Freestone County Courthouse in Fairfield, Texas; and Serial Number 492 is at the Civil War Memorial near Mexia, Texas.

That leaves one of McRae's cannons unaccounted for—the one recovered from the La Jencia, or the one now at Eastwood High School?

OTHER CONFEDERATE TREASURES

There are numerous stories about treasures buried by the retreating Texans. Most of these seem to revolve around buried gold bars, gold coins or paper money buried near Ladrone Peak or along the Rio Salado. It seems very unlikely such stories could be true.

The Texans lost just about everything they owned at the Battle of Glorietta when their supply wagons were burned. As mentioned before, they had very little food, medical supplies, blankets or extra clothing, and most had lost their horses. The majority of the 1,800 survivors literally walked back to San Antonio, Texas.

If Sibley's army had any gold or money left after Glorietta, Why was it buried in the desert instead of buying food, ammunition or horses for his men? They were a destitute army. They simply had no "treasures" left to bury.

At best there might be two of Teel's cannons buried in the San Mateos. Of course, there may be a couple of Elam's cannons still out there somewhere as well!

References used for this article: "rebels on the Rio Grands," Don Alberts; "Turmoil in New Mexico", William Kelleher; "Destiny at Valverde", Marion Grinstead; Elam Theft Papers, UNM Special Collection Number 330; personal interviews with Phil Fajardo and Bob Baldwin (1983), Orbin and Pam Winton and Si Benjamin, La Jencia Ranch; Deborah Slaney, curator, and James Moore, director, of the Albuquerque Museum and Paul Harden for El Defensor Chieftain.

For the complete stores of the Blue Whistler cannon, visit www.netdotcom.com/revmexpc



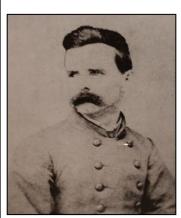




Historical Marker at Freestone County Courthouse, Fairfield, Texas



Above: 1890 photo of veterans in Mexia participating in a community parade.



Captain T.D. Nettles

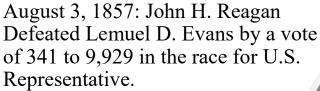


Cannon 528 in Fairfield, Texas



JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP AUGUST IN THE LIFE OF JOHN H. REAGAN







August 1, 1859 John H. Reagan defeated William B. Ochiltree by a vote of 23,977 to 3,464 for a 2nd term as a U.S. Representative



August 1, 1946: Home site of John H. Reagan deeded to Anderson County by Mrs. Jeff D. Reagan





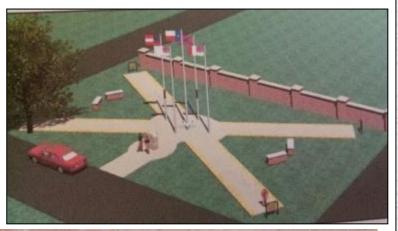


A GREAT WAY TO ENSURE THAT YOUR ANCESTOR'S SERVICE AND HONOR IS NOT FORGOTTEN

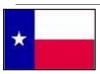


Many Americans have forgotten that freedom isn't free at all. There have been hundreds of thousands of Americans who have willingly given their life for their country so that we could continue to have the rights of free men. But there is a group of people in our country who have decided that they have 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	PVT. DAVID A. BRAY	O. M ROBERTS	UPSHUR COUNTY	PRIMUS KELLY
CO B 33RD ALA, INF	CO H 34TH GA. INF.	CAMP 178 - SCV	PATRIOTS CAMP 2109	BODY SERVANT
CSA	CSA	WAXAHACHIE TEXAS	GILMER, TEXAS	GRIMES COUNTY
GEN, HORACE RANDEL	ERASTUS W DAVIS	WILLIAM A LOYD	IST LT	ROGER O MILLS
CAMP # 1533	31ST MISS INFANTRY	30TH TEXAS CAVALRY	LEWIS P BROOKS	CHAPTER 2466
CARTHAGE, TEXAS	1825-1862	COMPANY F PRIVATE	CO. B / TH GA REG	UDC
PVT. JOHN LAND	IST LI	PVT THOMAS M. LORO	CPL J RILEY PATTY	MARY WEST #25
54TH GA. INF CO H	LEWIS P BROOKS	CO L. MARTIN-HOWELL	59TH TN MTD INF.	UBC
RUSSELL GUARDS	CO. B 7TH GA REGT	GA LT ART, CSA	CO. A	WACO, TEXAS
PVT T. JEFF PARKS	TERRY LEE HULSEY	JAMES HALL BENDY	ICHN A. BUCHANAN	JOEL S WALTERS PRIVATE CO C 12TH MISS INFANTRY
22ND TX INFANTRY	FOR 24 GA CO I PYT	PYT CO. A	SERGEANT CO H	
CO K	JOHN MCAFGE HULSEY	25 TEXAS CAV. CSA	27TH MISS INFANTRY	
PVT W.C. HERRING	JOHN PINKNEY BIANN	WILLIAM H.L WELLS	WILLIAM L. WALTERS	JESSIE C. ROBERTS
12TH TX INFANTRY	PVT. CO. K	VA LIGHT ARTILLERY	PRIVATE CO K	1ST LIEUTENANT
CO K	13 TEXAS CAV CSA	WELLS CLAN PLAND	37TH MISS INF REGT	20TH TEXAS CAVALRY



