



SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS, TEXAS DIVISION

THE JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP NEWS

www.reaganscvcamp.org

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 6

JUNE 2010

COMMANDER'S DISPATCH

Compatriots,

I must begin this dispatch with saying something about one of the most important days in our calendar year. That day is Memorial Day. In my opinion, we are truly blessed to live in America for two basic reasons. First, we as Americans, have embraced God as our creator and supreme architect of the universe from the inception of our country and he has been with us and blessed us immensely, and secondly, God has given us the American soldier and sailor to defend our land from those who would like to see us not only cease to exist, but be annihilated off of the face of this earth. These brave soldiers and sailors from the Revolutionary War throughout our history to the current conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq are to always be remembered and never be forgotten for their sacrifices, especially the ones who have given the ultimate sacrifice. Memorial Day is absolutely a very special day, a of remembrance for the brave men and women who have kept us free throughout our history. May God help us to never forget them and their sacrifices.

I am excited about the John H. Reagan Camp #2156 and all we have been doing to honor our Confederate heritage and I hope you are too! This newsletter is full of events and activities our camp has been involved in this past month. We have also received a lot of newspaper coverage in the Palestine Herald-Press on all of our events and the Foster Cemetery ceremony was covered in the Frankston Citizen, and mentioned in the Athens Daily Review.

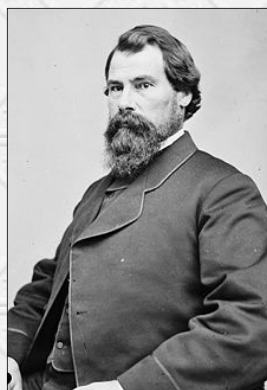
Southern Men and Ladies of the John H. Reagan Camp #2156, my hat is off to ya'll for a job well done! I am

so proud to be associated with all of you that I want to throw my hat up in the sky and say thank you first to our Lord for being with us in our endeavors and secondly to celebrate all of you and your dedication to upholding the charge given to us by Lt. General Stephen D. Lee, CSA.

With that said, I realize it is getting hot, but we have one more ceremony that we will be assisting with on June 6th before we take a summer break from outside events to dodge the Texas heat and focus on our monthly meetings and the great historical programs we have at those meetings. Our rifle squad, color guard, and a battery member will be assisting the J.L. Halbert Camp #359 in Corsicana with a five marker dedication ceremony at the Post Oak Cemetery near Roane, Texas on that Sunday afternoon at 2:00 PM. We will be car pooling over to Corsicana. Please contact me if you want to join the car pool.

We voted in May, to move for one month only, our regular monthly meeting in June to the third Saturday due to my family and possibly another camp officer participating in a living history at the Vicksburg National Battlefield Park with the 12th Texas Artillery during the second weekend in June. We will be meeting on June 19 at the First Christian Church and will have an awesome first person program from Reagan Camp member, Rudy Ray (see calendar for more info).

Membership recruitment is the key to our camp sustaining the level of activity that we have began. To perpetuate our efforts in giving honor to our beloved Confederate Soldiers and guarding their true history, we must continue to increase our membership. Therefore,



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

please do all that you can to invite member prospects to our meetings and ceremonies. We need them, but they won't come without an invitation from you. The more men and their ladies we have in our camp, not only can we be more effective, we can also spread out the work when necessary so no one gets burned out from over work. Therefore, please recruit for our just and noble cause! Thank you to those who have been bringing guests and please continue your efforts. I hope you enjoy the newsletter.

Respectfully your obedient servant,
Marc Robinson

CAMP MEETINGS

2nd Saturday of Each Month
06:00 PM

Light meal served at each meeting.
First Christian Church
113 East Crawford Street
Palestine, Texas

Turn north on N. Sycamore St. off of Spring St. (Hwy 19, 84, & 287) (across from UP train station) travel three blocks, turn right on Crawford St., go one block Church is on left

Guests are welcome!
Bring the family.

www.reaganscvcamp.org

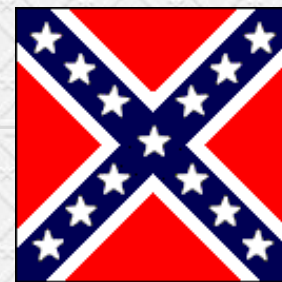
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NEW MEMBER INDUCTED INTO THE SCV AND THE JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP #2156



Willis C. Boedeker, Jr. receives his SCV certificate of membership and SCV pin. Left to right: Sgt. Ronnie Hatfield, Cmdr. Marc Robinson, Willis Boedeker, Chaplain Rod Skelton. Willis joined under his Great Grandfather, **Sergeant Otto Boedeker, Company D, Waul's Texas Legion.** We warmly welcome he and his family into our camp!



"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-

PRAYER LIST

- Nelda Eppes
- Forrest Bradberry, Sr.
- Family of John L. Robinson, Long time member Camp 1012, died May 20, 2010
- United States of America
- The Sons of Confederate Veterans

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 4,5, 6th, Texas Division Reunion, Double Tree Hotel, Richardson, Texas

June 6th 02:00 PM- 5 Marker Dedication Ceremony hosted by the J.L. Halbert Camp #359 at Post Oak Cemetery, Roane, Texas (near Corsicana). Several Reagan Camp members will be assisting with this ceremony. Email mrobinson@tvcc.edu for a map to the cemetery if you would like to attend.

