



SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS, TEXAS DIVISION

THE JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP NEWS

www.reaganscvcamp.org

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 12

DECEMBER 2013

COMMANDER'S DISPATCH

Compatriots,

It has been a busy and fast year. Thank you for allowing me to be your Commander for 2013. In 2014 I will return as your camp Adjutant/Treasurer. Here is a recap of the past year. Merry Christmas and God Bless the South.

Jan. 5th Sam Davis Youth Ball

Jan. 19th Confederate Hero's Day Ceremony at the Reagan Statue

Feb. 11th Wall at Plaza started

Feb. 23&24th Booth at Gun Show

March 2nd Division Drill Practice at Plaza

March 16th Living History at Plaza

March 18th First shipment of Pavers arrived

March 30th Flag Folding practice at Plaza

April 12th Reagan Camp Reception for out of town guest

April 13th Parade and PLAZA DEDICATION

May 4th Mt. Zion Ceremony near Fairfield

May 25th Armed Forces Day at Texas State Railroad

May 27th Athens-Monument at city Cemetery

June 7-8-9 Division Reunion at Tanglewood Resort, Pottsboro, Texas

June 22nd Marc Robinson from Reagan Camp at Upshur County Monument Dedication

July 18-19-20-21 National Reunion at Vicksburg, Miss.

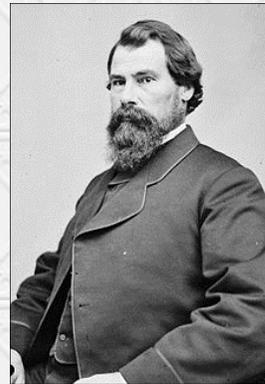
July 26th Helped with Korean Veterans Day at Dodwood Trails Assisted Living

July 27th Pilgram Cemetery, Ancestor of Tommy Gunnels, Marker Dedication

Aug.24th 8th Brigade Meeting in Nacadoches

Sept.28th Reagan Camp work day at Reagan home site

Oct. 5th Ceremony to honor John H. Reagan at Reagan home site



John H. Reagan

About 1863

Oct 8, 1818 – March 6, 1905

Post Master General of the Confederate States of America

Secretary of the Treasury CSA

U. S. Senator from Texas

U. S. Rep. from Texas

District Judge

Texas State Representative

First Chairman - Railroad Commission of Texas

A Founder and President of the Texas State Historical Association

Nov.9th Veterans Day Parade in Nacadoches, 8th Brigade Max. effort

Nov.11th Helped "Howdy Martin" camp at Athens for Veterans day Ceremony

Dec. 14th Reagan camp meeting and Induction of 2014 Officers

Dan Dyer

CAMP MEETINGS

3rd Tuesday of Each Month
06:30 PM

Snacks and drinks 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.

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What happened to Confederate General J.E.B Stuart?

He continued to lead the cavalry of the Army of Northern Virginia for nearly a year after the Battle of Gettysburg. He was mortally wounded at Yellow Tavern outside Richmond in May 1864.

“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-

Prayer List

- Commander Dan Dyer
- Historian Gary Williams
- Former Chaplain Ed Furman
- Past Cmdr. Ronnie Hatfield
- Chaplain Rod Skelton
- Compatriot Tom James
- Quartermaster Frank Moore

Prayer List

- Compatriot John Brent Barnhart
- Davis/Reagan UDC Pres. Dollye Jeffus
- Jean Stokes
- The Sons of Confederate Veterans
- United Daughters of the Confederacy
- The Sovereign State of Texas
- The United States of America

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Jan 4, 2014: Sam Davis Youth Ball at Museum for East Texas Culture Ballroom.

Jan 18, 2014: Confederate Heroes Day Celebration at the plaza.

Jan 21, 2014: John H. Reagan Camp monthly meeting at 6pm at First Christian Church, Palestine. (3rd Tues of every month) The Historical Program will be “Confederate Lady Spies”, by Mrs. Norma Holley. Douglas Camp Commander Dennis Brand stated, “Norma does an excellent job of relating some of the stories of the South’s heroines.” Make plans to be there!

Jan 25th: East Texas Leadership Training Conference Sponsored by East Texas & Northeast Texas Brigades. For More information, see page 10 of the newsletter

The Reagan Guards will be having Drill Practice at 5:15pm, at the First Christian Church Parking lot, prior to the monthly meeting which is held on the third Tuesday of each month. We would love to have you participate. You can contact Rudy at 903-731-7045 or 903-724-3905 if you have questions.



