

**Merry Christmas from the John H. Reagan Camp
Sons of Confederate Veterans**





SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS, TEXAS DIVISION

THE JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP NEWS

www.reaganscvcamp.org

VOLUME 15, ISSUE 12

DECEMBER 2023

COMMANDER DYER'S DISPATCH



Compatriots,

I hope everyone enjoyed the John H. Reagan Camp Christmas Party. For those who could not attend, the food was great and Dan Manuel provided great entertainment.

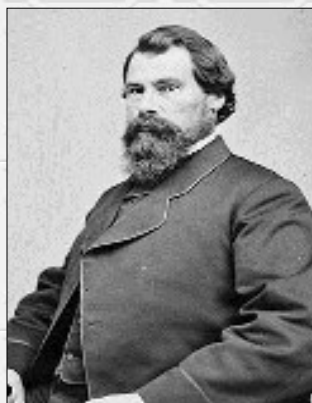
I had originally planned to swear in your new Officers for 2024. In a change of plans, we will swear in Officers at our January meeting. Reminder; the new night for the meetings is the 4th Tuesday of the month. This change will allow a couple of our members to be able to

attend that couldn't attend on Thursdays.

I would like to say that after serving as an officer in the Camp for almost 14 years, I feel like it was time for new leadership. My wife retires in May, and we plan on doing some traveling next Summer and fall, and I may not be able to attend meetings during that time. I have enjoyed it and will continue to be a member. I appreciate each and every member of the Reagan Camp and consider each of you as good friends.

I hope to see all of you at the January meeting on the 23rd.

Dan Dyer



John H. Reagan

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

4th 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.org

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Merry Christmas	1
Commander's Dispatch	2
Calendar of Events	3
Christmas Party Pictures	4-7
Christmas Party Entertainment by Dan Manuel	8
Remembering Our Ancestors	9
Robert E. Lee Confederate Calendar	10
Confederate War History in November	11
Confederate Memorial Plaza Information	12
Contact Information & Charge to the Sons of Veterans	13

The John H. Reagan Camp is requesting donations from those who would be willing to contribute financially to help keep the Confederate Heroes Memorial Plaza landscape manicured. If you would be willing to donate, please contact Dan Dyer at danielyer497@yahoo.com
Phone: (903) 391-2224

Prayer List

- Compatriot Forrest Bradberry
- Compatriot J.B. Mason
- Compatriot Doug Smith (complications from hip replacement)
- Past Reagan Camp Historian Gary Williams
- Former Camp Commander Rudy Ray
- United Daughters of the Confederacy
- The Sovereign State of Texas
- The United States of America
- The Sons of Confederate Veterans

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The Reagan Camp will have monthly meetings on the 4th Tuesday of each month in the Commercial Bank of Texas meeting room

January 23, 2024 - Camp meeting

February 27, 2024 - Camp meeting

March 26, 2024 - Camp Meeting

April 23, 2024 - Camp Meeting



Officers for 2023

Commander - Dan Dyer

1st Lt. - David Franklin

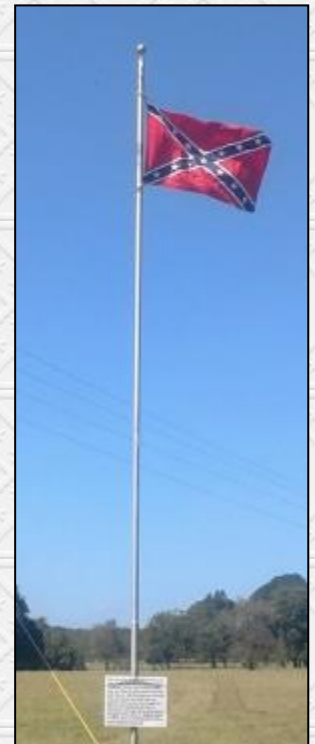
Adjutant/Treasurer - Richard Thornton

Judge Advocate - Martin Lawrence

Chaplain - Dwight Franklin

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



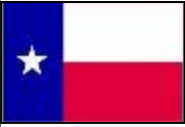
Above: Reagan Camp's battle flag and sign displayed proudly at intersection of FM 315 and Anderson Cty Rd 448, ten miles north of Palestine.