June 19th 06:00 PM-John H. Reagan Camp monthly meeting at the First Christian Church, Palestine, Texas

Program: Rudy Ray presents, "**Why I Fought The Yankees,**" a first person narrative of his Great, Great Grandfather William Ray who fought in Walker's Texas Division. It is a post war account (1867) of him telling an audience of foreign visitors to Texas why he fought the Yankees in the War.

Rudy Ray is married to Toni, who is a member of the OCR. They have four Children and six grandchildren. Rudy attended Texas A&M University and was a member of their Corps of Cadets. He

also graduated from East Texas Baptist University. Rudy is a Reformed Baptist Pastor and is employed at the Texas Dept. of Criminal Justice as a Chaplain. In addition to being a member of the John H. Reagan Camp #2156, he is a member of the SCV Mechanized Cavalry.

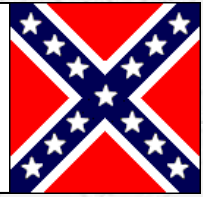
I have seen this program. You don't want to miss it! - Marc Robinson

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-

GENERAL GEORGE PICKETT HAD LAST WORD ON DARWIN'S "ON THE ORIGIN OF THE SPECIES"

BY KIRBY MCCORD



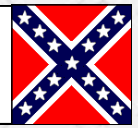
Darwin's *On the Origin of the Species* was published in the late 1850's and did not reach many Americans until the Civil War had erupted. The British sent a "military observer" to America to follow the armies around and perhaps pick up new tactics, weapons, etc. His name was Colonel George Fremantle, and he spent most of his time following Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia; Fremantle was

captivated by the undying affection the Confederate army had for Lee. He related a discussion about Darwin's book among the general staff while on campaign (Lee was not present as he didn't believe he should socialize with the others). In the discussion, Longstreet, Armistead, Hood, and others were trying to convince George Pickett (not the brightest of the bunch-- he finished last in his West Point class)

that Darwin's theory of evolution was sound. But Pickett got the last laugh when he said: "You (pointing to Longstreet) may have descended from an ape, and you (pointing to Armistead) may have descended from an ape, and I may have descended from an ape. But nobody will ever convince me that Bobby Lee descended from an ape." Nobody argued Pickett's assertion.



THE UNMAILED LETTER BY RONNIE HATFIELD COPYRIGHT 1997



I take pen in hand dear mama, to let you know that I am well.

To let you know I'm missin' you and home, and the stories papa used to tell.

I'm writing you from way up north, in Pennsylvania, I believe.
we've been on the march for three days now, and I'm footsore, but at ease.

There's a rumor we'll be issued shoes, in a day or two they say,
from a warehouse full, in a town near here, down the eastbound pike a ways.

Try not to worry mama, I'm far from home, but I'm alright.
We'll rest here for a day or two, and we don't expect a fight.

Billy Foster's takin' care of me, like a grandpa prob'ly would,

and Cubby Sims and all the Knight boys say the food you sent was good!

The long roll's soundin' mama, and the captain just passed the word!
Some militia's fired on General Hill, at a place called Gettysburg!

Try not to worry mama, I'll write more as time allows.

Pat ol' Duke, and hug the kids for me, and sell neighbor Jones that cow.

I got time to add a few more lines, before I get to sleep.
We've marched all day, and camp to-night, on the banks of old Marsh Creek.

We've stirred up quite a mess of yanks, and put 'em all to flight!
And in the mornin' if they ain't run off, I spect we'll all be in the fight!

Try not to worry mama, I'll be home when this is done.
But I must close for now and send this out. I'll see you soon,

Your loving son...

Editors note: Sgt. Ronnie Hatfield chose this poem to read at the Reagan Camp's two Confederate marker dedication ceremony in Foster Cemetery (see story this edition) because he was thinking about his g-g grandfather and Co. H 1st Texas Infantry when he wrote it in 1997. Ronnie's g-g grandfather, Pvt. William H. Foster was captured at Gettysburg and died at the Union POW Camp at Ft. Delaware. He served with Pvt. James Loflin (marker dedicated) in this same company of brave Texas volunteers.

JEFFERSON DAVIS LEADERSHIP AWARD PRESENTED TO TWO AREA HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATING SENIORS



Above: Palestine High School Senior, Tabitha Hobbs, receives the first annual "Jefferson Davis Leadership Award" at the Palestine High School Awards Ceremony at 07:30 PM on May 25, 2010. Left to Right: Reagan Camp Commander Marc Robinson, Tabitha Hobbs, and Reagan Camp Historian Dan Dyer. Photo by Stephen Bates