This flag flies in honor and memory of over 1,000 Confederate veterans from Anderson County who marched off to war, one third of whom never returned, and the over 500 Confederate veterans from all across the South who are buried in this county. They fought for liberty and independence from a tyrannical and oppressive government. Provided by the John H. Reagan Camp # 2156, Sons of Confederate Veterans. www.reaganscvcamp.org

“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-

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



JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP THANK YOU TO DAN DYER FOR PUTTING THE CAMP FIRST



We would like to take this time to say “Thank You” to Commander Dan Dyer for leading the camp during the year 2013. Dan did an excellent job as Commander of the Reagan Camp. As you can tell from the list of activities on Page 1, Dan ensured that the Reagan Camp was one of the busiest in the state. He has always put the camp first. When it came time to select officers for the year 2014, the Adjutant/Treasurer job position was being vacated with no one who could fill the vacancy. Knowing the demands of the job and how important it is that everything be done correctly, Dan volunteered to step down from Camp Commander to take the position of our Camp Adjutant/Treasurer. Dan has proven that he puts the Sons of Confederate Veterans John H. Reagan Camp ahead of his own personal desires, and the Reagan Camp would like to take this time to let everyone reading this newsletter know that we appreciate him very much. Thank You Dan Dyer for all you do! You were a great camp Commander who fulfilled the charge, and you are an asset to the John H. Reagan Camp.





**STATUE REMEMBERING CONFEDERATE SOLDIER'S ACTIONS
IN FROM OF THE
NATIONAL CIVIL WAR MUSEUM
IN HARRISBURG, PA**



Below is what is inscribed at the foot of the statue.

Moment of Mercy

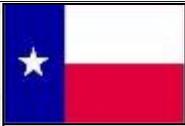
By Sculptor Terry Jones

The Battle of Fredericksburg, Virginia, in December of 1862, was one of the Moodier engagements of the American Civil War. On December 13th, Federal troops made repeated frontal assaults against Confederate positions behind the stone walls along the Sunken Road at Marye's Heights. In five hours an estimated 6300 Union soldiers lay dead or wounded on the battlefield. As darkness approached, a light snow fell and the temperatures dropped to near zero. All through the frigid gloom, injured men cried in agony: "Help," "Water," "Somebody, please help." For one Union Commander that night was forever etched in his memory. "My ears were filled with the cries and groans of the wounded, and the ghastly faces of the dead almost made a wall around me."

By the afternoon of December 14th, Sergeant Richard R. Kirkland of the 2nd South Carolina Infantry could no longer bear those mournful cries. Shortly after mid-day, Kirkland secured permission from his commander to take water to those in need. Filling as many canteens as he could carry, Kirkland hurtled the stone wall and ran to the aid of wounded Union soldiers. Shots rang out from the Federal lines. Only when the purpose of the Confederate's errand became readily apparent, did the Union commander shout down the line: "Don't shoot that man, he's too brave to die." Then, for ninety minutes the battlefield was quiet. Both sides observed a solemn truce as the nineteen-year-old sergeant turned Good Samaritan tenderly ministered to enemy wounded soldiers in what was most assuredly a "Moment of Mercy."

Soldiers in blue and soldiers in gray repeated this incident many times throughout the Civil War. This Moment of Mercy sculpture pays homage to them and the uniquely American spirit of aiding those in need.

Sponsored by the John Crain Kinkel Foundation



JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP AWARDS AWARDED TO MEMBERS AT THE DECEMBER MEETING



Above: Commander Dan Dyer (left) presents Gary Gibson with an award for being the Outstanding Member of the Year for 2013. Gary was present at every event the Reagan Camp participated in. Way to go Gary!

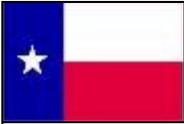


Above, Left to Right: Commander Dan Dyer, Gary Gibson, Marc Robinson and Dwight Franklin (not pictured) received an award for attending each and every meeting for the year 2013. These men are dedicated to the camp and we appreciate them and all they do.



We had about 40 people attend the December Camp Meeting. Here are a few pictures of those attending.





JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP # 2156 MUSICAL PROGRAM & 2014 CAMP OFFICERS



The Reagan Camp was in for a treat as Texas Division Chaplain, Don Majors, entertained the camp during the December meeting. Don showed his vocal and guitar skills as he started his program off with "Dixie". He then sang several Christmas songs. We really appreciate Chaplain Majors for the program. He did an excellent job, and everyone really enjoyed the program.



SCV Texas Division Chaplain Don Majors swore in the Reagan Camp Officers for the year 2014. Pictured from left to right are: Don Majors, Gary Williams, Rudy Ray (Cmdr), Marc Robinson, Dale Roberts, Dan Dyer, Dwight Franklin, Gary Gibson, Forrest Bradberry, & Frank Williams.



TEXAS DIVISION CHAPLAIN'S ARTICLE BY REVEREND DON MAJORS "FOR THIS CAUSE"



"For this cause I was born, and for this cause I have come into the world." - Jesus Christ (John 8:37).

