



## SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS, TEXAS DIVISION

# THE JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP NEWS

[www.reaganscvcamp.org](http://www.reaganscvcamp.org)

VOLUME 15, ISSUE 9

SEPTEMBER 2023

## COMMANDER DYER'S DISPATCH



Compatriots,

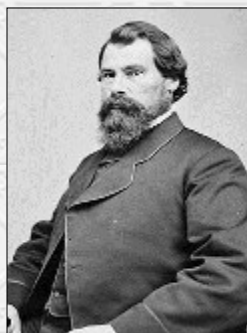
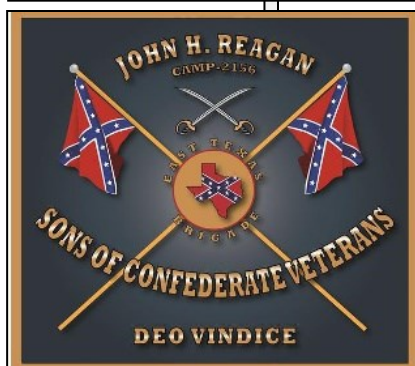
I hope everyone is doing well. I canceled our September meeting due to having so many who could not attend. I had planned to have nominations for 2024 officers at the September meeting and vote in October, because we are not meeting in November.

It is important that everyone try to attend the October meeting. We will

nominate and vote for officers.

If anyone would like to be an officer in 2024 please let me know. I hope to see each and everyone at the meeting.

Dan Dyer  
Reagan Camp  
Commander



### 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

4th Thursday 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](http://www.reaganscvcamp.org)

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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 [danielyder497@yahoo.com](mailto:danielyder497@yahoo.com)  
Phone: (903) 391-2224

### Prayer List

- Compatriot Forrest Bradberry
- Compatriot J.B. Mason
- Sgt at Arms 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 Thursday of each month in the Commercial Bank of Texas meeting room**

**October 26, 2023 - October Meeting**

**November - we will not have a meeting.**

**December meeting will be our annual Christmas Party. Date and location are yet to be determined.**




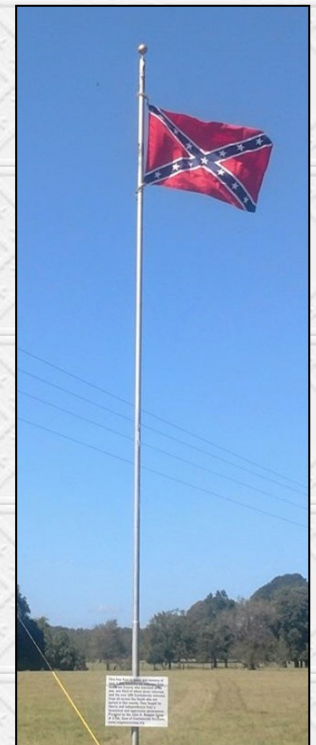
Burnside's Bridge at Antietam National Battlefield | public domain  
Antietam was the deadliest one-day battle in American Military history.

### Officers for 2022

Commander - Dan Dyer  
1st Lt. - David Franklin  
Adjutant/Treasurer - Richard Thornton  
Sgt at Arms - Doug Smith  
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](http://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.

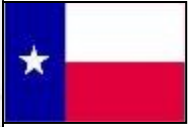
"NOTHING FILLS ME WITH DEEPER SADNESS THAN TO SEE A SOUTHERN MAN APOLOGIZING FOR THE DEFENSE WE MADE OF OUR INHERITANCE. OUR CAUSE WAS SO JUST, SO SACRED, THAT HAD I KNOWN ALL THAT HAS COME TO PASS, HAD I KNOWN WHAT WAS TO BE INFLICTED UPON ME, ALL THAT MY COUNTRY WAS TO SUFFER, ALL THAT OUR POSTERITY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