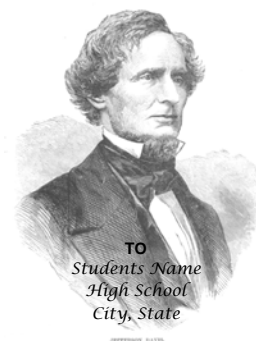


The Jefferson Davis Leadership Award is a honorable award from the Texas Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans and is presented by the John H. Reagan Camp #2156 Sons of Confederate Veterans, Palestine, Texas to high school graduating senior's and includes a **certificate, medallion, and financial gift**. This award is presented to the student that, in the judgment of the High School's student advisors, best emulates the leadership principles, moral character, and the dedication to duty that was so superbly demonstrated by President Jefferson Davis. 2010 recipients were graduating seniors, Tabitha Hobbs, Palestine High School and Rachel Bing, Westwood High School. Dan Dyer



Above: Westwood High School Senior, Rachel Bing, receives the first annual "Jefferson Davis Leadership Award" at the Westwood High School Awards Ceremony at 06:30 PM on May 25, 2010. Left to Right: Rachel Bing and Reagan Camp Historian Dan Dyer. Photo by Billie Dyer

THE TEXAS DIVISION SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS PROUDLY PRESENTS



IN RECOGNITION OF EXCEPTIONAL CHARACTER
AND DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT

"We feel that our cause is just and holy; we protest solemnly in the face of mankind that we desire peace at any sacrifice save that of honor and independence; we ask no conquest, no aggrandizement, no concession of any kind from the States with which we were lately confederated; all we ask is to be let alone; that those who never held power over us shall not now attempt our subjugation by arms."
President Jefferson Davis - 29 April 1861



April 15, 2010

DATE

Ray W. James P.E., Ph.D.

TEXAS DIVISION COMMANDER



TWO MARKER DEDICATION CEREMONY FOSTER CEMETERY, ANDERSON COUNTY TEXAS HOSTED BY THE JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP



Left: Sgt. Ronnie Hatfield, commanding the Reagan Camp Color Guard, leads all of the 14 re-enactors in to the Foster Cemetery to begin the ceremony.



Above: U.S. Veterans Administration provided upright granite markers for Pvt. James Loflin and Pvt. George W. Milner and were dedicated during a ceremony held on May 22, 2010.



Above: Reagan Color Guard presents colors for pledges and salute. From left to right, Sgt. Ronnie Hatfield saluting, John Barnhart, Gary Williams, Dan Dyer, Dwain Schoppe, Frank Moore, and Marc Robinson saluting.



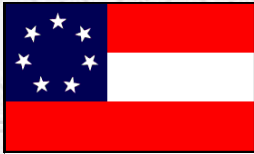
Above: The Val Verde Artillery Battery firing one of three military salutes. From left to right around cannon is David Dyer, Cmdr. Stanley Black—J-S-N Camp #1012, Cmdr. Marc Robinson—Reagan Camp #2156, and Billie Newsom



Left: Honor Guard firing one of three military salutes. L-R: Jimmy Odom, Rod Skelton, Dwain Schoppe, Gary Williams, John Barnhart, and Frank Moore

Right: Marc Robinson gives the opening remarks while the Honor Guard is posted with their rifles stacked in 1860-65 military form.





TWO MARKER DEDICATION CEREMONY FOSTER CEMETERY, ANDERSON COUNTY TEXAS HOSTED BY THE JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP



Left: There were approximately 85 family, friends, and re-enactors present. This photo is near the end of the ceremony as the colors have already been retired.

Below: Mrs. Dollye Jeffus of the Davis-Reagan Chapter #2202 UDC laid the UDC Wreath and dedicated the two markers.



Left: Chaplain Ed Furman at the podium giving the opening prayer for the ceremony.



Right: L-R, Deborah Robinson and her children, Channa Robinson, Caraline Robinson, Craig Robinson. Rudy Ray and Rod Skelton on far right.



Left: Reagan Camp Honor Guard with arms stacked.



Right: Rudy Ray reading the biography of George W. Milner, Co. E 37th Texas Cavalry.



Above left: Reagan Camp Color Guard preparing to post colors as the detail commander Sgt. Hatfield gives orders and as the Chaplains Rod Skelton (kepis) and Ed Furman (felt hat) in foreground look on.



Left middle: H. E. "Bob" Montrose receiving flag of Pvt. James Loflin.

Left lower: Mrs. Mary Lyles receiving flag of Pvt. George W. Milner.

Right: Robinson Family, front row left to right is Caraline and Craig. Back row left to right is Channa, Deborah, and Marc.





TWO MARKER DEDICATION CEREMONY FOSTER CEMETERY, ANDERSON COUNTY TEXAS HOSTED BY THE JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP



**Article submitted to News Media
May 22, 2010
by Marc Robinson**

The John H. Reagan Camp #2156 Sons of Confederate Veterans of Palestine honored Private James Loflin, Company H, 1st Texas Volunteer Infantry Regiment, "Texas Guards" (Hood's Texas Brigade), CSA and Private George W. Milner, Co. E, 37th Texas Cavalry Regiment "Terrell's Texas Cavalry", CSA Saturday morning, May 22, 2010 in a military grave marker dedication ceremony that included, cannon and musket salutes from Confederate soldier re-enactors.

