



SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS, TEXAS DIVISION

THE JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP NEWS

www.reaganscvcamp.org

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 11

DECEMBER 2009

COMMANDER'S DISPATCH

Seasons Greetings Compatriots,
I hope everyone had a wonderful **Thanksgiving** holiday and were able to spend it with many loved ones. Our family has so much to be thankful for as I know yours does to. We spent the weekend before Thanksgiving at a WBTS re-enactment at **Liendo Plantation** near Hempstead, Texas. According to Liendo Plantation's website, "Liendo Plantation was built in 1853 by Leonard Waller Groce, the son of Jared Groce, who was one of the largest most respected land owners in Texas. Originally a Spanish land grant of 67,000 acres assigned to Justo Liendo, the plantation's name-sake, Liendo was one of Texas' earliest cotton plantations." And according to the Handbook of Texas Online, "During the Civil War, Camp Groce was established at Liendo, where cavalry, artillery, and infantry were recruited. Converted to a prisoner of war camp, it housed troops captured at the battle of Galveston. From September 1 to December 1, 1865, the plantation was the camping place of Gen. George A. Custer and his command."

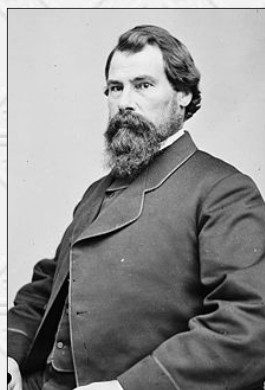
We camped and re-enacted two battles at Liendo Plantation with the **12th Texas Artillery, Val Verde Battery**. These men and women are compatriots who we all really enjoy joining forces and spending time with. Our camp's First Lt. Commander Calvin Nicholson is the First Sergeant in this re-enactment unit. We all

had a great time and the weather couldn't have been better. See photos on page 7.

We are trying something new as far as **meals** at our monthly meetings! It worked great at our November meeting. The **Ladies of the John H. Reagan Camp**, coordinated by Deborah Robinson will provide the food at each monthly meeting. You can either call Deborah and ask what food to bring or simply come and enjoy the food and make small donation to the camp. It is their way of making sure we have great food and a way they can help our camp raise some funds. We appreciate these Ladies very much for their support of us and our worthy cause of honoring our Confederate ancestors and preserving their true history. Ladies wanting to help can contact Deborah at 903-549-3162.

I am really looking forward to visiting with all of you at our **Christmas party** on December 12th at the home of Ronnie and Leigh Ann Hatfield. We will have a lot of fun at their country home. Bring a guest! I am also in hopes that all four of our **new members** can be there so they can be presented their **membership certificates**. If you need directions to the Hatfield's home, please email me and I will gladly send them to you.

Charles Hayes, a compatriot from Tyler, Texas, will present a program at our January meeting. His program topic is Humor



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. Representative from Texas

Chairman - Railroad Commission of Texas

A Founder and President of the Texas State Historical Association

during the War Between the States. We look forward to meeting Charles and his wife Natalie. Please see the events calendar for more information.

Officer elections will also be held at our annual meeting which is at the same time of our January monthly meeting.

I wish each of you and your families a Christmas season filled with joy and love as we celebrate our Lord's birthday.

Respectfully your obedient servant,

Marc Robinson

CAMP MEETINGS

2nd Saturday of Each Month
06:00 PM

Meal served at each meeting.
Museum for East Texas Culture
400 Micheaux Avenue
Palestine, Texas

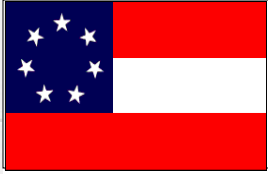
(Old John H. Reagan High School Building, Near State Hwy 19, five blocks east of courthouse)

Guests are welcome!
Bring the family.

www.reaganscvcamp.org

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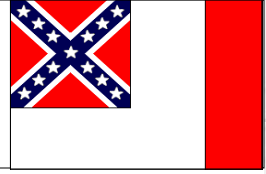
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ON THIS DAY IN CONFEDERATE HISTORY

December

by Kirby McCord



1860

December 18, 1860: Following the electoral victory of Abraham Lincoln, the Southern States have clamored for secession. Kentucky Senator John J. Crittendon proposes a constitutional amendment he hopes will mollify Southerners: extend the Missouri Compromise line (the southern border of Missouri) across the continent, allowing slavery south of that line. Although debated in both houses, the Crittendon Compromise satisfies no one.

