



SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS, TEXAS DIVISION
THE JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP NEWS
www.reaganscvcamp.org

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 7

JULY 2010

COMMANDER'S DISPATCH

Compatriots,

This past month was kicked off by a great **Texas Division SCV Reunion** held in Richardson, Texas. I want to personally thank compatriots John Barnhart, Rudy Ray and his wife Toni for attending and representing the John H. Reagan Camp #2156 at this years division reunion. There was a lot of fun, excitement, Southern fellowship, and interesting programs. Please see the photos and words by past division commander Greg Manning on pages 6-8.

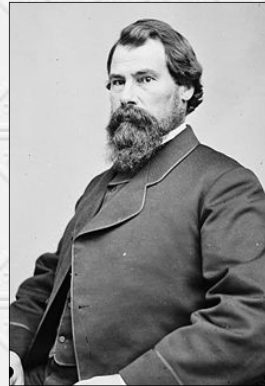
It was as always, a pleasure to meet up with the Army of the Trans Mississippi, **SCV Chaplain, Brother Len Patterson**, of Trinidad, Texas at both the Division Reunion and the Post Oak Cemetery Four Marker Dedication near Corsicana this past month. We are very blessed to have a spiritual leader as Brother Len in our organization.

I am sure those who were at the June meeting will concur that it was an awesome meeting! Compatriot Rod Skelton accepted and was inducted in as our newest chaplain by Chaplain Ed Furman, we had a wonderful donation of an original UCV bugle, presented to the camp by Compatriot Frank Moore, Mr. Barry Swinney turned in his application for membership, and there was a great, sit on the edge of your seat, first person program provided by our camp's own Rudy Ray. We also elected Rod Skelton as delegate and appreciate he and his wife Nancy for representing our camp at this year's upcoming General reunion in South Carolina. You can read more and see photos from the meeting on page 9.

My daughter Channa, age 14, attended the Sons of Confederate Veterans **Sam Davis Youth Camp** in

Clifton, TX from June 14—18. My wife Deborah also attended as a counselor at this year's camp. Channa thoroughly enjoyed the camp and Deborah said it was a great experience for all the youth. I appreciate Colonel Alan Huffines (ret US Army) and many other SCV members and their spouses for making this Christian based camp a wonderfully fun and educational week for our youth. I emailed Col. Huffines' final SDYC report to the camp a couple of weeks ago.

The 12th Texas Artillery, Val Verde Battery re-enactment group set up a living history weekend at the **Vicksburg National Military Park** this past month. My wonderful wife Deborah, my youngest three children, and I participated in this event and thoroughly enjoyed it. Between all the re-enactors who were in our group, we demonstrated and answered questions from park visitors about our encampment, the cannon, rifles, and cavalry. Park rangers answered questions about the Siege of Vicksburg. The 12th Texas Artillery would welcome more of us participating on their next trip, which will be planned at a cooler time of year. We had the run of the park at night and could go anywhere we chose to. We spent a little time at the Shirley House after dark, the only dwelling at the time of the Siege still in existence in the park, and it is said by some to be haunted. There were inspirational moments at Vicksburg for me that came at quiet times like when I was standing in the 3rd Louisiana Redan after dark and thinking about the fierce fighting that took place right there on several occasions as those men defended the South and their



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

position from the Northern invading army and looking out from the top of Fort Hill, where batteries fired on and received fire from Northern gun boats in the Mississippi river. We stopped several times at the **monument erected to honor the Texas troops** who served during the Siege of Vicksburg. As most of you know, it was erected adjacent to the Railroad Redoubt. This redoubt was where a detachment of soldiers from Capt. Bradley (of Fairfield, TX) and Lt. Hogue's companies, both of Waul's Texas Legion, went over from their position to retake the overrun redoubt from Federate forces by

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

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

SD YOUTH CAMP	2
CAMP EVENTS	3
JUNE MEETING NEWS	4
CONFEDERATE POEM—HATFIELD	5
FOUR MARKER CEREMONY AT POST OAK CEMETERY	6
CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE	7
TEXAS DIVISION SCV 2010 REUNION	8-10
PAST DIVISION CMDR. GREG MANNING	10
VICKSBURG NAT. MILITARY PARK VAL VERDE BATTERY LIVING HISTORY	11
CONFEDERATE HIST. CALENDAR	12-13
MEMBERSHIP/ CONTACT INFO	14



