

SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS, TEXAS DIVISION

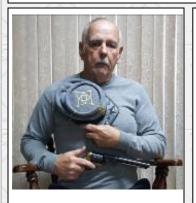
THE JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP NEWS

www.reaganscvcamp.org

VOLUME 12, ISSUE 8

August 2020

COMMANDER'S DISPATCH



We had a great camp meeting! Our August meeting was enjoyed by all and we had a few visitors. John C. Perry, Past Commander of the Army of the Trans-Mississippi and past **Texas Division** Commander, brought a program. He traveled from Salado. Texas and we are grateful for his presentation. His talk was titled "Galloping Thunder" and was a very informative discussion of the carbine rifle. The carbine rifle was a new invention at the time of the civil war and was a sweeping change in

armament. It was capable of firing many more times per minute than a muzzle loader and was used by Northern and Southern troops. He brought a few examples of the arm and displayed and explained their use.

Cuisine was the normal southern food of beans and cornbread along with a bell pepper casserole and soft fried potatoes. Dessert was a strawberry cake and ice cream.

We truly enjoy visitors and ask all who are interested to attend a camp meeting. We are available to assist in searches of your ancestors service



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

with the Confederacy. If someone wishes to attend one of our meetings, please contact us and we will let you know where we are meeting. With COVID-19 it is hard to know where or if we are going to meet in Sept.

Richard Thornton Commander

CAMP MEETINGS

3rd Tuesday of Each Month 06:30 PM With a meal served at each meeting. We do not have a permanent meeting location. You can contact Commander Thornton for the proper meeting location each month. His email is tx_tsar@hotmail.com Phone: (903) 791-1557

Guests are welcome! Bring the family. www.reaganscvcamp.org

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Memorial Plaza Groundskeeping Calendar

August 2020 - Randy Huffman

September—Need a volunteer

October-Need a volunteer

November—Need a volunteer

December—J.B. Mason

January—Dan Dyer

February—Dan Dyer

March—Need a volunteer

April—Need a volunteer

Prayer List

- Compatriot Forrest Bradberry
- Compatriot J.B. Mason
- Past Reagan Camp Historian Gary Williams
- Rod Skelton (former Camp Chaplain)
- Former Camp Commander Rudy Ray
- United Daughters of the Confederacy
- The Sovereign State of Texas
- The United States of America

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The Reagan Camp will have monthly meetings on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. You can contact Commander Thornton by email for the location for the meeting.

Tuesday August 18 - August Meeting

Tuesday Sept 15 - September Meeting

"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-

The Reagan Camp is in need of men to sign up for a month to either keep the Confederate Veterans Memorial Plaza mowed or pay to have it mowed. The list is in the box to the left. Several dates are available. If you are not physically able, or don't have the time to mow it, a compatriot of the Reagan camp has volunteered to mow it for \$50 for each time it is mowed. He said he will donate the entire \$50 back to the camp with the understanding that the money be used to purchase an additional paver for the plaza for each time it is mowed. Any extra money will be donated to the Reagan Camp bank account. This man wanted to remain anonymous, so we won't mention his name. But on behalf of the John H. Reagan Camp, "THANK YOU" for going the extra mile!



This flag flies in honor and memory of over 1,000 Confederate veterans from Andérson 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







The August meeting was held in the Rhone Funeral Home reflection room on August 18th. We had 20 (13 compatriots and 7 visitors) at the meeting. We would like to thank Rhone Funeral Home for providing us a place to meet.





The meeting started off with a delicious meal of purple hull peas, cornbread, bell pepper casserole, soft fried potatoes and onions, strawberry cake and ice cream. Everyone enjoyed being able to eat together, visit with each other, and look at the rifles that John C. Perry brought to the meeting. Following the meal John presented a wonderful presentation about the use of carbine rifles in the war between the states.



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GALLOPING THUNDER



BY JOHN C. PERRY

The Reagan Camp was honored to have John C. Perry and his wife Sandra at our August meeting. John is the past Commander of the Army of Trans-Mississippi, past Texas Division Commander, past Central Texas Brigade Commander, and retired CEO of Scott and White Texas Health Plan. He presented the camp with a very informative program, "Galloping Thunder", which was a program about Cavalry Carbines. He even brought some Confederate rifles to the meeting and gave us a history lesson on each one!



John explained how the firearms advanced during the war from and how much of an impact the rifles had. A musket couldn't compete with a carbine.



It wasn't just firearms where advances were made. There were also a lot of advances in the ammunition as firearms went from being muzzle loaded to having cartridges. John had several original cartridges from the war that he displayed as he told the difference of each one. The picture on the left shows you the differences in the cartridges. The cartridge on the left is brass, the middle is a linen cartridge, and the one on the right is a paper cartridge that was used in the Sharps Carbine. John had a wonderful collection of rifles that most of us had never seen.