December 20, 1860: South Carolina holds a state convention that votes for secession. A delegation is sent to Washington, D.C. demanding that President Buchanan remove all Federal troops from Charleston. Buchanan, who has always been sympathetic to the Southern position on states' rights, refuses, saying, "Fort Sumter will be defended against hostile attacks, from whatever quarter." His cabinet begins plans for a relief expedition to the beleaguered garrison there. President-elect Lincoln, still in Illinois, has nothing to say.

1861

December 3, 1861: Federal President Abraham Lincoln, in his State of the Union address, states ominously that the Union must be preserved, and all means at his disposal will be used in pursuit of that goal.

December 4, 1861: U.S. Senator John Breckinridge of Kentucky, formerly U.S. Vice President under James Buchanan, is expelled from the U.S. Senate by a vote of 36-0. Since the secession of South Carolina the previous December, Breckinridge has relentlessly pursued compromise. He has recently realized that negotiations are futile; although Kentucky has not seceded, Breckinridge believes the South is in the right and has accepted a commission in the Confederate Army.

December 9, 1861: Pro-Southern forces, composed of Choctaw, Cherokee, Seminole, and Creek Indians, defeat pro-Union Creek Indians, driving them from the village of Chusto-Talasa, Indian Territory (later known as Tulsa, Oklahoma).

December 30, 1861: Confederate commissioners James Mason and John Slidell are surrendered to British Ambassador Lord Lyons. Britain has threatened war with the United States over their seizure on a British mail packet, the *Trent*. The hope of a British alliance with the Confederacy, the South's best hope for independence, is now dead.

1862

December 1, 1862: U.S. President Abraham Lincoln makes his second State of the Union Address to Congress. His message has changed from the previous year. Now he emphasizes his Emancipation Proclamation: "In giving freedom to the slave, we assure freedom to the free." He neglects to mention that he is not freeing slaves in parts of the country actually controlled by the U.S. government; the slaves in Missouri, Kentucky, Maryland, Delaware, all of western Virginia, most of Tennessee, parts of Louisiana, and the coastal areas of Virginia and the Carolinas will not be freed.

December 6, 1862: Following the great Sioux uprising in Minnesota that began in August, killing about 450 whites, U.S. President Lincoln orders the execution of 39 Indians. On December 26, 38 of them will be hanged at Mankato, Minnesota. Southerners fear this is a precursor of what will occur should their own war for independence fail.

December 7, 1862: Confederate General John Hunt Morgan raids behind enemy lines, inflicting 2,096 Federal casualties at Hartsville, Tennessee.

December 7, 1862: Confederate General Thomas Hindman leads 10,000 rebels in a surprise attack against 10,000 Union soldiers under James Blunt and Thomas Herron at Prairie Grove, Arkansas. Although casualties are almost even (1251 Union, 1317 Confederate), the Federals are driven from the field.

December 13, 1862: Union General Ambrose Burnside has successfully crossed the Rappahannock River and taken Fredericksburg, Virginia in vicious house-to-house combat. Confederate General Robert E. Lee has withdrawn most of his troops to the strong defensive position on Marye's Heights south of the town to minimize damage to civilian property; it is too late, the city is virtually destroyed. Now, Burnside launches a frontal assault against Lee. Wave after wave of soldiers in blue are broken up in suicidal attacks. At the end of the day, Lee's forces still hold the high ground, the Federals have lost 12,700 to Confederate losses of 5,700, and Lee is quoted as saying, "It is good that war is so terrible, lest we grow too fond of it."

December 20, 1862: Union General U.S. Grant is mounting a massive effort to capture Vicksburg, Mississippi. Confederate General Earl Van Dorn attacks Grant's supply base at Holly Springs, taking 1,500 Union prisoners, burning over 4000 bales of cotton, and seizing \$1 million in materiel. Grant must retreat back to La Grange, Tennessee to start over. With Van Dorn and Nathan Bedford Forrest ranging almost unimpeded in his rear, Grant is unable to supply his army conventionally, and will drive toward his objective six more times before achieving his goal.