ROBERT E. LEE CALENDAR AUGUST 2019



August 2019						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 undated - to Annie I wish you to be very good, very wise, very healthy, & very happy	2 undated - If the subject of education could be of more importance at one period of our history than at another, that period is the present.	My only object is to endeavor to make students see their true interest, to teach them to labor diligently & to prepare themselves for the great work of life.
4, August 1861 - to wife. What a glorious world Almighty god has given us. How thankless & ungrateful we are, & how we labour to mar his gifts.	5, August 1867 - to Robert A farmer's life is one of labour, but it is also one of pleasure.	6 undated - We must expect reverses, even defeats. They are sent to teach us wisdom & prudence, to call forth greater energies, & to prevent our falling into greater disasters.	7 undated I dislike to have more than I actually require.	8 undated - to Jeff Davis I know how prone we are to blame others for the nonfulfillment of our expectations. This is unbecoming in a generous people & I grieve to see its expression.	9 undated to Jeff Davis No matter what may be the ability of the officer, if he loses the confidence of his troops disaster must sooner or later ensue.	to Rooney I shall endeavor to procure some humble, but quiet, abode for your mother & sisters, where I hope they can be happy.
11 undated - To succeed it is necessary to set the example.	12 undated - Incubating discipline is a painful tedious process, & is not apt to win popular favour.	13, August 1863 - God is our refuge & strength. Le us humble ourselves before Him. Let us beseech Him to give us a higher courage, a purer patriotism, & more determined will.	14 undated - to Eliza Stiles It is sad to see a soldier die, & heart rending to announce it to his parents.	to Charlotte. Teach him that his only refuge is in Him, the greatness of whose mercy reacheth unto the heavens, & His truth unto the clouds.	to a son. I hope you will continue never to exceed your means. It will save you much anxiety & mortification.	to Judge Andrew Magrath The best troops are ineffective without good officers.
18, August 1865—To Carter Lee I have to labour for my living and I am ashamed to do nothing that will give me honest support.	19 undated— That is a political question, Mr. Hill & you politicians must determine it; I shall endeavor to take care of the Army.	to Custis Do not dream. It is too ideal. Live in the world you inhabit. Look upon things are they are. Take them as you find them	21, August 1835 - to wife I must not consent to do aught that would lower me in your eyes, my own & that of others.	22 August 1866 - to H. C. Saunder I prefer remaining silent to doing anything that might excite angry discussion.	23 undated - to College Trustees I think it the duty of every citizen, in the present condition of the country, to do all in his power to aid in the restoration of peace & harmony.	24 August, 1865 - to College Trustees it is particularly incumbent on those charged with the instruction of the youth to set them ar example of submission to authority.
25 undated - I speak of the proper rule in republics, where, I think, we should have neither military statesmen nor political generals.	26 undated - to Jack Mackay It is so much more easy to make heroes on paper than in the field.	27 August 1864 - to Custis I have only one earthly want, that God in His infinite mercy will send our enemies back to their homes.	28 August 1865 - There is no labour so beneficient, so elevated & so sublime, as the teaching of salvation to every man.	29 undated - to Gov. Letcher It is the part of wisdom to acquiesce in the result.	30 undated - to B. Duncan Every man must do his part in this great work. He must carry into the administration of his affairs industry, fidelity & economy.	to E. Pollard My thanks for the compliment by your proposition to write a history of my life. Independently of the few national events it presents little to interest the reader.