The Reagan Camp was assisted in this ceremony by the Johnson-Sayers-Nettles Camp #1012 Sons of Confederate Veterans of Teague, the Davis-Reagan Chapter #2292 United Daughters of the Confederacy of Palestine, and the Ladies of the John H. Reagan Camp #2156. The ceremony was held at the historic Foster Cemetery in North Anderson County, approximately 4 miles South of Poyner, Texas.

It was a clear, but warmly pleasant morning, as approximately 85 family, friends, and re-enactors gathered to honor Privates Loflin and Milner for their service to Texas and the CSA.

Acting as the event coordinator and giving opening remarks was Marc Robinson, Commander of the John H. Reagan Camp #2156.

The United States flag, Texas flag, and Confederate flags were posted by the Reagan Camp color guard. All 14 Confederate soldier re-enactors marched into the ceremony area immediately behind the color guard.

The invocation and benediction was offered by Ed Furman, who is the Reagan Camp Chaplain.

Pledges to the United States and Texas flag

and the salute to the Confederate flag were led by Stanley Black, Commander of the Johnson-Sayers-Nettles Camp #1012. Rudy Ray, of the John H. Reagan Camp read the charge given to the SCV by Lt. General Stephen Dill Lee, Commander General, United Confederate Veterans, at New Orleans, Louisiana, on April 25, 1906. Each Soldier re-enactors introduced themselves and gave the name, rank, and unit of their Confederate Ancestors in which they joined the Sons of Confederate Veterans under.

Sgt. Ronnie Hatfield recited a poem he had written in 1997 while thinking about his g-g grandfather Private William H. Foster, who was captured at Gettysburg and died in the Union POW camp, Ft. Delaware. Private Foster was in the same Co. H 1st Texas Infantry as was Private James Loflin whose marker is one of the two that was dedicated. The poem is titled "The Unmailed Letter."

Biographies written by Peggy Milner Smith and Luan Montrose, for all three Confederate Soldiers buried in Foster Cemetery, were read in alphabetical order by Ronnie Hatfield, Rudy Ray, and Rod Skelton respectfully. Sgt. William Foster Moss was the third biography read and his Confederate military marker had been placed at his grave previously.

After the biographies were read, the color guard marched to each of the two new upright military grave markers. Each marker was draped by a Confederate battle flag in which the color guard militarily unveiled and folded the flags at two separate unveilings. Once the flag is folded and held by a color guard member, the sergeant facing the flag, slowly salutes the folded flag and then receives it. At this time, the color guard member slowly salutes the flag being held now by the sergeant. At this time, Hatfield, followed by the color guard, marched over and presented the flag to the eldest descendant of that soldier present at the ceremony.

The flag covering the marker of Pvt. James Loflin was presented to his great grandson, H.E. "Bob" Montrose of Poyner. Hatfield stated to Mr. Montrose, "On behalf of President Jefferson Davis, and a grateful nation, I present you with a token of appreciation." Handing Mr. Montrose the flag, he saluted the flag then held by the descendant. As this presentation was being made, the color guard members standing immediately behind Sgt. Hatfield all held a salute until Hatfield had saluted. The color guard then marched to the grave marker of Pvt. Milner. The flag covering Pvt. George W. Milner's marker was presented to his great granddaughter, Mary Lyles, who also lives near the cemetery, in the very same way.

A wreath was laid and the Confederate markers dedicated by the Davis-Reagan Chapter #2292 UDC by Mrs. Dollye Jeffus of Palestine.

Deborah Robinson of the Ladies of the John H. Reagan Camp, escorted by a soldier, and followed by her three young children, all wearing 1860 period clothing placed red roses on the graves of all three Confederate Soldiers as a tribute. She was followed by many more escorted ladies in attendance who also laid roses on the graves as personal tributes.

A three round rifle and cannon salute was given by the Reagan Camp Honor Guard and the Val Verde Artillery Battery of the Reagan and Johnson-Sayers-Nettles Camps.

Taps was played, followed by the retiring of the colors.

After receiving the benediction, Dixie was sung to close the ceremony as all good Confederate ceremonies end on a happy note in this way.

For more information about the John H. Reagan Camp, Palestine, Texas and the SCV, view their website at www.reaganscvcamp.org.



DAVIS-REAGAN CHAPTER #2292 UDC **UDC MEDALLION CEREMONY FOR MRS. BILLIE AVERITTEE** **ROSE LAWN CEMETERY, PALESTINE, TX - MAY 23, 2010**



Above: L-R, Marc Robinson, Gary Williams, Dan Dyer, John Barnhart, Ronnie Hatfield, and Billie Newsom, photo by Nancy Bundrick

Right: Headstone of Mrs. Will R. "Billie" Averitte in Rose Lawn Cemetery, Palestine, Texas with UDC Medallion attached to lower right face of marker. Photo by Nancy Bun-



Above: Davis-Reagan Chapter #2292 President Jane Biddle speaking at the medallion ceremony. Photo by Nancy Bundrick

Left: John H. Reagan Camp #2156 Color Guard marching in with the colors. Photo by Alvis Coleman



Left: Reagan Camp Color Guard posting colors at the medallion ceremony for Mrs. Billie Averitte. Photo by Nancy Bundrick

Right: Marker of Mrs. Billie Averitte beautifully veiled before ceremony. She served the UDC and our Confederate ancestors for more than 50 years. Photo by Nancy Bundrick

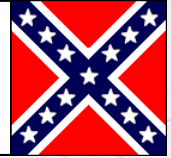


Above: UDC Wreath and photo of Mrs. Averitte near her headstone photo by Nancy Bundrick



THE RIGHT TO SAY NO!