December 23, 1862: Although he is no longer governing occupied New Orleans, Louisiana, Union General Benjamin Butler's actions there have enraged the South. Nicknamed "Spoons" for stealing silverware in the various mansions he has used as headquarters, Butler has also seized slaves as "contraband of war," initially forcing them to labor for the army, then forming "Colored" regiments that enforced Federal martial law against civilians, resulting in several violent encounters. But his most egregious behavior involved his treatment of Southern women who had disdained his company and his rude and offensive manners. Butler's response to what he termed Southern snobbery was his infamous Order No. 28, in which he ordered his men (including the Colored troops), to treat any woman of

New Orleans who demonstrated contempt or insult to Federal troops, as prostitutes. On this date, C.S. President Jefferson Davis brands Butler a felon and an enemy of mankind. Davis goes on to say if Butler is captured, he shall be immediately executed, and no captured Federal Army officers shall be released until Butler receives his just punishment.

December 29, 1862: In Union General U.S. Grant's second attempt to take Vicksburg, Union General William Sherman, with 31,000 men, is repulsed by 14,000 Confederates at Chickasaw Bluffs. 1,776 Yankees are casualties to 207 rebels.

December 30, 1862: The *USS Monitor* sinks in a storm off Cape Hatteras, North Carolina.

December 31, 1862: The Battle of Murfreesboro, Tennessee begins today. Confederate General Braxton Bragg, with the 34,739 men of the Army of Tennessee, attacks Union General William S. Rosecrans and his 41,400 man Army of the Cumberland. Although the Confederates control the field of battle after the fight, Bragg retreats three days later. The Confederates suffer 11,379 casualties, while the Union loses 12,906 men.

1863

December 7, 1863: Copperhead supporters of the Confederacy, disguised as passengers, seize the *USS Chesapeake*, off Cape Cod, Massachusetts and sail her to Nova Scotia.

December 12, 1863: The Confederate government ends its policy of allowing Northern food supplies to feed Union prisoners.

December 13, 1863: In a sign that the Confederacy is cracking, Georgia establishes the Georgia State Line militia, in which native Georgian troops, exempt from Confederate conscription, are to serve only within the borders of the state.

December 14, 1863: The widow of Confederate General B.H. Helm, who was killed at Chickamauga, is given amnesty by U.S. President Lincoln after she swears allegiance to the Union. Mrs. Helms is the half-sister of Mary Todd Lincoln.

December 16, 1863: C.S. President Davis appoints General Joseph E. Johnston as successor to General Braxton Bragg as commander of the Army of Tennessee. Bragg had resigned November 30. Johnston will be replaced in only nine months by John Bell Hood.

1864

December 10, 1864: Union General William T. Sherman has concluded his March to the Sea, reaching the coast near Savannah, Georgia. The 24 day march from Atlanta has wreaked a swath of destruction across Georgia.

December 15, 1864: General George Thomas' 50,000 man Union Army strikes Confederate General John Bell Hood's Army of Tennessee south of Nashville. The 23,000 Southerners fight gallantly, but are driven back by overwhelming numbers; in the two day battle, they inflict more than 3,000 casualties on the Federals while losing 1,500 of their own men. However, 4,500 Confederates are captured.

Hood's gambit to draw Sherman from Atlanta has failed. The Army of Tennessee began the campaign on November 21, with 38,000 effectives; more than 8,000 have succumbed to malnutrition and sickness on the rigorous march and 13,000 have become battlefield casualties. Only 17,000 men remain. The Army of Tennessee has ceased to function as a cohesive military unit.

December 21, 1864: U.S. General William Sherman's army occupies Savannah, Georgia.

December 25, 1864: Fort Fisher guards Wilmington, North Carolina, the last major Confederate port still open to blockade runners. Union Admiral David Porter and General Benjamin Butler, with sixty ships and 6,500 soldiers, attack the 500 man garrison. Even with the overwhelmingly superior Union firepower and numbers, the attack is repulsed.

December 30, 1864: Aging Francis P. Blair of Maryland writes to C.S. President Davis suggesting he act as go between for peace negotiations between the Lincoln administration and the Confederacy.