COMMANDER'S DISPATCH CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



(Continued on page 2) fierce hand to hand combat on the afternoon and evening of May 22, 1863. Lt. James G. Blackmon, the Confederate officer, whose remains our camp re-interred and also who we dedicated a marker for at the Bonner Cemetery, Freestone Cty in October 2009 fought at Vicksburg under Captain Bradley. He was captured with many thousands more Confederate soldiers after the surrender of Vicksburg. He contracted diphtheria in early December 1864 and then died of pneumonia, January 1, 1865 while a POW at Fort Delaware. He was married to my 5th cousin, Mary Ann Bonner McCrery Blackmon who died in 1867 and their only child, Mary Charlotte, died in 1870, age 8. I have understood the shortage of food inside Vicksburg. On this trip I learned of another interesting problem during the Siege, and that was the drinking water problem. Water wells were not

feasible due to the depth to the water table. The city's location high on a bluff made the water table 200 ft. down, the same level as the river below, therefore they relied on cisterns to store captured rainfall. The city could handle the 5000 citizens who lived there, but not the additional 30,000 plus C.S.A. troops. Therefore they had to use water from the small creeks running into Vicksburg and some water from the Mississippi river. Early on during the Siege, Union General Grant, ordered all Federal latrines to be located on all these small creeks flowing into Vicksburg and any dead mules, horses, etc. to be tossed into the edge of the Mississippi river above Vicksburg. By July 1, 1863 there were only about 10,000 combat ready troops left to defend Vicksburg due to diseases like dysentery, typhoid, etc. Wouldn't you call that biological warfare? Realizing his shortage of battle ready troops and hearing the

information purposely leaked by General Grant that eleven positions on the Confederate defense would be blown from tunnels underneath them at the same time on July 6 and a major assault to follow, General Pemberton, C.S.A. surrendered Vicksburg on July 4. The Federals had previously tunneled under the Third Louisiana Redan twice and blown it to only be repulsed each time, but the idea they could do the same under eleven defensive points at once was there even if it was actually false information leaked by Grant. Vicksburg as you know, was never taken by assault.

We are very blessed to be descendants of brave and noble Confederate soldiers and the strong Southern ladies they married.

Respectfully your obedient servant,
Marc Robinson



SAM DAVIS YOUTH CAMP 2010 SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS



Photos clockwise beginning at lower left— Texas Division Cmdr. Ray James speaks and educates youth; Channa Robinson, daughter of Reagan Camp Cmdr. Marc Robinson, receives one of the female Camper awards from Texas Division 3rd Lt. Cmdr. David Moore; Channa Robinson, escorted to Cotillion by Daniel Farnum, of Missouri; Group photo by flag pole at the Three Mountain Christian Retreat near Clifton, TX; Boys drilling on a cannon furnished by Cmdr. Thomas Harrison; SDY Camp director, Colonel Alan Huffines teaching youth in classroom; Craig, Deborah, and Channa Robinson with Channa's new friend Carissa; The Youth went to the Texas Civil War Museum in Ft. Worth one day, rode horses daily, went swimming one day, practiced 1860 period dances each evening, and learned a lot about their Southern Heritage from great teachers and pastor John Weaver of Georgia. Many other Texas SCV leaders visited on various days. Photos by David Moore



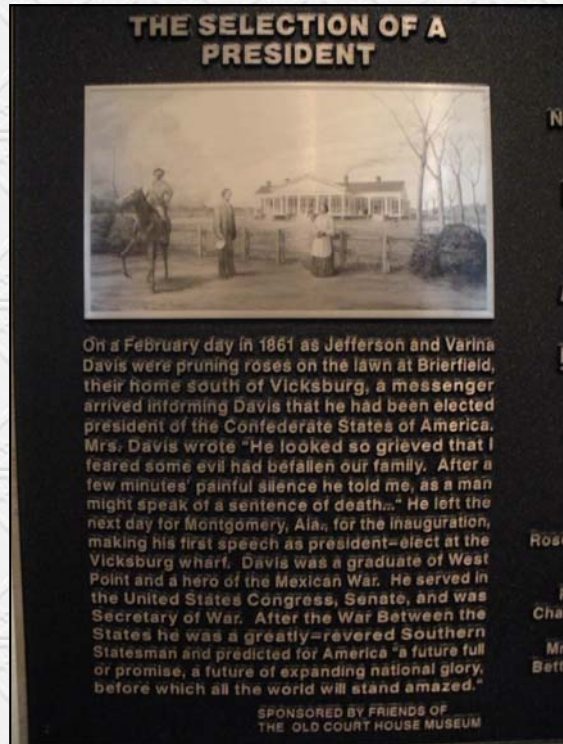


Photo left: A very nice plaque in the Old Court-house Museum, Vicksburg, Mississippi. The museum was very interesting and had two rooms devoted to our beloved President Jefferson F. Davis. I highly recommend touring it if you haven't before. Enlarge this photo on your computer screen to enjoy reading and viewing it. My family toured the museum on our recent trip to the Vicksburg National Military Park 11-13 June 2010. Marc Robinson



"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.
- United States of America
- The Sons of Confederate Veterans

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 10th 06:00 PM-John H. Reagan Camp monthly meeting at the First Christian Church, Palestine, Texas

July Program: Mr. Don Boydston will present a program on the Jewish Contribution to the Confederacy. Don is a member of the Descendents of Confederate Veterans. He is a graduate of the University of California at Berkley. Employed with S&B Engineers. Speaks Russian, has lived in Japan and Alaska, and is a U.S.