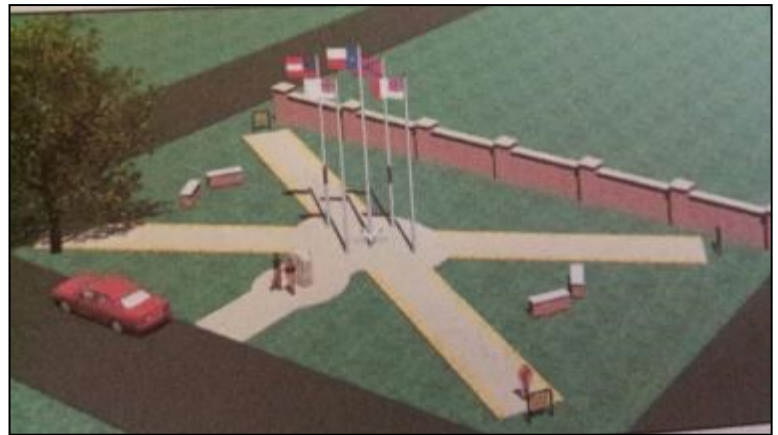




## A GREAT WAY TO ENSURE THAT YOUR ANCESTOR'S SERVICE AND HONOR IS NOT FORGOTTEN



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	JOHN H. REAGAN SCV CAMP #2156 PALESTINE, TEXAS	PVT WM. H. FOSTER CO. H 1ST TEX INF DIED AS POW OCT 63
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	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	PVT. R. M. LUMMUS 53 GEORGIA INF. COMPANY B C.S.A	PVT ALLEN G TURNER CO A 7TH BATTALION MISS INF. CSA
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	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.



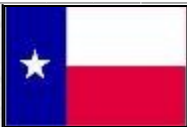
## ROBERT E. LEE CALENDAR



## AUGUST

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>Sept 1, 1856</b> to wife. We are all in the hands of a kind God, who will do for us what is best, & more than we deserve & we have only to endeavor to deserve more & to do our duty to him.	<b>Sept 2, 1864</b> to Jeff Davis. Our ranks are constantly diminishing by battle & disease, & few recruits are received.
<b>Sept 3, 1861</b> to Custis. Know that wherever you may be placed you will do your duty. That is all the pleasure, all the comfort, all the glory we can enjoy in this world.	<b>Sept 4, 1865</b> to A.M. Keiley. It should be the object of all to avoid controversy.	<b>Sept 5, 1857</b> to Agnes. It is persuasion and not force...cultivate the powers of pleasing.	<b>Sept 6</b> undated to A.M. Keiley. Encouraging our citizens to engage in the duties of life with all their heart & mind our country will not only be restored but will be advanced in science, virtue, & religion.	<b>Sept 7, 1865</b> to Capt. Tatnall. I believe it to be the duty of every one to unite in the restoration of the country & the reestablishment of peace & harmony.	<b>Sept 8</b> undated to J. Gordon. The thorough education of all classes of the people is the most efficacious means, in my opinion, of promoting prosperity.	<b>Sept 9, 1861</b> to his wife. Everybody is slandered, even the good.
<b>Sept 10, 1863</b> to Mildred. You have only always to do what is right. It will become easier by practice.	<b>Sept 11</b> undated I shall, however, endeavor to do my duty and fight to the last	<b>Sept 12</b> undated to wife. Feeling lonesome, as the saying is, and out of sorts, I got on a horse & took a ride	<b>Sept 13</b> Undated to Capt. Tatnall. I have since the cessation of hostilities advised all with whom come within the terms of the President's proclamation to take the oath of allegiance.	<b>Sept 14, 1869</b> to Col. Duncan. As individuals prosper, communities will become rich.	<b>Sept 15</b> undated Study human nature, more by experience than by precept.	<b>Sept 16, 1853</b> to his wife. Young men must not expect to escape contact with evil, but must learn not to be contaminated by it.
<b>Sept 17, 1861</b> to wife. I had taken every precaution to insure success, & counted on it; but the Ruler of the Universe willed otherwise.	<b>Sept 18, 1864</b> to wife. It is from no desire of exposure or hazard that I live in a tent, but from necessity. I must be where I can speedily attend to the duties of my position	<b>Sept 19</b> undated To Markie Action in this World goes farther than Sentiment.	<b>Sept 20</b> undated To wife. I have been offered rooms in the houses of our citizens, but I could not turn the dwellings of my kind hosts into a barrack.	<b>Sept 21</b> undated to Capt Maury I look forward to better days, & trust that time & experience, the great teachers of men, under the guidance of an ever merciful God, save us from destruction.	<b>Sept 22</b> undate to Capt Maury. The thought of abandoning the country is abhorrent to my feelings & I prefer to struggle for its restoration & share its fate, rather than give up all as lost.	<b>Sept 23</b> undated to Mildred. The more you know, the more you find there is to know in this grand & beautiful world.
<b>Sept 24</b> undated The more you learn the more you are conscious of your ignorance	<b>Sept 25</b> undated to Mildred. You will find all the days of your life that there is much to learn & much to do...learn all you can.	<b>Sept 26, 1861</b> to wife. It is raining. The men are exposed on the mountain without tents. Today my tent came up & I am in it. Yet I fear I shall not sleep for thinking of the men.	<b>Sept 27</b> undated to Mildred. The struggle which you describe you experience between doing what you ought & what you desire is common to all.	<b>Sept 28</b> undated As long as virtue was dominant in the republic, so long was the happiness of the people secure.	<b>Sept 29, 1862</b> to Mary. If God spares me to the end of the war, I trust to be with you all at least, for the few remnant years of life.	<b>Sept 30</b> My Beautiful Daughters:.... May good angels guard you & bright visions cheer you.