NOT JUST A PIECE OF OLD GRAY CLOTH BY RONNIE HATFIELD, COPYRIGHT 1997



I was cleaning out the attic,
after Grandma passed away,
sorting out the junk from treasures,
she'd saved from bygone days.

When I came across this package,
with a note attached that read,
"Save this to give to Ronnie."
"He'll understand", was all it said.

As I opened up the bundles,
and the paper fell away,
the light dance on some tarnished brass,
and cloth of charcoal gray!

My mind went back t long ago,
when I'd first seen it as a child,
and I recalled the words that Grandma said,
as she folded it and smiled.

"It's just a piece of old gray cloth,
from a coat your Grandpa wore."
"It's old and stained and full of holes,
I don't know what he saved it for."

"He used to wear that nasty smelly thing
almost everywhere he went."
"Funny tho', it made him stand up
straighter,
instead of stooped and bent."

I never saw that cloth again,
and I was far too young to understand.
What Grandpa had intended,
must wait till I became a man.

The years have passed, I'm wiser now,
and I finally understand,
as I caress the coat I once ignored,
with tear-filled eyes and trembling hands.

No, Grandpa left more than old gray cloth,
In hopes his causes would yet prevail.
That knight in Southern armor,
Left me his warrior's coat of mail!

“I SET YOU AN EXAMPLE” BY KIRBY MCCORD

Editors note: Recently, Kirby McCord, a member of the John H. Reagan Camp 2156 and current Lay Leader at First United Methodist Church in Palestine, delivered a very interesting sermon at his church on the importance of the laity or members of the church helping to build the Lord's church. In his sermon, Kirby also brings out several historical facts of how lay leaders in our community, some of them Confederate veterans, have helped the Lord build His church. I felt this sermon was relevant to all of us Confederate compatriots as we help the Lord build his church in each of our own individual churches. His sermon is as follows:

Back in March, Bill Haney proposed to the Administrative Council that we re-establish an old tradition here at First Methodist: Lay Sunday. Now Donna and I have been members here for five years and we've never seen a Lay Sunday, so I asked Bill how that worked. Bill, with that sly grin on his face, told me the Lay Leader was responsible for it. Anyway, that's how it came to pass that you're listening to me this morning instead of Bruce.

Bill Haney is a great example for lay people everywhere. He was a dedicated family man, church member, and servant to the community and God. In addition to raising five daughters, Bill served in the military in World War II, started his own business here in Palestine, was president of the YMCA, AND Rotary Club, AND Civic Music. He sang in the choir here at First Methodist, served in virtually every governing capacity possible for this church, and taught Sunday School for years. One of the most notable things about Bill was his avid participation in the Gideon Society. He passed out more bibles than can be remembered to students, prison inmates (and guards), people on the street. Bill was a tireless promoter of Christianity; he searched for the opportunity to talk to total strangers about the difference Christ made for him and could make for them.

He set that example for us. But

the really good news is, he's not alone. Throughout history, lay people around the world have built the church, the bride of Christ. Ordinary people, like you and me, they have served as examples of sacrifice and service that we can look to with reverence, like Helen.

Helen was born in Eastern Europe when the open practice of Christianity was illegal. Her early life was not in the church. In fact, she worked as a bar maid in a tavern near the army post. She fell in love, at the age of twenty, with a soldier, a young, ambitious officer who was clawing his way up the ranks of political appointees.

Two years after their marriage, she gave birth to a son, whom she named after his father. Abruptly, Helen's husband left her and their young son for another woman. Helen turned secretly to the church for solace, came to know Christ, and even held clandestine worship services in her own home.

Hers was a life of faithful devotion, but nothing particularly noteworthy occurred until Helen turned sixty-four, when two events transpired that would dramatically alter her life: the first was the arrest and execution of her priest, the man who had led her to Christianity; Helen was inconsolable, partly because she and the other members of the church feared the priest had revealed their names under torture, but primarily because she had lost a dear friend, devoted mentor, and courageous shepherd.

The second event, occurring but a few months after the first, was even more dramatic: her son led a military coup which successfully overthrew the existing government. Although not a practicing Christian himself, Helen's son loved and respected his mother enough to issue an edict that allowed Christians to worship freely.