Veteran. Lt. Cmdr. Nicholson stated, "I came to know Don through my wife's friendship with his wife Debbie." Don has recently returned from a trip to Mississippi where they honored Confederate Veterans Graves. Don and Debbie have a son Steven who just graduated from Longview High School.

Aug 14th 06:00 PM-John H. Reagan Camp monthly meeting at the First Christian Church, Palestine, Texas

August Program: Dr. Marianne Leeper, Professor of History, Trinity Valley Community College, Athens, Texas will present a very interesting program on **the Hunley**. The first military submarine, which was successfully operated by the Confederate States of America.

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 INFLECTED 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-



EXCITING NEWS FROM REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING ON JUNE 19, 2010 FOR THE JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP #2156



Left photo: New Officer/Chaplain Inducted into the John H. Reagan Camp #2156

On June 19th **Rod Skelton**, center, was inducted as an officer of the John H. Reagan Camp #2156 and as our newest Chaplain. Chaplain Ed Furman, far left, delivered the induction ceremony as Cmdr. Marc Robinson, right, looked on. The Reagan Camp members overwhelming were in favor of the change of having more than one chaplain in our camp and that that new Chaplain was Rod Skelton. Rod is an ordained Baptist Pastor with many years of experience and he and his wife, Nancy, have a chuck wagon ministry - (www.spurandthecross.org). Rod is also a U. S. Marine and a Vietnam War Veteran. We welcome and appreciate Rod as our newest Chaplain!

Right photo: Reagan Camp #2156 member, **Rudy Ray**, presented, **"Why I Fought The Yankees,"** a first person narrative of his Great-Great Grandfather Pvt. William Ray who fought with Company I, Flournoy's (16th) Regiment Texas Infantry which was part of Walker's Texas Division, also known as "Walker's Greyhounds". Pvt. Ray saw a lot of action during the Red River Campaign including the Battles of Mansfield and Pleasant Hill. This was a post war account (1867) of Pvt. Ray telling an audience of foreign visitors to Texas why he fought the Yankees in the War.

Rudy spell bound everyone there with his program. During his program, he let out a very loud authentic "Rebel Yell" and later sang his Red River Campaign version of, "I'm a Good Ole' Rebel". Rudy has a great preaching voice, but we found out that he has a mighty fine voice for singing too. Thank you Rudy!!!



Left photo: Reagan Camp #2156 member Frank Moore donates a surprise gift to the John H. Reagan Camp #2156. It is an authentic or original bugle from the United Confederate Veteran's Drum and Bugle Corps. Inscription on the bugle reads:

Co. A C.V.
D & B Corps
No. 14

The old bugle must have been built and used during the late 1800's and it still has a great sound! One can only imagine all the Confederate Veterans and others who have listened to this old piece of history.

Now we only need someone to volunteer to learn how to play taps and/or tattoo on it for our ceremonies!

We appreciate Frank Moore very much. He is one of our most active members. Frank regularly attends monthly meetings and is a very active member of the Reagan Honor and Color Guard. There is no doubt Frank's Confederate ancestors would be proud of his dedication in honoring them for their sacrifices!





BRINGIN' GRANDPA HOME BY RONNIE HATFIELD COPYRIGHT 1997



*Today, I'm bringin' Granpa home.
You've been gone away too long.
You no longer rest in northern soil,
but in Dixie where you belong!*

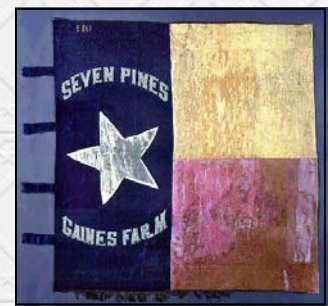
*This single Texas button,
puts you in uniform once more.
And the shroud that wraps your cher-
ished bones,
is the Lone Star Flag you died for!*

*We sure have missed you, Grandpa!
We've no heroes with you gone!
There's no one to teach us honor,
or the will to fight when something's
wrong!*

*Sam Hood would say he's proud of
you,
and I'm sure that Lee would too.
And if Colonel Rainey needed men
today,
I'm sure he'd ask for you!*

*From all of us here, and the men you
served with,
who made it back so long ago,
your circle's now completed.
We missed you Grandpa, welcome
home!*

Editors note: Reagan Camp #2156 Sgt. Ronnie Hatfield held a re-interment ceremony for his GG Grandfather, Pvt. William H. Foster, at the Rock Church Cemetery in Blackfoot, Anderson County Texas in October 2000, almost 137 years to the day after his death. Ronnie made a small wooden casket and placed in it earth from the mass grave site at Finn's Point along with a single brass Texas Confederate button. Pvt. Foster served in Co. H 1st Texas Infantry, part of Hood's Brigade. Originally under the command of Anderson Cty Texas', Colonel Alexis T. Rainey, until he was severely wounded in battle. Pvt. Foster was captured at the Battle of Gettysburg, but died while at the Union POW Camp at Fort Delaware. He was eventually interred in a mass grave of 2,436 Confederate Soldiers at Finn's Point National Cemetery in Salem, New Jersey, across the river from Fort Delaware. Read Pvt. Foster's biography in May 2009 issue found on the camp web site.