## TEXAS CIVIL WAR HISTORY IN SEPTEMBER



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

Sept 1—On this day in 1863, Maj. Santos Benavides, the highest-ranking Mexican American to serve in the Confederacy, led seventy-nine men of the predominantly Tejano Thirty-third Texas Cavalry across the Rio Grande in pursuit of the bandit Octaviano Zapata. Union agents had recruited Zapata, a former associate of Juan N. Cortina, to lead raids into Texas and thus force Confederate troops to remain in the Rio Grande valley rather than participate in military campaigns in the east. Zapata was also associated with Edmund J. Davis, who was conducting Northern-sponsored military activities in the vicinity of Brownsville and Matamoros. For these reasons, and because his men often flew the American flag during their raids, Zapata's band was often referred to as the "First Regiment of Union Troops." Benavides caught up with Zapata on September 2 near Mier, Tamaulipas. After a brief exchange of gunfire, the Zapatistas dispersed, leaving ten men dead, including Zapata. Benavides later defended Laredo against Davis's First Texas Cavalry, and arranged for the safe passage of Texas cotton to Matamoros during the Union occupation of Brownsville. He died at his Laredo home in 1891.

Sept 7—On this day in 1866, federal soldiers under Bvt. Maj. George W. Smith reportedly set fire to and looted several stores in Brenham. The incident grew out of a controversy involving newspaper editor D. L. McGary's frequent attacks on the local Freedmen's Bureau in the Brenham *Banner*. McGary was arrested by federal authorities; after his release, on September 7, three soldiers were shot during an altercation at a dance. Other soldiers returned to the scene, arrested two citizens, and set a fire that burned part of the town. Smith maintained the innocence of his men and refused to turn them over to local officials. The episode helped Brenham gain a reputation for the "unreconstructed" Southern mentality of its white residents. After lengthy hearings by both federal and state officials, the issue of the soldiers' guilt remained unresolved. Smith was transferred to Seguin, where he was later convicted of theft of Freedmen's Bureau funds. Though his conviction was overturned on appeal, he resigned his commission in 1869, the same year that a convention of Democratic editors met in Brenham and denounced, among other things, the idea of black suffrage. Smith died in 1890.