Helen was now able to do what she considered really important work: she began to build churches all over the coun-



try. Her example of sacrifice and devotion ultimately led her son to convert, and when the new-found churches began to squabble among themselves a dozen years later, he convened a council to peacefully settle the disagreements.

Finally, at the end of a long life, Helen led a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Returning home, she was able to rest, dying peacefully at the age of eighty.

This is the story of Helen, mother of Constantine the Great, and a great lay person who lived from A.D. 248-328. The Nicene Creed, which we recited earlier, was the fruit of her and her son's labor. She is the founder of at least four churches, and her pilgrimage to the Holy Land resulted in the dedication of many of the shrines found there to this day.

The next lay person biography I'd like to discuss tells of Frances. As a child, Frances was disadvantaged; her family was very poor. She caught a terrible cold when she was only six weeks old. The constant sneezing and congestion caused an inflammation of her eyes. The doctor prescribed a compress for her, which resulted in permanent blindness. Her father died less than a year later, leaving her to be raised by her almost destitute mother, a devout Methodist appropriately named Mercy. Mercy schooled her blind daughter as best she could, and Frances, clearly an extraordinary child, developed an ear for poetry.

At the age of eight, she wrote: "Oh what a happy soul I am/ Although I cannot see;/ I am resolved that in this world/ Contented I will be./ How many blessings I enjoy/ That other people

(continued on page 5)

I SET YOU AN EXAMPLE— CONTINUED

BY KIRBY MCCORD

don't./ To weep and sigh because I'm blind,/ I cannot do, and I won't."

Through donations from her church and friends, Frances was able to attend a school for the blind at the age of fifteen. At twenty-three, she joined a group of political activists lobbying the government for increased federal expenditures on

education for the blind. At twenty-seven, she landed her first job—teaching at the blind school that had educated her. At the age of thirty-eight, she married a blind music teacher at that school, but defying tradition, Frances kept her maiden name. At the age of forty-three, Frances wrote her first hymn, and kept on writing and writing, and writing. At the time of her death, she was perhaps the most prolific hymn writer ever, having penned more than 8,000 sacred songs.

I am speaking of course of Fanny Crosby. We sang two of her hymns today.

Now, you may be saying, what do these people have to do with our church? I can only say that Helen's work was foundational for all Christians everywhere. The same can be said of Fanny Crosby, as her hymns are played in Methodist, Baptist, Catholic, Presbyterian, Lutheran, and Episcopalian churches (by the way, she was Methodist).

But First United Methodist Church of Palestine has our own great lay people as well. Look at this building. How did it get here? By the sacrificial example of the men and women who came before us, that's how. See that cornerstone over there. That's the cornerstone of Centenary Methodist Episcopal Church that was built in 1884 over on Mallard Street. W.M. Shumatte there was a doctor, and a farmer, and an Alderman for the City of Palestine. His wife, Mary was one of the charter members of the Ladies Aid Society. Those other gentlemen up there did their fair share around here as well. Jim Conaway, J.W. Ozment, C.A. Sterne, and Gideon Johnson Gooch all survived

the war together. To those of you not from the South, anytime someone says "the war," it means the War Between the States.

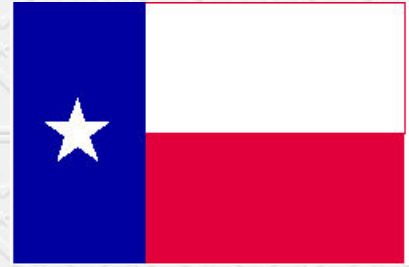
Mr. Broyles there was too young to fight in that war, but he suffered from it none-the-less. After his home in Asheville, North Carolina was destroyed by the Union Army in 1865, he appropriated a horse from said army (legend has it he was merely reacquiring his own horse) and made for Texas.

Mr. Ozment founded a mercantile and then a hardware store here in town, sold those businesses, and started Palestine National Bank, serving as its first president. Ever the forward thinker, he also founded the Palestine Edison Electric Light Company and the first telephone company here in town. He was also a mason and a charter member of the Knights of Honor and the founder of the Palestine High School Association.