Above: Original 1st Texas Infantry flag lost by the 9th brave fallen flag bearer that day in Miller's Cornfield at Battle of Sharpsburg and returned to Texas in 1905 by President Theodore Roosevelt. In this battle, the 1st Texas suffered the highest loss of any unit, North or South, during war, suffering 82.3% casualties.



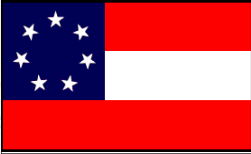
Above: 85 ft Confederate Memorial Monument at Finn's Point National Cemetery, N.J. honoring 2436 Confederate Soldiers buried there in a mass grave. These soldiers died while POW at Fort Delaware, DE



Above: Original Army of N. Virginia issue battle flag that the 1st Texas Infantry carried along with their Texas flag. This flag was also lost in Miller's Cornfield at Sharpsburg and returned to Texas in 1905 by Pres. Roosevelt.



Above: Old photo of Fort Delaware on Pea Patch Island where approximately 2700 Confederate Veterans died of disease and malnutrition. In 1862 Pea Patch Island became a POW camp for captured Confederate troops and local Southern sympathizers. These men were housed not in the fort itself but in wooden barracks that soon covered much of the island. Most of the Confederates captured at Gettysburg were imprisoned there. By August 1863, there were 12,500 prisoners on the island; by war's end, it had held some 40,000 men. The conditions were notorious.



FOUR MARKER DEDICATION CEREMONY POST OAK CEMETERY, NAVARRO COUNTY TEXAS REAGAN CAMP #2156 ASSISTS THE HALBERT CAMP #359



Left: L-R, Ronnie Hatfield, Marc Robinson, Johnny McVey, Ronnie Little, Dan Dyer, Preston Furlow, Frank Moore, John Barnhart, Brother Len Patterson, Billy Ford, Ronnie Matthews, Bradley Ford, Brandon Ford, & Stephanie Ford



Above: Photos of the four markers that were dedicated at this ceremony on June 6, 2010. (Three other Confederate soldiers buried in cemetery were honored as well.)



Above: Reagan Camp Honor Guard L-R Sgt. Ronnie Hatfield, Marc Robinson, Johnny McVey, Dan Dyer, John Barnhart, Frank Moore, a member of the O. M. Roberts camp #178, Ronnie Little and Preston Furlow, a period correct flag maker of Squaw Creek Co.



Above: The Val Verde Battery Cannon was fired by members of the Halbert Camp #359. L-R, Brandon Ford, Billy Ford, and Ronnie Matthews. Stephanie Ford stands near cannon.



Left: Sgt. Ronnie Hatfield retiring the Confederate Battle flag held by Reagan color guard member Marc Robinson.

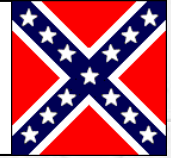
Right: Brother Len Patterson, SCV Chaplain-Army of Trans-Mississippi gave the invocation and benediction as well as addressed the crowd about our Confederate heritage.





TOGETHER FOR THE BETTER!

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



On his second missionary journey, the Apostle Paul founded the church at Corinth. (Acts 18: 1-18) Then a few years later, while in Ephesus during his third journey, he was informed of problems in the Corinthian Church. In response, he wrote a lengthy letter to the troubled church, which we call First Corinthians. Even a casual reading of this letter will reveal that the church at Corinth was filled with confusion and doctrinal error. Twice in the eleventh chapter, Paul tells them plainly, "I praise you not." (vs. 17, 22)

Corinth was a very large city of Greece located at the southwestern end of the isthmus between Peloponnesus and the rest of the region of Achaia. It was a port city and a major crossroad for trade in the Roman Empire. It was a city filled with a widely diverse population of varied backgrounds and unique ideologies. As the people of Corinth became part of the Corinthian Church, they brought with them their own individual ideas about Christianity, Christian Worship, and doctrinal issues. The result was bickering and infighting, as they split into various factions within the church. Perhaps the Epistle of First Corinthians could be subtitled, "Don't Let This Happen to You!"