He explained how the north had a huge advantage when it came to manufacturing firearms. They had 22 firearm manufacturers compared to about 15 for the confederacy. This allowed the North to



produce about 400,000 carbine rifles during the war which gave them a huge advantage. Not only were they much faster to shoot, they also allowed the cavalry to be able to have a huge advantage over those who had to reload muskets while on horseback.

As carbines were first being manufactured, one of the first to be mass produced and used in the war was the Burnside carbine. This was a breach loading carbine what was designed and patented by General Ambrose E. Burnside before he was in the war. The carbine used a special brass cartridge which was also invented by Burnside. This cartridge contained a bullet and powder, but no primer. Pressing the weapon's two trigger guards opened the breech block and allowed the user to insert a cartridge. When the trigger was pulled, the hammer struck a separate percussion cap and caused a spark; a hole in the base of the cartridge exposed the black powder to this spark. The unique, conical cartridge sealed the joint between the barrel and the breech. Most other breech-loading weapons of the day tended to leak hot gas when fired, but Burnside's design eliminated this problem An interesting fact is that General Burnside was the first president of the Nation Rifle Association.



These pictures show John explaining how the Burnside Carbine operated. This was an original Burnside Carbine!



August 2020 "GALLOPING THUNDER"

BY JOHN C. PERRY PG 2

The next carbine was the Sharps Carbine. The was originally manufactured in a .36 and .44 caliber, with the first one being the model 1849. There were 83,400 of the Sharps carbines manufactured for the north at a cost of \$28.77 each. These carbines used either a paper cartridge or the linen cartridge that were pictured on the previous page. Since the caliber was not as large as the north desired, the carbine's caliber was changed to where it was manufactured in a .52 caliber. They were a very popular firearm since there were already many of these available prior at the start of the war. (The Sharps carbine is displayed in the picture to the right)



In John's opinion, the #1 carbine was the Spencer. There were 95,181 of the Spencer carbines manufactured during the war. It was designed by Christopher Spencer who worked for Colt in 1854. The Spencer was the world's first military metallic cartridge repeating rifle. It was adopted by the Union Army, especially by the cavalry. George Armstrong Custer was one of



the early users of the Spencer rifle. This carbine was a rim-fire, repeating rifle which was loaded through the butt-plate of the stock. It held 7 rounds and was purchased for \$25.76. The Union Army purchased 58,000,000 cartridges at a price of 2 1/2 cents each.

The picture to the left shows John explaining how to load the cartridges in the Spencer repeating carbine.



The Henry Rifle (picture on the left) was another rifle that was used by the north. This rifle was a .44 caliber, but it was not very popular by the U.S. Government since it cost \$40 each. They only purchased 1,731 of the Henry's. But they purchased enough for the Confederates to know about them. This was the rifle that was talked about when they said, "load on Sunday and shoot all week". The Henry held 16 rounds. later model of the Henry was the Winchester model 1873. It was known as the gun that won the west.





August 2020 "GALLOPING THUNDER"

By John C. Perry pg 3

We appreciate John so much for making the trip to Palestine and giving a wonderful presentation on the rifles that were used in the war between the states. Below are some pictures of the rifles that he brought for us to see. It was a great program, and if you missed it, you really missed out!







The most coveted in John's collection is a Confederate Rifle stamped "C.S. Richmond, Va"



JOHN C. PERRY



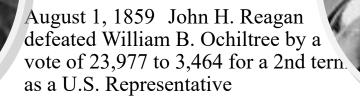
that John C. Perry has written. They will tell the real history of events during the war.



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



August 3, 1857: John H. Reagan Defeated Lemuel D. Evans by a vote of 341 to 9,929 in the race for 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



PAGE 8

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



work. He must

carry into the

 $\stackrel{\textstyle \cdot}{\text{administration of his}}$

affairs industry, fidelity & economy.

proposition to write

a history of my life.

Independently of the few national events it

presents little to interest the reader.

Robert E. Lee Calendar August 2020



Tugust 2020						
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.	3 undated - 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. Let 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.	17 undated— 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.
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 an 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	31 undated - to E. Pollard My thanks for the compliment by your proposition to write					



JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP TEXAS CIVIL WAR HISTORY IN AUGUST



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."

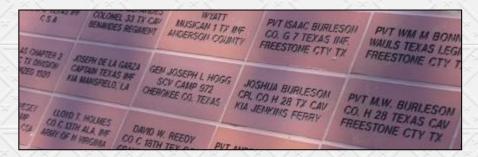


CONFEDERATE VETERANS MEMORIAL PLAZA INFORMATION





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.

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JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP #2156

c/o Dan Dyer, Adjutant/Treasurer Palestine, Texas 75802 E-mail: danieldyer497@yahoo.com

Richard Thornton
Palestine, Texas
Email: tx_tsar@hotmail.com
Phone: (903) 791-1557

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.

Email Commander Thornton for the monthly meeting's location.