"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 CHRISTMAS PARTY PICTURES



Our December meeting was held at 6p.m. on Thursday, December 7th at the Crockett Road Church of Christ Activity Building. We had 23 in attendance at the meeting, and everyone had a great time. We had 7 visitors this month. They were Dan Manuel, Delmer and Lynda Wilson, Pct 1 Commission Greg Chapin, his wife Lisa, and his children Jeb and Kyndal Chapin.

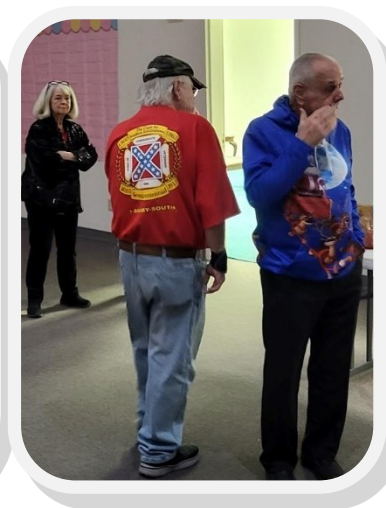
The Christmas dinner was delicious. Everyone brought a covered dish (or more) and it was all home cooking. You just can't beat home cooking! We had turkey, ham, dressing, homemade cranberry sauce, cornbread casserole, chicken and mushroom casserole, sweet potato casserole, purple hull peas, cornbread, green bean casserole, potato salad, corn casserole, homemade bread, and rolls. For dessert we had homemade pineapple upside down cake, a homemade skillet apple pie, two pecan pies, two buttermilk pies, and blue bell ice cream. Everything was delicious!

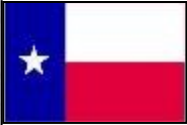
After enjoying the meal together, Dan Manuel provided the entertainment. You can see more pictures of him singing on the following pages.





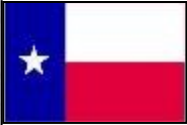
JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP CHRISTMAS PARTY PICTURES





JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP CHRISTMAS PARTY PICTURES





JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP CHRISTMAS PARTY PICTURES





CHRISTMAS PARTY ENTERTAINMENT

DAN MANUEL



Dan Manuel provided the entertainment for our Christmas party this year. This was the 9th year in a row that he has provided our entertainment, and it was great! Dan is a talented entertainer who sings and accompanies himself on the guitar. He sang songs of several country artists and also mixed in jokes and humor. He sang songs by Marty Robbins, Willie Nelson, Johnny Cash, Julio Iglesias, Elvis Presley, Ray Price and more. It was a very entertaining and enjoyable program. We appreciate Dan so much for always doing whatever he can for the Reagan Camp. Not only did he provide the entertainment, but he also allowed us to have a nice place to host the Christmas Party. After his program, he awarded the oldest Reagan Camp member and the couple who have been married the longest with tickets to the upcoming Dogwood Jamboree. It is currently in its 19th season of production. (As a side note, Dan is the producer/entertainer for the Dogwood Jamboree.)

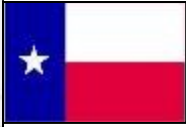


Above: David Franklin presented Dan with a \$100 gift certificate to Little Mexico.



The next show date for the Dogwood Jamboree will be April 6, 2024 at 7 p.m. at the Palestine High School Auditorium. For more information you can contact Dan at 903-724-2556.