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



There is an old adage among sales people that goes, "Every prospect has the right to say no.....at least three times." Then there is also the old saying, "Faint heart ne'er won fair maiden." The concept is the same. If a young man is afraid to ask for his lady love's hand because he is afraid she'll say no, then he has failed to give her the chance to say yes.

We find this same teaching embodied in the Great Commission, recorded in Matthew 28: 19, 20. Mark 16:15 says it this way: "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." What Jesus is telling us is: Give everyone the opportunity to say no, otherwise, how can they say yes. They can't make a decision, yes or no, until they have heard the message.

There are many who were born and raised in the South, as were all their close relatives and ancestors. And yet, they've never heard of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. Until they do, they will have neither the right to say no, or the privilege of applying for membership.

I believe every son of the South should know about the SCV. But, it's up to us to let them know. It's up to us to give them the right to say no, so they may also have the chance to say yes. If we are ashamed to speak up for Christ, the Bible tells us that He will be ashamed of us. If we are too faint hearted to say, "I'm a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, and the proud descendant of a brave Confederate soldier," then what are we all about.

What are we all about if we are too weak in our convictions to let others see us with a Bi-

ble or wearing a cross. What are we all about if we are too complacent and unconcerned to display our Confederate Colors. What are we all about if we fear speaking out because someone might think we're "too religious" or "still fighting the 'Civil War.'"

What are we all about if we do not say, to anyone who'll listen, that I'm a Christian, because I'm proud of Christ and all He's done, is doing, and will do. What are we all about if we are not proud to proclaim, at every opportunity, I'm a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, because I'm proud of my Confederate ancestors and the brave stand they took against an armed invasion.

In simple terms, whether sitting in a pew among Christians or in the company of members of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, we are proud of the company we keep, and we'd like everybody to have the opportunity to join us. But first, we must give them the right to say, No!

Bro. Len Patterson, ThD.
Chaplain, Army of Trans-Mississippi

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

-GENERAL ROBERT E. LEE-



**JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP #2156 EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM
ELKHART ELEMENTARY - 5TH GRADE
MUSEUM FOR EAST TEXAS CULTURE, MAY 14, 2010**



Above: Reagan Camp members front center L-R, Ronnie Hatfield, Rod Skelton, Dan Dyer, Billie Newsom, Marc Robinson, John Barnhart, Kirby McCord, Calvin Nicholson, and Rudy Ray pose for a photo with the students and teachers after a demonstrating of War era rifles and howitzer on the lawn outside of the Museum for East Texas Culture.

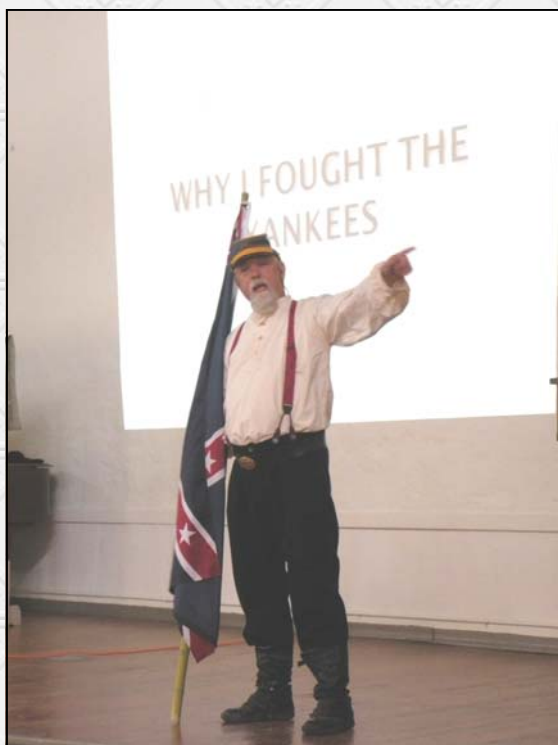
ELKHART 5TH GRADERS ATTEND CIVIL WAR PRESENTATION

By Kirby McCord

Almost one hundred Elkhart 5th graders from the classes of Melanie Carr, Billie Dwyer, Diana Homman, Charla O'Neal, and Christy Trevino attended a Civil War Seminar put on by the John H. Reagan Camp #2156 of the Sons of Confederate Veterans at the Museum for East Texas Culture on Friday, May 14th.

Broken into several vignettes, the seminar presented the American Civil War to the attentive students in a unique manner, often requiring volunteer participation. After a short introduction setting the stage, Sons of Confederate Veterans members individually staged short presentations on Oddities and Firsts from the Civil War, and an Outline of the Principal Armies and Battles of the War. After a rousing introduction to the anthem "Dixie" that brought the students to their feet, several first person impressions brought the war to life for the students. "A Chaplain Writes Home," "Seeing the Elephant," "The Brother's War," and "Why I Fought the Yankees," written and performed by the Sons of Confederate Veterans, demonstrated the individual tragedy of the War Between the States. The indoor program concluded with more firsts for the Fighting Elks, as they heard a genuine rebel yell and learned of the "Forgotten Confederates" generally overlooked by history textbooks.