In verse seventeen of the eleventh chapter of First Corinthians, the Apostle Paul, guided by the Holy Spirit of God, writes to the Corinthian Church, "Now in this that I declare unto you I praise you not, that ye come together not for the better, but for the worse." Now, it would seem from this Scriptural statement, that their meetings were causing more harm than good. Then in the next verse Paul adds, "For first of all, when ye come together in the church, I hear there be divisions among you; and I partly believe it." Their meetings were not resulting in agreement and unity, but in division, debate, and confusion over every issue. In verse 22b of that same chapter, Paul states firmly, "What shall I say to you? Shall I praise you? I praise you not."

Like the church at Corinth, the membership of the

Sons of Confederate Veterans is widely diverse, varied and each of us unique in his own way. And, we also come together at various times and for a variety of reasons. From our monthly camp meetings to our upcoming National Reunion in Anderson, all are important and in some way affect the future of our Confederation. At such times let us discuss our proposals, and present our ideas. But, when the meeting is over and the smoke clears, let us learn the lesson taught to the Corinthians, and not repeat their error. Let us leave in agreement and unity as brothers in our just and worthy Cause. It is not our diversity that binds us, but our common desire to honor our brave and noble Confederate forefathers, and the respect we have for one another. So, let us support our leadership and work as one body to fulfill the commission presented to us in 1906 by General S.D. Lee. Because, I believe success for our Confederation depends on our unity.

It is my prayer for the Sons of Confederate Veterans, that on every occasion when we come together, we can all say, "We met together for the better and not for the worse." May God bless each of you in your service to Him and our most worthy Southern Cause.

Bro. Len Patterson, Th.D
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-



THREE JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP #2156 MEMBERS ATTEND THE TEXAS DIVISION, SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS 2010 REUNION, RICHARDSON, TEXAS



Left: L-R, East Texas Brigade Cmdr. Johnnie Holley, Reagan Camp Cmdr. Marc Robinson, Reagan Camp Compatriots Rudy Ray and John Barnhart stand in front of the flags in the general meeting room on June 5, 2010.



Upper Right: Artifacts found by Dr. David Eschenfelder of Shreveport, LA at camp sites of Louisiana units at the Battle of Mansfield. New bowie knife is there to compare to rusty original below it. Right: Artifacts found at camp locations of Walker's Texas Division.



Left: General Meeting Room at the 2010 Texas Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans Reunion at the Double Tree Hotel, Richardson, Texas



Left: Three of several SCV Mechanized Cavalry members at reunion—L-R, Ed Smith, Rudy Ray, and John Rogers.

Right: Minnie balls found at various camp sites of Louisiana and Texas Troops at the Battle of Mansfield.



Above: Pre-1860 shotgun found inside old hollow tree near battle of Mansfield.

Right: Artifacts found at location of Capt. T. J. Nettles Val Verde Battery Camp at the Battle of Mansfield, Louisiana.

All artifacts on this page were found by Dr. David Eschenfelder, Independent archeologist from Shreveport, LA and presented at Division Reunion.





**JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP #2156 RECEIVES TWO DIVISION AWARDS
TEXAS DIVISION, SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS
2010 REUNION, RICHARDSON, TEXAS**



Above: Reagan Camp #2156 member, Rudy Ray, accepted both Texas Division Awards for the John H. Reagan Camp #2156 at the Saturday evening awards ceremony.

Left: Photos of the two award certificates the John H. Reagan Camp #2156 received from the Texas Division Sons of Confederate Veterans at the Texas Division Reunion held in Richardson, Texas this year.





**WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A MEMBER OF THE SCV?
TEXAS DIVISION, SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS
2010 REUNION, RICHARDSON, TEXAS**



**What does it mean to be a member of the
Sons of Confederate Veterans?**

**By Greg Manning
Past Commander Texas Division SCV**

(This is one of the excellent speeches presented at the Final Roll Call Memorial Ceremony held at the Texas Division SCV Reunion 2010 on Friday evening for those Texas Division SCV members who went to be with the Lord during the previous year)

What does it mean to be a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans? I am often asked this question and it seems apropos to respond to this question on this solemn occasion.

A member of the SCV is, of course, a descendant of the peace-loving race that rose up to defend their homes and Rights at a time when the federal government sought to impose its will on the Southern half of the nation. After fifty years of financial and verbal abuse our ancestors could not condone the Republican/Whig victory of 1860.

Our ancestors did not fight for fame or fortune. They did not seek the destruction of the United States. They did seek to separate themselves from a government that would rule rather than govern. Our ancestors would not have their States treated as provinces with Washington as the new Rome.

The Constitution of the Southern Nation closely mirrors that of the original U. S. Constitution except that it clearly states that theirs would be a nation under God, and did not seek to create a more perfect Union but, rather, simply '...form a federal government.' Their concerns over finances are evident in that they gave the President a line-item veto to cut out 'internal improvement/entitlements' misuse of the federal budget and limited the Confederate President to one (1) six-year term of office.