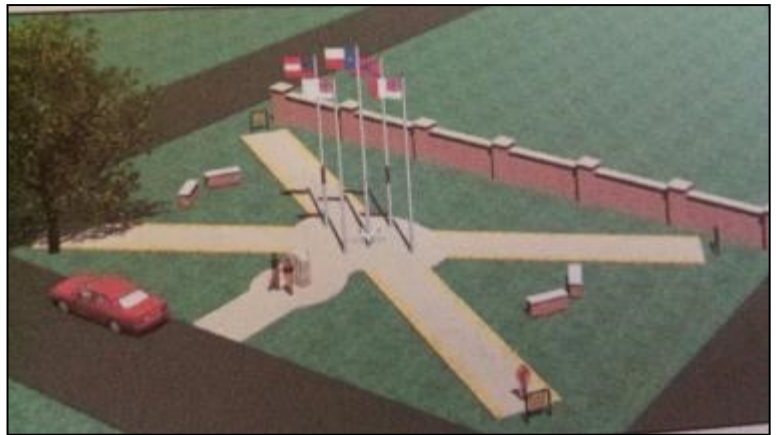




A GREAT WAY TO ENSURE THAT YOUR ANCESTOR'S SERVICE AND HONOR IS NOT FORGOTTEN



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.



WILLIAM C FRANKLIN CO D 12 BTNN ARK SHARP SHOOTERS	JOHN DANIEL LILES PVT DIED 4 25 1865 POW	WILLIAM J. CHAFFIN CO H 5 TEX CAV CSA 1829 - 1908
JASPER N. CARNES CO B 8 REGIMENT TEXAS INFANTRY	RICHARD A. HODGES CO K 22 TX INF CSA 1833 - 1905	ANDREW J BEAUCHAMP CO F 13 TEX INF 12-9-1834 9-1-1894

JOHN H. REAGAN SCV CAMP #2156 PALESTINE TEXAS	PVT WM. H. FOSTER CO. H 1ST TEX INF DIED AS POW OCT 63
GEORGE KNOX GIBSON PVT. CO. B 12TH TEXAS CAVLRY, CSA	WILLIAM H. CRIST COMPANY I 7 TX CAV C.S.A.

JACOB L. SHERIDAN CAPT CO I 1ST REGT TEXAS INFANTRY	JOHN H. SHERIDAN PVT. CO I 1ST REGT TEXAS INFANTRY	COL. A.T. RAINEY CO. H 1 TEX. INF. HOOD'S TEX. BRIG
L. E. SHERIDAN PVT. CO I 1ST REGT TEXAS INFANTRY	PVT WM. N SHERIDAN CO C 6 BATTALION TEXAS CALVARY	STEPHEN O. RAINEY CAPTAIN 1ST BATT. TEX CAV

PVT. R. M. LUMMUS 53 GEORGIA INF. COMPANY B C.S.A	PVT ALLEN G TURNER CO A 7TH BATTALION MISS INF. CSA
SGT. AMOS G. HANKS CO F. 1ST TEX INF HOODS BRIGADE CSA	WILLIAM H. DYER PVT CO K MISS INF C.S.A.

Above are some pictures of some of the pavers in the plaza. If you would like to purchase a paver for your ancestor, you can pick what you want to have inscribed on it. These pictures will give you some ideas to what you might want on your paver.