As for Mr. Gooch, his entire family is a terrific example for us to follow. His father, John Graham Gooch, came to Palestine in 1853, founded a law practice, became a Justice of the Peace, served as Grand Master of the Masonic Lodge, and managed the local bank. He and his wife, Elizabeth Cravens Gooch, founded the first public library in Palestine, using their own books; it is said it was the largest such library in Texas at that time. Mr. Gooch founded the first Methodist Sunday School in Anderson County. When war broke out, he outfitted a company of cavalry out of his own funds, and died shortly after the war was over.

His oldest son is the G.J. Gooch you see on that cornerstone, who in addition to serving on the Building committee, served as a private in his father's cavalry company. Mr. Gooch's middle son, John Young Gooch, became a lawyer, in partnership with John H. Reagan, served as mayor of Palestine, District Judge, and State Senator.

Mr. Gooch's youngest son is



The Texas Flag

Lucius, was only six when he was orphaned. He was raised by his two older sisters, Fannie and Harriet. Destitute following the Civil War, Lucius was forced to quit school in 8th grade. He went to work in a bookstore, where he taught himself shorthand, so he could become a court reporter. A self-made man, Lucius became teller, then cashier, then president of the First National Bank of Palestine, helped build the YMCA, was City Treasurer, active member of the Rotary Club, Superintendent of Sunday School for twenty years, and served on the building committee that built THIS sanctuary. Lucius Gooch and his wife Jessie are memorialized on that stained glass window, as are their daughters Lucille and Mattie.

As you can see, we have a fine set of examples in this church to follow. And if you'll look at the people sitting around you, I know you'll see people here today who set fine examples to follow as well. So today, on this Lay Sunday, I'd like to take a moment to honor all those Lay people who serve the risen Christ. In doing so, I'd like to say thank you, not only for the work you do, but for the example you set for others. I hope we can live up to it, and maybe set examples for future generations to follow as well.

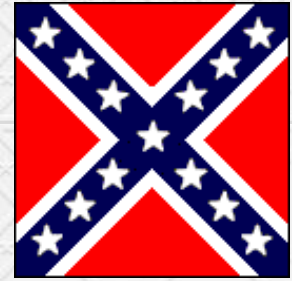
When Bill Haney "volunteered" me for this day, he took me aside, and said he'd be glad to help me any way he could. Two weeks later, he'd gone to meet his maker. All I can say is, "Bill, you are an inspiration to me and many others here in this congregation. You have helped and you're continuing to help. Thank you." And thank you, Father in heaven, for all the lay people you've given us over the years. Amen.

NOVEMBER 14TH MEETING



Left: Adjutant Forrest Bradberry, Jr. gave an excellent program titled: "Reflections of My Southern Heritage". Those that did not attend missed a good one!

Right: 1st Lt. Commander Calvin Nicholson giving an update on the Val Verde Battery and speaking to the camp about our new liability insurance policy for reenactors.



"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-



Left: Captain Ed Smith, 1st Battalion/Company C, Sons of Confederate Veterans Mechanized Cavalry, www.scvmccsa.org, speaks to the camp about their Blood 4 Brothers Program. 1-800-366-2834 for locations and appointments to donate blood. Right: More attendees at the 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.

-PRESEDENT JEFFERSON DAVIS-

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 12th, 06:00 PM— John H. Reagan Camp Christmas Party at the home of Ronnie and Leigh Ann Hatfield. Great food, games, year end awards, camp fire fellowship...Meal will be provided by the Ladies of the John H. Reagan Camp—donations accepted.
Program: Ronnie Hatfield will recite several of his own **Confederate poems.**

January 9th, 06:00 PM— John H. Reagan Camp monthly meeting at the

Museum for East Texas Culture. **Officer elections will be held.** Meal will be provided by the Ladies of the John H. Reagan Camp—donations accepted.
Program: Charles Hayes. It will be a privilege to have Mr. Hayes and his wife Natalie as our guests. His biography is as follows: Charles Hayes was born in Dallas. Graduate of Rice University, 1960 with a BA in physics. Graduate of University of Texas 1963 with MA in physics. Retired from Lockheed-Martin Corporation, Huntsville, Alabama.