Sept 9—On this day in 1861, the Eighth Texas Cavalry, a group of volunteers popularly known as Terry's Texas Rangers, was mustered into Confederate service in Houston. The regiment had been assembled by Benjamin Franklin Terry in August. Terry was elected colonel, Thomas S. Lubbock lieutenant colonel, and Thomas Harrison major; by the fall of 1862, Terry and Lubbock were dead, and Harrison became regimental commander, serving in that post until the end of the Civil War. The Terry Rangers distinguished themselves in a number of battles, including those at Shiloh (1862) and Chickamauga (1863); in the Atlanta campaign (1864); and as raiders in Kentucky and Tennessee under Lt. Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest. They were also part of the force under Gen. Joseph E. Johnston that attempted in vain to slow Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman's "march to the sea" during the final months of the war. Rather than surrender with the rest of Johnston's army in April 1865, 158 of the reported 248 survivors of the regiment slipped through Union lines to join other Confederates yet in the field. With the total collapse of the Southern cause, however, the Terry Rangers drifted home as individuals and in small groups, having never officially surrendered. With the exception of Hood's Texas Brigade, the Eighth Texas Cavalry was probably the best-known Texas unit to serve in the Civil War.

Sept 19—On this day in 1863, the two-day battle of Chickamauga began, ending in one of the last great field victories for the Confederacy. The first day's action, fought in densely wooded terrain, became a classic "soldier's battle" in which generalship counted for little and the outcome was decided by fierce small-unit encounters. Texas units in the Georgia battle included Hood's Texas Brigade, Ector's Brigade, Deshler's Brigade, and Terry's Texas Rangers. As Hood's Brigade went into battle they called to a regiment of exhausted Tennesseans, "Rise up, Tennesseans, and see the Texans go in!" When they in turn came staggering back from the woods after being repulsed by Union cavalry, a Tennessean was waiting to yell, "Rise up, Tennesseans, and see the Texans come out!" Among the Texas casualties in the battle were Gen. James Deshler, who was killed, and John Bell Hood, who lost a leg.

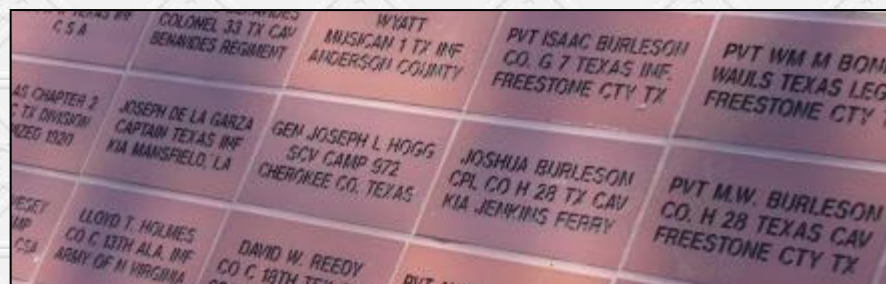
Sept 29—On this day in 1867, Francis McMullan, the leader of a group of Texans who moved to Brazil rather than remain under a Reconstruction government, died at Iguape, Brazil. McMullan was active in politics in Hill County before the Civil War and served as a delegate to the Texas Democratic convention in Galveston in 1860. After serving the Confederacy in Mexico during the Civil War, he joined William Bowen in a plan to take advantage of liberal Brazilian immigration terms and move a colony of 154 from north central Texas to South America. McMullan and Bowen left for Brazil in late 1865 to locate lands and decided on fifty square leagues on the headwaters of the São Lourenço River south of São Paulo. McMullan returned to Texas in June 1866. After a series of delays and misadventures, he guided the emigrants to colony lands before becoming terminally ill with tuberculosis. His colony is credited with introducing the moldboard plow and modern agriculture to Brazil. In addition, colony members established a Baptist church there and made major contributions to Brazil's educational system.



## 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](mailto: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

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

Please visit our website @

[www.reaganscvcamp.org](http://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  
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