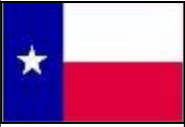


ROBERT E. LEE CALENDAR

DECEMBER 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Dec, 1866— To Markie Our communication with the world beyond the Mountains is reduced to one stage a day & the tri-weekly packet boat.	2 Dec, 1862 - to wife I tremble for my country when I hear of confidence expressed in me. I know too well my weakness & that our only hope is in God.
3 Dec, 1860 - to Rooney As an American citizen I prize the Union very highly & know of no personal sacrifice that I would not make to preserve it, save that of honour.	4 Dec, 1863 - I believe a kind God has ordered all things for our good	5 Dec, 1860 - to Custis The education of a man or woman is never completed till they die. There is always before them much to lean & more to do.	6 Dec, 1846 - To Wife I am one of those silly persons when I have anything to do I can't rest satisfied till it has been accomplished.	7 undated - To Wife It is satisfactory always to have facts to go on; they restrain supposition & conjecture, confirm faith, & bring contentment.	8 undated - With a grateful heart I thank him for his preservation of you thus far & trust to his mercy and kindness for the future.	9 Dec, 1869 - While moderation & temperance in all things are commendable & beneficial, abstinence from spirituous liquors is the best safeguard of morals and health.
10 undated - I shall think of you & my grandson very often during the season when families are united & though absent from you in person, you will always be present in mind.	11 undated - to S.G. Miller Practice habitual temperance, so that you may form the habit in youth & not feel the inclination to depart from it in manhood.	12 Dec, 1851 - To Custis Do your best, and I shall be satisfied.	13 Dec, 1862 - at Mary's Heights It is well that war is so terrible; we should grow too fond of it.	14 Dec, 1860 - to Custis Pay all your debts as soon as possible	15 Dec, 1866 - to Fitzhugh I know of no fitter resting place for a soldier than the field on which he has nobly laid down his life.	16 undated - to wife I expect to die a pauper & I see no way of preventing it. So that I can get enough for you & the girls I am content.
17 undated - to a friend If I could only have my children around me, I could be happy	18 Dec, 1869 - to son I must begin by wishing you a pleasant Christmas & many Happy New Years, & may each succeeding year bring to you & yours increasing happiness.	19 undated - to Mildred I trust many of you will be assembled around the family hearth at dear Arlington for another Christmas. Though absent, my heart will be in the midst of you.	20 undated - to Mildred I hope you will find time to read & improve your mind. Read history, works of truth. Get correct views of life & learn to see the world in its true light.	21 Dec, 1866 - to daughter Mildred Experience will teach you that you will never receive such a love as is felt for you by your father and mother.	22 Dec, 1866 - If I was an artist I would draw a true picture of Traveller. Such a picture would inspire a poet. But I am no artist & can therefore only say he is a Confederate grey.	23 undated - I shall think of you on that holy day & shall pray to the God of heaven to shower his blessings upon you in this world & to unite you all in his courts in the world to come.
24 Dec, 1846 - to sons I hope Santa Claus will fill Rob's stocking tonight; that Mildred's, Agnes's & Anna's may break down with good things. If he only leaves for you one half of what I wish, you will want for nothing.	25 Dec, 1862 - to Mildred You must study hard, gain knowledge & learn your duty to God & your neighbor; that is the great object of life.	26 undated - Occupy yourself in aiding those more helpless than yourself.	27 Dec, 1863 - to M. Stuart Thus is link by link the strong chain broken that binds us to earth & our passage soothed to another world.	28 undated - to Custis There is nothing so military as labour & nothing so important to an army as to save the lives of its soldiers	29 Dec, 1863 - The object of this life is to prepare for a better and brighter world.	30 Dec, 1864 - to Wife I pray daily & almost hourly to our Heavenly Father to come to the relief of you & our afflicted country.
31 undated - to a student We cannot undo the past; that is forever gone; but the future is in our hands.						



TEXAS CIVIL WAR HISTORY IN DECEMBER

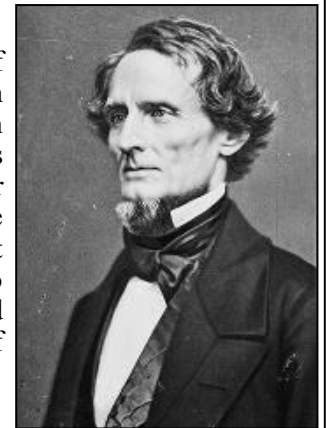
From the Texas State Historical Association— <https://texasdaybyday.com/#feedCarousel>



On December 2nd, 1862, the Confederate government issued \$100 notes bearing a portrait of the renowned Southern beauty Lucy Pickens. Lucy Holcombe was born in 1832 in Tennessee. Between 1848 and 1850 the Holcombes moved to Wyalucing plantation in Marshall, Texas. Lucy became highly acclaimed throughout the South for her "classic features, titian hair, pansy eyes, and graceful figure." In the summer of 1856 she met Francis Wilkinson Pickens, twice a widower and twenty-seven years her senior. Her acceptance of his marriage proposal, it is said, hinged on his acceptance of a diplomatic post abroad. President James Buchanan appointed him ambassador to Russia, and Pickens and Lucy were wed in 1858 at Wyalucing. Lucy was a favorite at the Russian court, but Pickens resigned his

diplomatic post in the fall of 1860 in anticipation of the outbreak of the Civil War. Upon his return home he was elected governor of South Carolina. By selling the jewels that had been given her in Russia, Lucy helped outfit the Confederate Army unit that bore her name, the Lucy Holcombe Legion. Her portrait was also used on the one-dollar Confederate notes issued on June 2, 1862 and 1863, and the \$100 bill of 1864. She was the only woman to appear on Confederate currency. She died in 1899.