The story of Christmas is about the greatest gift humanity has been given. Out of His great love, God gave the world a Savior more than 2,000 years ago. Christmas is the celebration of Jesus the Messiah coming to Earth. It is called "The Incarnation." The Bible tells us in John 1:5 that Jesus the Messiah came to a dark and sinful world as the "light that shines in the darkness." The Christmas story is an account of God's remarkable love for humanity. His birth in Bethlehem was foretold by the Jewish prophet Micah 700 years early (Micah 5:2). Bethlehem has a deep-rich Jewish heritage. Its history deals with Jacob, Rachel, and Naomi. In particular, it deals with David the shepherd boy when he was anointed king over all of Israel.

I love to study the Messianic Scriptures like Micah 5:2 that prophetically speak of the coming Messiah. The

Old Testament is rich in these passages such as can be found in the Book of Isaiah. In high school choir, and again in college, I participated in an all male chorus as we performed Handel's Messiah, which is taken directly from Isaiah. There is nothing any more beautiful and moving than Handel's Messiah. Then there are the classic New Testament passages that are especially found in the Book of Luke. I never tire of these beautiful passages that we read every Christmas season. In my way of thinking, it is a good part of our Southern heritage.

My brother, Steve Majors, is also a member of the Captain James P. Douglas Camp SCV in Tyler, Texas. Steve has written some beautiful songs over the years, but he has also written several Christmas songs as well. One of my favorite Christmas songs that he has written is entitled, "Christmas Is Special Down in Dixie." There are three verses to this Southern Christmas song, but for the sake of space, I'll give you the words to the chorus. "Christmas is special down in Dixie, where some folks still believe with simple faith. The blessed Christmas story, of the One who came from Glory, sent by God to take our sins away. Christmas time is special down in Dixie, where we still celebrate His Holy Day. Lots of smiling faces on those who sing His praises, taking time to humbly kneel and pray."

There is another Christmas passage telling of the Christ who came, and it is found in John 8:37. In fact, it's the words of the Savior Himself. He said, "For this Cause I was born, and for this Cause I have come into the world." "For this cause" is a statement of certainty and conviction. Jesus knew who He was, and what the

purpose of His life on earth would be. His entire life was encapsulated in that one powerful phrase, "For this Cause." I love His boldness and certainty. "Cause" is defined as, "that which produces an effect or a result; to bring about or make happen."

Take the time to once again read First Samuel chapter 17, and study the great story and battle between Goliath and the Philistines against Israel. When young David the shepherd boy came upon the battle scene bringing food to his older brothers, he didn't like what he found. His perusal of the landscape showed his Jewish brothers hiding behind rocks in fear and in intimidation, while Goliath profaned the God of Israel.

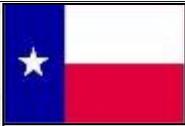
Then David passionately proclaimed to his brothers in verse 29, "Is there not a cause?" As Christians, we are committed to the Cause of Christ. Our Christian faith today is being attacked by the "Goliath's" of the world, just as much as our Southern heritage. As a Christian, I desire to be committed to the Cause of Jesus Christ. Unashamedly, the Cause of Christ is what I live for, and it affects my behavior, my thinking, and my motivation. I don't wake up every morning and wonder what I should do with my life. Deep down I know that I was born for His Cause, and nothing can change that. In closing, may I amply the thought? As Southerners and Sons of the Confederacy, we have been given a Cause. Our "Cause" is to perpetuate and defend the memory of our Confederate ancestors. Unashamedly, I am committed to the Cause that my and your ancestors were committed to. The Cause is what I live for, and it affects my behavior, my thinking, and my motivation. I don't wake up every morning and wonder what I should do with my life. Deep down I know that I was born for this Southern Cause, and nothing can or will ever change that. I love Jesus, and I love my Rebel Flag, and I love Christmas!

Have a wonderful Christmas dear compatriots.

Reverend Don Majors

Texas Division Chaplain

Sons of Confederate Veterans



**JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP # 2156
SCV EAST TEXAS LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE
JANUARY 25, 2014**



**EAST TEXAS LEADERSHIP TRAINING CONFERENCE
SPONSORED BY
EAST TEXAS AND NORTHEAST TEXAS BRIGADES
Saturday, January 25, 2014**