This does not sound like a nation dedicated simply to preserving slavery as all of our 7th grade children are taught in federally funded schools using federally approved textbooks. The Southern Constitution even forbade

the further import of slaves in 1863. The United States Constitution did not get around to doing this until 1866 despite the Emancipation Proclamation.

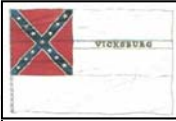
The men we honor here today understood all of this. They lived their lives in the light of this knowledge. They were proud to be called 'Rebel' and honored their membership in the SCV. But more importantly, they passed their knowledge on to their descendants so that the memory of the Southern nation and the 'real' reasons for its existence might not die through time and ignorance taught by 'those people'. Their hard work and the work done every day by SCV members, UDC and OCR ladies and the Children of the Confederacy keep alive the memory of our ancestors.

Let us all continue the labors so far advanced by these men and our ancestors. Like them, we must work hard each day to counter the anti-Southern, anti-Christian sentiment that we find so often in our modern, enlightened society. Continuing the work done by these men is the best way to honor and remember them. Doing so, we also honor and remember our own ancestors.

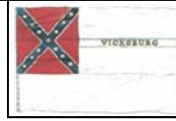
Advance the colors and never sound retreat.

**“I RELY UPON TEXAS REGIMENTS IN ALL
TIGHT PLACES, AND FEAR I HAVE TO CALL
UPON THEM TOO OFTEN!
THEY HAVE FOUGHT BRAVELY, NOBLY, ...”**

-GENERAL ROBERT E. LEE-



VICKSBURG NATIONAL MILITARY PARK LIVING HISTORY BY THE 12TH TEXAS ARTILLERY VAL VERDE BATTERY REENACTORS JUNE 12 AND 13



Above L-R: Billy Ford, Linda Ford, Mike Holbrook, Deborah Robinson, Bradley Ford, Stephanie Ford, Craig and Caraline Robinson, Ronnie Hatfield, Tony Johnson, Channa Robinson, Jennifer Ford, and Brandon Ford at the Texas Monument near the Railroad

Right 2 photos: Reagan Camp Cmdr. Marc Robinson with spouse Deborah and children Craig, Caraline, and Channa at the Texas Monument and below, Craig Robinson is entertained by Halbert Camp Cmdr. Ronnie Matthews at the camp near Ft. Garrott (Southeastern corner of Confederate defenses)



Lower Left: Val Verde cannon location from inside of Confederate defensive pos., Ft. Garrott, where fired for visitors are L-R, Marc Robinson, Billy Ford, Brandon Ford, Bradley Ford, Tony Johnson, Mike Holbrook, and Ronnie Matthews



Right: Lt. Gen. Stephen Dill Lee Monument at Vicksburg National Military Park.



Above: Cannons positioned at the 2nd Texas Lunette, Vicksburg National Military Park. **Right:** Kiosk explaining 2nd Texas Lunette. Far right: Colonel Thomas N. Waul, Texas Legion Monument



Above: Kiosk of Vicksburg Military Park Tour Route near Ft. Hill overlooking what use to be the Miss. River

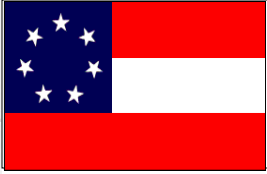


Above: Plaque marking the salient angle a which the assaulting party entered the Railroad Redoubt on May 22.



Above R: Plaque marking spot near the headquarters of Waul's Texas Legion at Vicksburg. **Right:** Deborah Robinson and daughter Channa at the 12th Texas Artillery Living History Camp near Fort Garrott

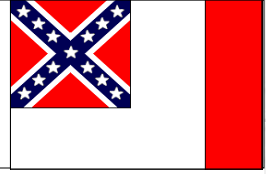




ON THIS DAY IN CONFEDERATE HISTORY

July

by Kirby McCord



1861

July 1, 1861: Gideon Welles, United States Secretary of the Navy, in response to President Lincoln's call to blockade the Confederacy, announces his preliminary findings for the preparedness of the US Navy for that task: 82 ships of war are in commission, carrying 1,100 guns and 13,000 officers and men, including Marines. Unfortunately, Welles discovers that since Lincoln's inauguration, 259 US Navy officers have resigned their commissions and joined the Confederacy.

July 13, 1861: Confederate General Robert S. Garnett becomes the first general on either side to be killed in action, at a skirmish near Carrick's Ford, in what would later become West Virginia. Although the leaderless Confederates retreat, they have inflicted more than twice as many casualties on the Northerners, led by then unknown George B. McClellan, than they suffer themselves. Carrick's Ford, which was preceded by otherwise minor Union victories at Harper's Ferry, Philippi, Rich Mountain, and Laurel Hill, allows McClellan to claim complete possession of the pro-union western counties of Virginia, setting the stage for the birth of the state of West Virginia.