Resident of Tyler, Texas. Life Member SCV, Capt. James P. Douglas Camp #124, Tyler. Board member, Camp Ford Historical Association, Tyler. Owner of Art Galore, an internet art gallery: www.b17.com. Author of *The Gray and the Blue, A Comic Strip History of the War for Southern Independence*. Topic: **Humor during the War Between the States.**

Reenactment events calendar and photos at: www.12thtexasartillery.org or contact Lt. Commander Calvin Nicholson, 903-391-3243 cwnicholson@hotmail.com



VAL VERDE BATTERY REENACTS AT LIENDO PLANTATION HEMPSTEAD, TEXAS NOVEMBER 20-22, 2009



Nothing like homemade biscuits cooked in dutch oven. Craig Robinson, 2 year old son of Marc and Deborah, is enjoying his biscuit.



Calvin Nicholson and Billy Ford processing re-enactors insurance applications.



Enjoying an early Thanksgiving meal together. The food and fellowship was great!



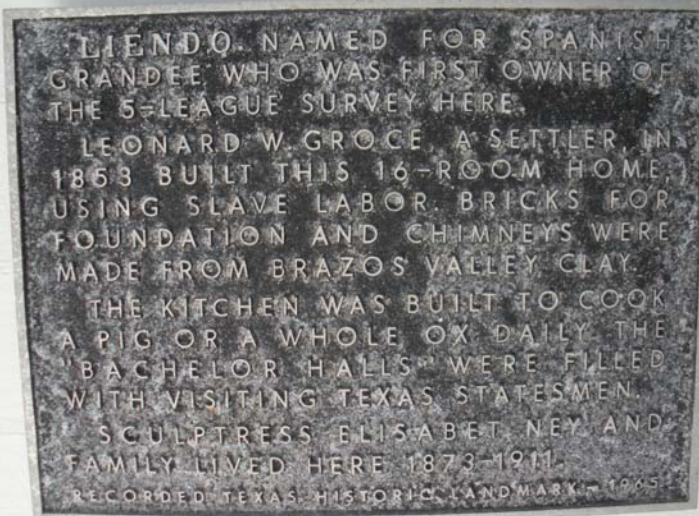
Kirby McCord playing checkers with Ashton on a 100% cotton checker board and wooden checkers.



The Confederate Infantry marching onto the battlefield near our artillery at the beginning of the battle re-enactment.



Liendo Plantation home, Hempstead, Texas.
www.liendo.org



This plaque is on the front outside wall of Liendo Plantation. When Gen. George A. Custer and his troops were camped here for about six months after the war his wife was ill and the owners took very good care of her. It is said that their hospitality saved the house from being burned upon the departure of the union army.



WHY DID THE SOUTH LOSE?

BY BRO. L.E. "LEN" PATTERSON, THD.
SCV CHAPLAIN, ARMY OF TRANS-MISSISSIPPI



This is a question that has plagued many. Why did the South lose the war for Southern independence? I'm not speaking militarily, or referring to strategies, fighting ability, or armaments. These points have been studied and analyzed for almost a hundred and forty-five years. I speak here of something much deeper and far more important.

If the South was right, and we know that it was. If the Southern Cause was true, and we know that it was. If the Southern army was far more Christian than the Union army, and we know that it was. If the Confederate president and leadership were vastly more honorable and Godly than those of the Union, and we know that they were. And, if God is on the side of what is right, true, Christian, and Godly, and we know that He is. Then, why did the South lose?

There is one, and only one, possible answer, and to me it seems obvious. It's not over! Oh, the shooting war may have ended long ago, but the battle rages on. The struggle for what is right, true, and Godly has not ended. Our Southern heritage and the principles of our founding fathers are still under attack. And we, like those brave Confederates who faced the barbaric Union invaders, are still being forced to defend what is true and Godly against deceitful and demonic oppressors.

Consider the nation of Israel. In A.D. 70, and again in A.D. 135, the Romans completely destroyed Jerusalem, renamed it, and denied the Jews any hope of ever seeing their homeland again. But, nearly nineteen centuries later, long after the Roman Empire had fallen, Israel rose

from the ashes and is once again a strong and powerful nation. It's never over until God says it's over.