9:00 – 9:15	Welcome - Invocation - Introductions and Conference Outline –	Marc Robinson, Cmdr. ET Brigade TX Division Chaplain Don Majors Marc Robinson
9:15 – 9:45	“Fulfilling the Charge,” a presentation by Rudy Ray, 1st Lt. Cmdr., John H. Reagan Camp 2156	
9:45 – 10:25	Restoring and maintaining forgotten cemeteries – Mr. E. J. Adams, Texas Historical Commission RIP member (Restoration, Investigation, and Preservation of Historical Cemeteries) Mr. Adams does amazing work in East Texas. Most cemeteries that he has restored have CSA veterans interred. He will have a very inspiring presentation!	
10:25 – 10:40	Break	
10:40 – 11:15	Heritage Offense and Heritage Defense, what we need to know... – 1st Lt. Cmdr. David Moore	
11:15 – 11:30	National SCV to place more emphasis on heritage offense - Todd Owens, ATM Commander	
11:30 – 12:30	Lunch – Emma Sansom Chapter #31, Order of Confederate Rose	
12:30 – 1:15	Camp Growth, Stability, and Member Retention - Gary Bray, Div. 2nd Lt. Cmdr.	
1:15 – 2: 15	Commanders Command, Camp operations, programs, and projects - Johnnie Holley, Div. Cmdr.	
2:15 – 2:30	Break	
2:30 – 2:45	Connecting the Division (Calendar, email system, etc.) – Johnnie Holley, Div. Cmdr.	
2:45 – 3:30	Discussion and Closing Remarks – Moderator – Phil Maynard, 1st Lt. Cmdr. NET Brigade	
3:30	Closing prayer -	Chaplain Don Majors

Location of Conference Registration fee at door to cover expenses - \$10.00

First Assembly of God Please RSVP by 20 Jan 2014 to help plan for the meal: mrobinson1836@yahoo.com

5309 Rhones Quarter Road

Tyler, Texas 75707



CONFEDERATE VETERANS MEMORIAL PLAZA INFORMATION



The Confederate Veterans Memorial Plaza had the official opening and dedication on April 13, 2013. It is a beautiful Memorial to the Confederate Veterans. Although it is open for visitors, there is still room along the sidewalks for you to purchase a brick paver in the name of your confederate ancestor. This will ensure that your ancestor's service to the confederacy will not be forgotten, but will be remembered for years to come. If you would like to purchase a paver, please contact Dan Dyer at E-mail: danielyer497@yahoo.com or Phone: (903) 391-2224

PVT J. H. PEARSON CO. I, 4TH TX CAV HOUSTON COUNTY, TX	JOHN H. REAGAN POSTMASTER GENERAL C.S.A.	JOHN BELL HOOD HOOD'S TX BRIGADE A.N.V. - C.S.A.
PVT. J. P. PERKINS CO. D 7TH TEXAS CAVALRY	JAMES LONGSTREET "OLD PETE" LT GEN A.N.V. - C.S.A.	THOMAS J. JACKSON "STONEWALL" LT GEN A.N.V. - C.S.A.
J. E. B. STUART LT GEN - CAV CMDR A.N.V. - C.S.A.	ROBERT EDWARD LEE GENERAL A.N.V. - C.S.A.	JEFFERSON F DAVIS PRESIDENT C.S.A.

Would you like to honor you ancestor? There is still room in the plaza for you to have a paver with your ancestor's name and military information.



JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP #2156

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Please visit our website @
www.reaganscvcamp.org

The citizen-soldiers who fought for the Confederacy personified the best qualities of America. The preservation of liberty and freedom was the motivating factor in the South's decision to fight the *Second American Revolution*. The tenacity with which Confederate soldiers fought underscored their belief in the rights guaranteed by the Constitution. These attributes are the underpinning of our democratic society and represent the foundation on which this nation was built.

Today, the **Sons of Confederate Veterans** is preserving the history and legacy of these heroes, so future generations can understand the motives that animated the Southern Cause.

The SCV is the direct heir of the United Confederate Veterans, and the oldest hereditary organization for male descendants of Confederate soldiers. Organized at Richmond, Virginia in 1896, the SCV continues to serve as a historical, patriotic, and non-political organization dedicated to ensuring that a true history of the 1861-1865 period is preserved.

Membership in the **Sons of Confederate Veterans** is open to all male descendants of any veteran who served honorably in the Confederate armed forces. Membership can be obtained through either **lineal or collateral** family lines and kinship to a veteran must be **documented genealogically**. The minimum age for full membership is 12, but there is no minimum for Cadet membership.

Friends of the SCV memberships are available as well to those who are committed to upholding our charge, but do not have the Confederate ancestry.

THE CHARGE TO THE SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

"To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will commit the vindication of the cause for which we fought. To your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate soldier's good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles which he loved and which you love also, and those ideals which made him glorious and which you also cherish."

Lt. General Stephen Dill Lee, Commander-in-Chief

United Confederate Veterans

New Orleans, Louisiana, April 25, 1906.



Camp meetings: 3rd Tuesday of Each Month - 06:30 PM
Snacks served at each meeting.
First Christian Church
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Palestine, Texas
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