The seminar then moved outside to demonstrate the firing of Civil War era muskets and cannon, a highlight of the day for the 5th graders, who were thrilled to see their teacher, Ms. Charla O'Neal, wearing a red cannoneer's shirt, pull the lanyard and fire the big gun.



Left: Reagan Camp Member, Rudy Ray, presenting his first person narrative, "**Why I Fought The Yankees**" to the Elkhart 5th graders in the auditorium of the Museum for East Texas Culture. It was a first person narrative of Rudy's great great grandfather, William Ray, who fought in Walker's Texas Division. It is a post war account (1867) of him telling an audience of foreign visitors to Texas why he fought the Yankees in the War.



**JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP #2156 EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM
ELKHART ELEMENTARY - 5TH GRADE
MUSEUM FOR EAST TEXAS CULTURE, MAY 14, 2010**



Left: Elkhart 5th graders enter Museum with Confederate Soldiers standing guard at door.

Right: Ronnie Hatfield on picket duty, using students as trees to stand behind. This skit was a conversation with a Yankee on picket duty who eventually proved to be the Confederate soldier's brother he hadn't seen since the war began.



Left: Rod Skelton did a first person skit of a Confederate Chaplain writing home. He spoke aloud what he was writing and had to leave for a minute as he was actually called by a soldier to attend to a another dying soldier.

Right: Calvin Nicholson lectured on "Oddities and Firsts during the Civil War."



Right: Dan Dyer lectured on Armed and Battled during the War.



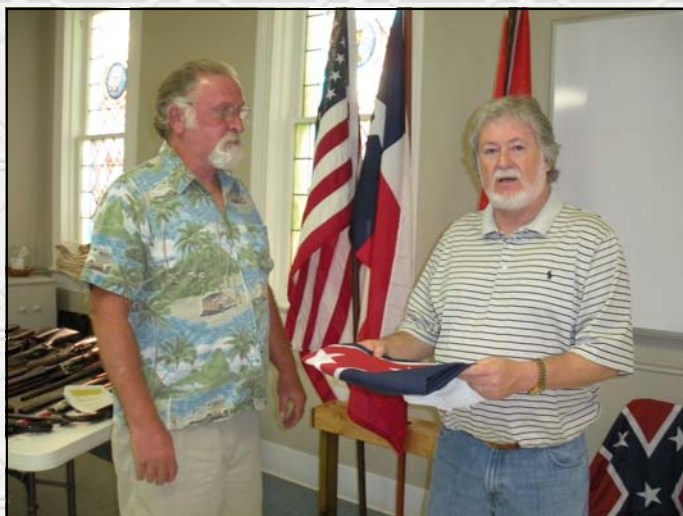
Above: Kirby McCord's first person skit was about him "seeing the elephant" or engaged in combat for the first time at the Battle of Shiloh when he was a 16 year old boy.

Right: the Val Verde Battery immediately after firing a round with the 12 pound howitzer. Left to right Billy Newsom, Calvin Nicholson, Marc Robinson, and Kirby McCord.





REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING ON MAY 8, 2010 THE JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP #2156



Left to photo: 2nd Lt. Commander Gary Williams, right, donating a General Richard Taylor battle flag to the John H. Reagan Camp. Sgt. Ronnie Hatfield, left, received the flag on behalf of the camp. We met at the First Christian Church, Palestine, Texas.



Photos—Left and Right column of four: Douglas Camp SCV member, Muddy Waters, of Whitehouse, Texas presented a program on the history of firearms, knives, swords, shotguns, pistols, etc. that the Confederate Soldiers of the 1860 period used. He did some of his program in first person. Mr. Waters has been collecting antique firearms since he was 14 years of age. This program was thoroughly enjoyed by all in attendance!



Left: Sgt. Ronnie Hatfield built and donated a new flag holder for our regular monthly meetings. Notice how the top outer flag pole holes are set a little wider than the bottom outer holes so the flags lean outward, displaying more of each of the three flags, and keeping the stand easy to carry in and out of our meeting place each month.



MILITARY WEEKEND MAY 29 AND 30 TEXAS STATE RAILROAD, PALESTINE, TX



Left photo: Left to Right— Marc Robinson, David Dyer, Stanley Black—J-S -N Camp #1012, Billy Newsom, Dan Dyer, Frank Moore, and John Barnhart

Upper right corner downward 3 photos: Rifle Squad firing a volley, reloading, and stacking arms.