July 21, 1861: The first major battle of the War Between the States occurs at Manassas Junction, Virginia, along a stream known as Bull Run. US General Irwin McDowell has taken five days to march his 35,000 troops the twenty-one miles from Washington to Manassas. This delay, plus vital information obtained from Confederate spy and D.C. socialite Rose Greenhow has allowed Confederate General P.G.T. Beauregard, the hero of Fort Sumter, to prepare his 21,000 men for battle. Modern technology, circa 1861, comes into play as Beauregard is able to wire Jefferson Davis in Richmond for reinforcements. Davis, in turn, wires Confederate General Joseph E. Johnston in the Shenandoah Valley and his 9,000 men travel by train to the battlefield, arriving fresh and eager for action on the afternoon of the 20th. During the battle, Confederate General Barnard Bee bestows the nickname "Stonewall" on Confederate General Thomas J. Jackson, although none can say whether it was an insult or a commendation, as Bee dies in the fight. The battle ends with a completely disorganized rout of the Federal forces, which flee back to Washington, mingled with hundreds of panicked Washington civilians who have come this afternoon to picnic and to watch an anticipated glorious Federal victory. The high casualties shock the country: 1,982 Confederates fall, and 2,896 Federals are casualties.

July 25, 1861: The Crittenden Resolution passes the US Senate. The bill states that the purpose of the war is to preserve the Union and uphold the Constitution. The bill also directly addresses slavery, specifically stating that the war is not being fought to abolish slavery, which shall remain unaltered upon successful completion of the war.

July 26, 1861: 500 Federal troops under Major Isaac Lynde are attacked by 250 Confederates under Lt. Colonel John Baylor at Fort Fillmore, New Mexico. Lynde beats a hasty retreat, leaving the fort and 400 prisoners in Confederate hands. Three Federals are killed; there are no Confederate casualties.

July 30, 1861: In the Federally occupied capitol of Jefferson City, the Missouri State Convention votes 56-25 to declare the office of governor open. The governor, Claiborne Jackson, has been leading Confederate troops in battle. All pro-Southern state officers (namely the secretary of state of the lieutenant governor) and legislators have fled the capitol, and their seats are named vacant as well. The following day, the state convention elects pro-Union Hamilton Gamble as governor.

1862

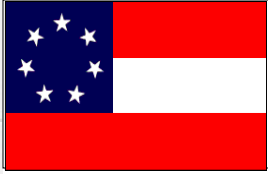
July 15, 1862: In a miraculous backwoods construction project, the C.S.S. *Arkansas* ironclad is armed and armored far from a dry dock after Memphis is captured. Manned by 60 Missouri volunteers with no artillery or naval experience, she sails out of the Yazoo River onto the Mississippi on this day. Almost immediately, she is attacked by three federal gunboats. The *Arkansas* fights back, disabling one Union boat and harassed by nonstop firing from the *Arkansas*, the other two boats retreat. The *Arkansas* pursues, only to run into the entire Federal river fleet, more than twenty ships, "a forest of masts and smokestacks." Undeterred, the *Arkansas* plunges into the midst of the enemy ships, firing pointblank into the enemy hulls. As the massive cloud of gun smoke clears, the *Arkansas* finds herself, almost unscathed, beyond the Federal fleet. She sets sail for Vicksburg and assumes her post at the bottom of that city's bluffs.

July 29, 1862: Captain Raphael Semmes sails the C.S.S. *Alabama* out of Liverpool, England, over the objections of U.S. Ambassador to that country, Charles F. Adams. The British built *Alabama* will inflict massive damage on the U.S. merchant fleet over the next two years, damage that will result in unsuccessful lawsuits brought by American ship owners against the British government.

1863

July 1, 1863: Uninformed by his absent cavalry, General Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia blunders into Federal forces east of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Major General Henry Heth is wounded and Major General James Archer is captured, adding to the confusion. Still, Lee's disciplined troops enfilade the outnumbered Unionists and rout them, taking more than 4,000 prisoners. The victory is incomplete, however, as General Richard Ewell declines Lee's offer to seize the heights beyond the town, heights that the federals occupy and fortify.

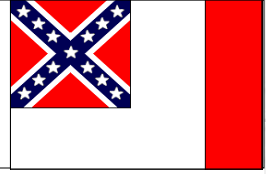
July 2, 1863: Lee attacks the heights south of Gettysburg in a massive *en echelon* attack intending to roll up the Federal line. Despite valiant efforts, the attack fails, leaving Major General John Bell Hood seriously wounded, and Major General William Barksdale dead. Also killed is Brigadier General Paul Jones Semmes, cousin to Raphael Semmes, and Major General William Dorsey Pender.