Consider also our Lord. He was executed as a criminal with criminals. His followers were in fear and despair. They had believed Him. Trusted Him. And now, He was dead. The Romans who crucified Him, thought it was over. The Jewish leaders who sought His death, thought it was over. Even His disciples and friends, thought it was over. But, it wasn't over. Three days later Jesus arose from a cold grave turning death into victory, and despair into joy.

The Bible tells us, "What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?" The South's Cause of truth, freedom, justice, and Christian Godliness is not lost. It's just not over. And I know it's not over because we haven't won yet. We may not know God's plan, or exactly what He is going to do. But this we can know: It may take nineteen hundred years or just a few days, but God's side always wins.

"IN ALL MY PERPLEXITIES AND DISTRESSES, THE
BIBLE HAS NEVER FAILED TO GIVE ME LIGHT
AND STRENGTH."

-GENERAL ROBERT E. LEE-



BOOK REVIEW BY RUDY RAY



The Life and Campaigns of Lt. General T.J. (Stonewall) Jackson

By R. L. Dabney

Sprinkle Publications 742
pages

Hardcover \$30

[http://
www.sprinklepublications.net/](http://www.sprinklepublications.net/)

There have been many biographies of Jackson (and I have read most of them) but this is the best of them all. This biography was written by R.L. Dabney, Presbyterian Pastor and Theologian, and one of the great thinkers and defenders of the South. Dabney, also a Major in the Confederate Army and aide to Jackson, not only brings out the military exploits of Jackson but also gives keen insights into his faith in God and especially his strong belief in God's providence. The heart of the book is Jackson's Valley Campaign and this part of the book alone is worth the price of the book. This is a must read for all lovers of the South and students of the War.

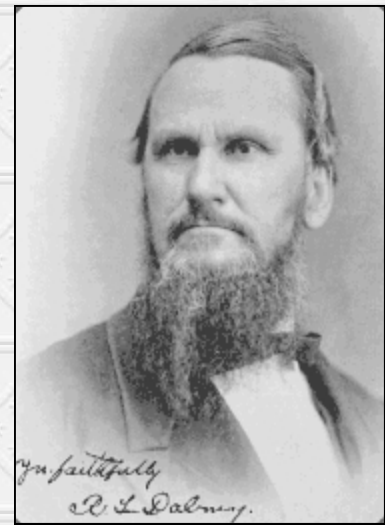
E.M. Bounds, Methodist
Preacher/Author and Confed-

erate Chaplain, said that because it was God's providential will for the South to lose the War He had to remove Jackson from the conflict otherwise He would have to answer Jackson's prayers and the South would win. Read Dabney's book and you will understand what Bounds said and why he said it.
R. Ray

"Jackson's in the Valley, Stonewall is on the loose;

Jackson's in the Valley all hell is breakin loose"

2nd South Carolina String Band



R. L. Dabney

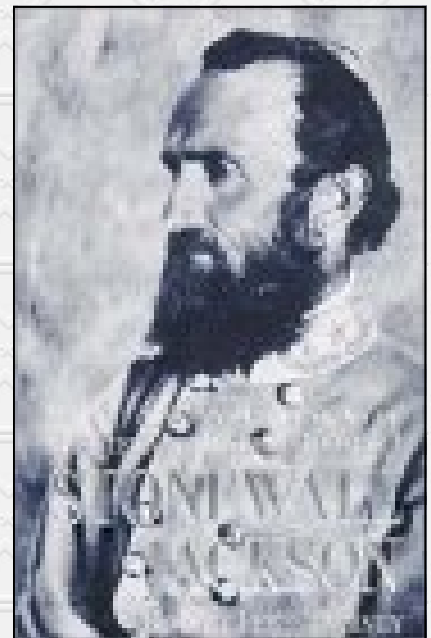


Photo of Lt. Gen. Stonewall
Jackson on this edition's
Book Cover



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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. **Camp associate membership** is available as well to those who are committed to uphold our charge and do not have the Confederate lineage.

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 General,
United Confederate Veterans,
New Orleans, Louisiana, April 25, 1906.



Camp meetings: 2nd Saturday of
Each Month - 06:00 PM
Meal served at each meeting.
Museum for East Texas Culture
400 Micheaux Ave.
Palestine, Texas

(Old John H. Reagan High School bldg.
Near State Hwy 19, five blocks east of
courthouse)