Left: Val Verde Battery preparing to fire. L-R, John Barnhart (powder man by flags), Cmdr. Stanley Black, David Dyer, Billie Newsom, Marc Robinson



Above: Reagan Camp member, Frank Moore, sitting in WWII jeep on display during Military Weekend

Right: Stanley Black, Cmdr. Johnson-Sayers -Nettles Camp #1020 and Daughter, Talin

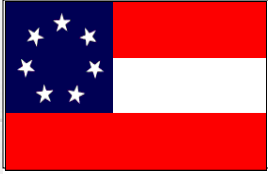


Above: L-R, Billy Newsom, Frank Moore, John Barnhart, Stanley Black, Marc Robinson. Approx. 40 business cards were taken over the two days we were honoring all of the American military soldiers and sailors who died or were wounded fighting to keep us safe and free.



Right: Front row L-R-Billy Newsom and grandmother, Jean Stokes, Dollye Jeffus and her son John Barnhart and niece, Geri Lynn Wright back row

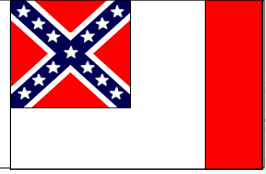




ON THIS DAY IN CONFEDERATE HISTORY

June

by Kirby McCord



1861

June 3, 1861: Union Democratic party leader Stephen A. Douglas dies, apparently of a fever, at age 48. Perhaps more than any other politician, Douglas' actions have led to secession and war: his "popular sovereignty" concept, as promulgated in the Kansas Nebraska Act of 1854, resurrected the issue of slavery as a national matter of contention between the North and the South, adding immensely to abolitionist and pro-slavery extremism and resulting in "Bloody Kansas;" his debates with Abraham Lincoln in the 1858 Illinois Senatorial race established a national name for both himself and the "Rail Splitter," and allowed the fledgling Republican Party to gain national status; and his candidacy for president in 1860 so offended southern Democrats that they split the party, guaranteeing an electoral victory for Abraham Lincoln and the Republicans rather than acquiesce to his nomination. One wonders: if they had known he would die less than three months into the Presidential term, would Democrats have selected Douglas as their candidate, instead nominating Vice President John C. Breckinridge of Kentucky carrying perhaps the 1860 election, thus averting civil war?

June 8, 1861: In a popular referendum, Tennessee favors secession by 104,913 to 47,238. This popular action serves to formalize the course already chosen for the state by its legislature on May 6.

June 12, 1861: Pro-Southern Governor Claiborne Jackson of Missouri calls for 50,000 volunteers to eject Federal troops from the state. Federal General Nathaniel Lyon, who has already occupied Saint Louis, reacts by occupying the state capital at Jefferson City and seizing river traffic on the Missouri River by ousting pro-Confederate Missouri Guardsmen at Boonville. With Federal troops in the capital, Missouri is unable to call for secession.

June 14, 1861: The stage is set for the secession of West Virginia from Virginia, when Federal troops, led by George B. McClellan, compel the Confederates occupying Harpers' Ferry to evacuate. This, on the heels of the Confederate rout known as the Philippi Races, leaves West Virginia occupied exclusively by Federals.

1862

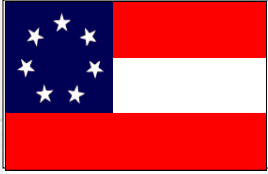
June 11, 1862: Confederate General Stonewall Jackson concludes his brilliant Valley Campaign with victories at Cross Keys and Port Royal. Assisted by a spectacular diversionary raid Confederate J.E.B. Stuart, demonstrating around Federal General McClellan in the Peninsula, the Federals do not even notice Jackson's disengagement.

June 16, 1862: Union forces under General H. W. Benham are repulsed with heavy casualties while trying to capture the symbolically named Secessionville, on James Island, South Carolina. Benham loses 107 killed, 487 wounded, and 89 missing, while the Confederates, under General N.G. Evans, suffer only 52 dead, with 144 wounded.

June 25, 1862: Reinforced by Jackson's Valley veterans, newly appointed commander of the Army of Virginia General Robert E. Lee renames the army the Army of Northern Virginia, initiating an unsurpassed American military legacy. Union General George B. McClellan, on the outskirts of Richmond, Virginia, outnumbers the Confederates by about 120,000 to 87,000, but believes he himself is outnumbered and moves cautiously. He sends one wing of his army, numbering 75,000 men against Lee at Oak Grove, beginning what is now known as the Seven Days' Battles. Lee utilizes only about 27,000 men to stymie the very cautious Federal probe, and on June 26, sends more than 60,000 men on a flank march to hit McClellan's exposed wing at Mechanicsville. Although Jackson's leadership of the attack is uncharacteristically lethargic, McClellan falls back. Lee continues attacking on June 27 at Gaine's Mill. The Federals, under Lee's relentless pressure at Garnett's and Golding's Farms, continue retreating on June 28. On June 29, more attacks at Savage's Station drive the Federals further back. Finally, on June 30, the Federals repulse Confederate attacks at White Oak Swamp, and on July 1, Lee launches an ill-advised attack against massed artillery at Malvern Hill. Although tactically victorious on the last two days of the battle, McClellan is completely demoralized. He wires Washington that he has been overpowered by superior numbers, abandons efforts to capture Richmond, and retreats down the James River to Harrison Landing. Lee's attacks, while audacious, and ultimately successful, have been costly. He has lost a quarter of his army (22,000 men), while inflicting only 16,000 casualties on the Federals. But the boost to Southern morale is immense, and the legend of the Army of Northern Virginia is born.