On December 6th, 1889, Jefferson Davis, former president of the Confederate States of America, died in New Orleans. Davis, born in Kentucky in 1808 but later a senator from Mississippi, was first in Texas as an army officer during the Mexican War in 1847 with Zachary Taylor's force on the Rio Grande. In 1854, while Davis was United States secretary of war, he recommended the Texas or thirty-second-parallel route for construction of a railroad to the Pacific Ocean, and in 1856 he sent camels to Camp Verde to test the animals' suitability as military transportation. After Reconstruction a movement was launched in Dallas to purchase a homestead for Davis and invite him to move to Texas. In 1875 he was offered the presidency of the newly established Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas. In declining the appointment, he wrote of his hopes of revisiting Texas, but he never did so.



On December 16th, 1863, Confederate colonel Sul Ross assumed command of a brigade formed from the Third, Sixth, Ninth, and Twenty-seventh Texas Cavalry regiments, and the men in these units thereafter fought together as Ross's Brigade. Lawrence Sullivan Ross was born in Iowa in 1838; his family moved to Texas a year later. He realized his early ambition to become an Indian fighter like his father, Shapley Ross, when he served in campaigns with the Texas Rangers against the Comanches in 1858 and 1860; in the latter year he led the raid that resulted in the recapture of Cynthia Ann Parker. With the coming of the Civil War he joined the Confederate forces and rose to command the Sixth Texas Cavalry. He was promoted to the rank of general soon after taking command of Ross's Brigade. Under his able leadership, his brigade saw action in the Atlanta and Franklin-Nashville campaigns, although Ross was in Texas on furlough when his men surrendered at Jackson, Mississippi, in May 1865. After the war he served Texas as a state senator and then as governor from 1886 to 1891.

December 21, 1861: On this day in 1864, the state legislature established the Frontier Regiment to patrol west of the line of settlements from the Red River to the Rio Grande. Less than a month later, the Confederate Congress authorized the secretary of war to receive the regiment into Confederate service for the protection of the Indian frontier of Texas. President Jefferson Davis vetoed the bill, however, because it withheld the control of the executive of the Confederate States over the troops. In early 1863, after James E. McCord replaced James M. Norris as commander. State authorities finally transferred the regiment to Confederate control in 1864, but only after the legislature approved the establishment of the Frontier Organization to ensure the continued protection of the frontier. During the last eighteen months of the Civil War, the regiment increasingly devoted itself to enforcing Confederate conscription laws, arresting deserters, and tracking down renegades and outlaws.

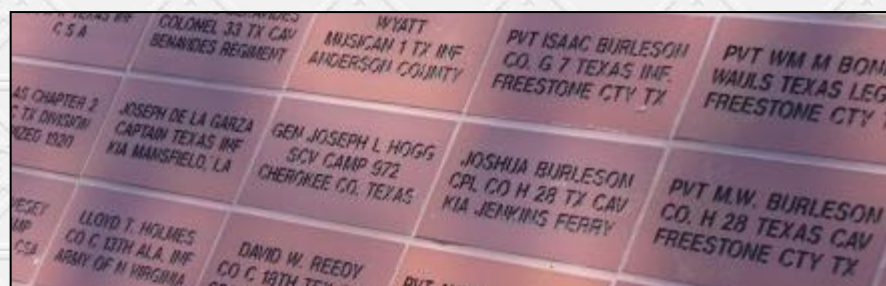
(Information provide by Texas State Historical Association's "Day By Day" website. You can see other events listed for each day of December on their calendar online at <https://texasdaybyday.com/>)



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

Dan Dyer, Commander
Palestine, Texas 75802
E-mail: danielyer497@yahoo.com
Phone: (903) 391-2224

Richard Thornton, Adjutant/Treasurer
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: 4th Thursday Each
Month - 06:30 PM
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.