VOLUME 11, ISSUE 8 PAGE 14



JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP TEXAS CIVIL WAR HISTORY IN AUGUST



From the Texas State Historical Association

August 9, 1946 - On this day, the last Confederate reunion was held at Camp Ben McCulloch. This golden Jubilee included a memorial service for the camp's last two members, who had died the previous year. The camp, near Driftwood, in Hays County, was organized in the summer of 1896 as a reunion camp for Confederate veterans and named for Confederate General Benjamin McCulloch. Annual three-day reunions were held at the camp, often with 5,000 to 6,000 persons attending. In 1930, Ben McCulloch was said to be the largest Confederate Camp in existence. Subsequently, the camp became the location of the annual meetings of the Sons and Daughters of the Confederacy, with various activities and services spanning a week in early June. The campsite, on a branch of Onion Creek, also remains a popular picnic area for residents of northern Hays County.

August 10, 1862 - On this day, Confederate soldiers attacked a force of Hill Country Unionists camped in route to Mexico beside the Nueces River In Kinney County. The skirmish is known as the battle of the Nueces. The sixty-odd Unionists, mostly German intellectuals, had camped without choosing a defensive position or posting a strong guard. Nineteen of them were killed and nine were wounded. The wounded were executed by the Confederates later in the day. Two Confederates were killed and eighteen wounded. Of the Unionists who escaped from the battle, eight were killed on October 18 while trying to cross into Mexico. After the war, the remains of the Unionists were gathered and interred at Comfort, where a monument commemorates them.

August 13, 1906 - On this day, black soldiers of the Twenty-fifth U.S. Infantry allegedly attacked citizens of Brownsville. The event resulted in the largest summary dismissals in the history of the United States Army. The soldiers, newly arrived at Fort Brown from the Philippines and Nebraska, confronted racial discrimination for some businesses and suffered physical abuse from some federal customs collectors. A reported attack on a while woman during the night of August 12 so enraged the citizens that Maj. Charles W. Penrose, after consultation with Mayor Frederick Combe, declared an early curfew. Just after midnight on the thirteenth, a bartender was fatally shot and a police lieutenant was wounded. Various citizens claimed to have seen soldiers running through the streets shooting, even though it was dark. Several civilian and military investigations presumed the guilt of the soldiers without identifying individual culprits. When suspects were not forthcoming, the army inspector general charged a "conspiracy of silence." On November 5, president Theodore Roosevelt discharged "without honor" all 167 enlisted men garrisoned at Fort Brown. This action fueled political and "due process" arguments for more than sixty years. In 1972, the Nixon administration awarded honorable discharges, without back pay, to the soldiers involved. The only surviving veteran, Dorsie Willis, received a \$25,000 settlement.

August 20, 1866 - On this day, President Andrew Johnson, declaring that "the insurrection in the State of Texas has been completely and everywhere suppressed and ended," officially ended the Civil War by issuing a proclamation of peace between the United States and Texas. Johnson had declared a state of peace between the U.S. and the other ten Confederate states on April 2, 1866. The last land battle of the Civil War took place at Palmito Ranch near Brownsville on May 13, 1865, more than a month after Robert E. Lee surrendered at Appomattox Courthouse.

August 30, 1862 - On this day, Hood's Texas Brigade played a distinguished part in the battle of Second Manassas. After a Union assault was broken up by artillery fire, Confederate General Longstreet launched his First Corps, with the Texas Brigade in the lead, in one of the most successful counterattacks of the Civil War. The Fourth Texas Infantry, under the command of Lt. Col. B. F. Carter; captured a federal battery of artillery, losing eleven killed and twenty wounded in the process. After the battle the commander of the brigade, Gen. John Hood, encountered the commander of the Army of Northern Virginia, Robert E. Lee, who playfully asked him what had become of the enemy. Hood answered that the Texans had chased them across Bull Run "almost at a double quick." A regiment of New York Zouaves was shattered by the assault, and, seeing their brightly uniformed bodies scattered about the next morning, a Texas officer wrote that they gave the battlefield "the appearance of a Texas hillside when carpeted in the spring by wildflowers of many hues and tints."

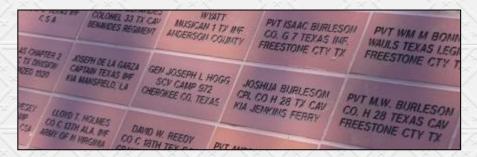


CONFEDERATE VETERANS MEMORIAL PLAZA INFORMATION





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: danieldyer497@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: danieldyer497@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 Tuesday Each Month - 06:30 PM Snacks served at each meeting.

Commercial Bank of Texas on the corner of N. Mallard & E. Lacy Street

The Bank is located just south of the Anderson County Courthouse Annex.