ON THIS DAY IN CONFEDERATE HISTORY

June

by Kirby McCord



July 3, 1863: The three day Battle of Gettysburg culminates in the doomed Pickett's Charge on the Union center. Nine brigades in three divisions participate in the charge. The devastating losses suffered in the attack illustrate the courage displayed in that battle. Two of the three division commanders are casualties: Major General James J. Pettigrew is slightly wounded, only to be killed during the retreat after the battle, Major General Isaac Trimble loses his leg, and Major General George Pickett is unwounded; and eight of nine brigade commanders are casualties of war: Colonel James Marshall, Brigadier General Richard B. Garnett (cousin to Robert S. Garnett), and Brigadier General Lewis Armistead are killed; Colonel Birkett Fry and Brigadier General James Kemper are wounded and captured, Brigade leaders Alfred M. Scales and James H. Lane are wounded, and Brigadier John M. Brockenborough suffers shell shock and is relieved of command (the debilitation is permanent and he will be discharged from the army a few months later). In Pickett's Division, all thirteen regimental commanders are casualties, in Trimble's Division, six of eight regimental commanders are lost, and in Pettigrew's Division, eight of twelve field officers fall. Of the 12,000 men who participated in the charge, more than 6,500 were casualties. The Battle of Gettysburg has cost Lee 28,063 men and officers who are irreplaceable. They inflict 23,049 casualties on the North -- but the Union can draw on additional manpower.

July 4, 1863: Confederate General John Pemberton surrenders Vicksburg and 29,000 soldiers to Union General Ulysses S. Grant.

July 13, 1863: A mob of over 50,000 people riot in New York City over the draft. Federal troops from Gettysburg are required to quell the violence, which lasts a week, causes untold damage, and costs over 1,000 civilian deaths.

July 18, 1863: Federal troops, spearheaded by the 54th Massachusetts Colored Infantry under Colonel Robert Gould Shaw, futilely attack Battery Wagner in Charleston Harbor. Federal casualties, including Shaw, tally 1,515; Confederate losses are 174.

July 26, 1863: Confederate John Hunt Morgan's Great Raid comes to an end when Morgan and his few surviving gallant companions are captured at New Lisbon, Ohio. Initially designed as a diversionary raid, Morgan, since June 11, has traversed Tennessee and Kentucky, crossed the Ohio River, and raided into Indiana and Ohio. The hoped for Copperhead insurrection in Ohio does not materialize and Morgan's men, averaging 21 hours a day in the saddle, are finally run to ground. He has captured and paroled 6,000 Federal troops, torn up railroads in 60 places, destroyed 34 bridges, captured 2,500 horses, caused 50,000 militiamen to be called to action and 50,000 Federal troops to be redeployed to capture him, burned 4,375 homes and businesses, and caused \$600,000 in property damage. But the price is high, as only about 300 of his 2,400 elite cavalymen make it home. Of the rest, most are captured and sent to the notorious Camp Douglas in Chicago. But Morgan and his officers are unwisely imprisoned at the Ohio State Penitentiary, where they manage to escape in November, 1863.

1864

July 9, 1864: Confederate General Jubal Early's invasion of Maryland continues virtually unchecked. His 14,000 man army sweeps aside a Federal force of 6,000 at Monocacy, led by General Lew Wallace, author of *Ben Hur*. Confederate losses: 700, Union losses: 2,000. Rather than pursue the fleeing Federals, Early marches on Washington, sending residents into a panic. Over the next several days, Lincoln scrambles to fortify the city, bleeding vital troops from Grant's lines at Petersburg. Having accomplished his mission to divert Union troops from Virginia, Early returns to the Shenandoah Valley.

July 20, 1864: Union General William T. Sherman has marched inexorably across northern Georgia toward Atlanta. An exasperated Jefferson Davis replaces the cautious General Joseph E. Johnston with the aggressive General John Bell Hood. The gallant Hood immediately attacks Federal forces at Peachtree Creek, the only place he can concentrate forces against a similar-sized enemy, but is repulsed with heavy losses. The Confederates suffer 4,796 casualties, while inflicting only 1,779 on the bluecoats. Over the next week, trying to break the siege of Atlanta, Hood attacks twice more, with similar results.

July 30, 1864: At 4:45 in the morning, one of the largest explosions ever seen on the American continent sends flames, earth, cannon, and bodies 100 feet into the air in the midst of a mushroom-shaped cloud. The Federals have detonated a mine under the Confederate earthworks at Petersburg, Virginia, blasting a hole in the rebel defenses. 20,000 Yankees charge into the 30 foot deep crater, which stretches 170 by 80 feet, but none emerge on the Confederate side as the Confederates engineer a murderous crossfire on the hapless Federals, most of whom cower behind debris from the explosion. 3,748 Federals are lost in the unconventional assault, while less than 1,000 Confederates are casualties.

"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.



JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP 2156

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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