1863

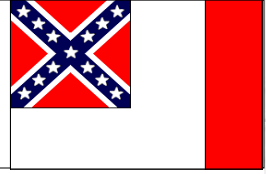
June 7, 1863: In an attempt to relieve pressure on besieged Vicksburg, Confederate General Henry McCulloch leads a contingent of Walker's Texas Division against a supposed Union supply Depot at Milliken's Bend, Louisiana. Fortified behind fifteen foot high levees and massive hedgerows, the Union troops consist of 1,300 men from the 26th Iowa, the 9th and 11th Louisiana (Colored) and the 1st



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Mississippi (Colored), all supported by Union gunboats on the Mississippi River behind them. The Confederate force of 1,550 men (with no artillery) attacks impetuously, carrying the fortifications and engaging in hand-to-hand combat (a Civil War rarity) before being driven off by fire from the gunboats. Half of the Union force (652) are casualties, but Confederate losses are less than 200. This is the first major combat between Confederate soldiers and U.S. Colored troops. But the futility of the action is apparent to the Confederates once the engagement begins: the supplies for Grant's Vicksburg campaign that are supposed to be at Milliken's Bend have already been shipped to him.

June 9, 1863: Trying to locate Robert E. Lee's Confederate forces, which are moving north toward Gettysburg, 11,000 Union cavalry under General Alfred Pleasanton attack J.E.B. Stuart's 10,000 cavalymen at Brandy Station, Virginia. Although initially surprised by the attack, Stuart lashes back, preventing Pleasanton from piercing his cavalry screen to locate Lee. With more than 20,000 horsemen engaged, Brandy Station is the largest cavalry engagement of the war. Stuart loses 523 men; Pleasanton's losses are 866.

June 15, 1863: As Lee advances north toward Gettysburg, the Third Battle of Winchester occurs as 9,000 Federals resist General Richard Ewell's advance, resulting in 4,443 (almost 4,000 captured) Union casualties and 269 Confederate losses. Confederate forces also capture massive amounts of supplies.

June 20, 1863: Contrary to the delegation of authority in the U.S. Constitution to Congress, President Lincoln issues a proclamation which declares West Virginia to be the 35th state of the Union.

June 27, 1863: General Joseph Hooker is replaced as Federal commander of the Union Army of the Potomac. General George G. Meade is named the new commander. He will face the legendary General Robert E. Lee and the Army of Northern Virginia in three days at Gettysburg.

1864

June 3, 1864: Union General Ulysses S. Grant attacks General Robert E. Lee's fortified position at Cold Harbor. Within the space of a half hour, 7,000 Federal troops are killed and wounded. A second assault is also murderously turned back. Union soldiers ignore a third order to attack. Confederate losses are about 1,500. The men of the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia and the Union Army of the Potomac have marched, slept, and fought for one month in the same blood- and sweat-stiffened uniforms; the roads of their march are strewn with the carcasses of 6,000 horses. Federal casualties in the month of incessant campaigning have been 50,000, about 40% of their initial strength; the South has lost 36,000, or 48% of its strength, and these losses are irreplaceable.

June 10, 1864: Union General S.D. Sturgis leads 8,000 men to destroy Confederate General Nathan Bedford Forrest. 3,500 men. But Forrest ambushes Sturgis at Brice's Crossroads, Mississippi. The ensuing Union defeat turns into a rout, and the Federals leave so much abandoned equipment in the field that the Confederates have difficulty getting around it to pursue the men in blue. Sturgis loses 2,246 men, 16 of his 18 guns, and his entire supply train of 250 vehicles. Forrest loses 492.

June 15, 1864: Grant has fooled Lee. His troops sit outside Petersburg, Virginia, while Lee fortifies positions north of Richmond, thinking Grant will strike there. The meager forces defending that Petersburg, 14,000 strong and led by P.G.T. Beauregard, are driven back by forces four times greater in number. But inexplicably, Grant's troops merely occupy the trenches, giving Lee time to recover. Over the next four days, Lee sends reinforcements and Union assaults are repelled with heavy losses (11,386 of 63,797 engaged). By June 18, Grant has amassed 110,000 men to Beauregard's 50,000; Lee himself arrives and Grant must resort to a lengthy siege.

June 27, 1864: Union General William Sherman attacks Confederate forces at Kennesaw Mountain, near Marietta, Georgia. Confederate General Joseph Johnston's position is strong. The Confederates lose only 442 men while inflicting 2,051 casualties on the routed Union forces.

"THE PRINCIPLE FOR WHICH WE CONTEND IS BOUND TO REASSERT ITSELF, THOUGH IT MAY BE AT ANOTHER TIME AND IN ANOTHER FORM." PRESIDENT JEFFERSON DAVIS, C.S.A.



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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.

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
Light meal served at each meeting.
First Christian Church
113 East Crawford Street
Palestine, Texas

Turn north on N. Sycamore St. off of
Spring St. (Hwy 19, 84, & 287) travel
three blocks, turn right on Crawford
St., go one block Church is on left