



SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS, TEXAS DIVISION

# THE JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP NEWS

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

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 6

JUNE 2014

## COMMANDER'S DISPATCH

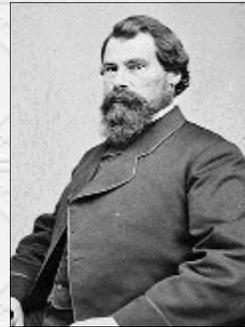
“Behold, how good and how pleasant [it is] for brethren to dwell together in unity!” (Ps.133:1)

“Can two walk together, except they be agreed?” (Am 3:3)

Unity among brethren is a “pleasant” thing and disunity is an unpleasant thing. But true unity, for thinking and volitional beings, must be a unity based upon some basic, fundamental beliefs and purpose. Any other kind of unity is a unity fit for robots or slaves but not for free, thinking men. People cannot truly walk together in unity without their being a basic like-

mindedness. This is true for the SCV, for SCV brothers. There are some things that we in the SCV must agree upon or there can be no unity among us.

So what must SCV brothers agree upon? All that we need and must agree upon is found in our Charge and the Historical Interpretation of our Charge. Our Charge was given to us in the past, in history by historical men, Confederate Veterans. Yes, we must understand and interpret the Charge for our day but said understanding and interpretation must be rooted in



**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

history. In one real sense our Confederate Fathers are the interpreters of our Charge. So as we look at the Charge and seek to know from it what we must agree upon let us also look to history and to our Confederate

## CAMP MEETINGS

3rd Tuesday of Each Month  
06:30 PM

Snacks and drinks served at each meeting.

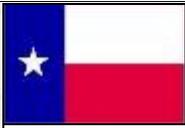
First Christian Church  
113 East Crawford Street  
Palestine, Texas

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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## JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP COMMANDER'S DISPATCH

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Veterans for an understanding of the Charge and thus of our basic fundamental beliefs and our whole purpose for existence.

But before we do that let me briefly clear out some things that we do NOT have to be agreed upon and let us understand that if we make things that we do not have to agree upon, things that are not basic and fundamental to us, things that in essence have nothing to do with our Charge; if we make these things as must agreed upon items, then this too will destroy our unity. So the following is just a sampling of things that we do not have to agree upon in order to fulfill our Charge and be unified in doing so?

Well first of all we do not have to like each other. Yes, I put that bluntly on purpose. It is nice when we all like each other, but it is not necessary. We do not all have to have the same personality. Indeed there will be personality clashes in an SCV Camp but such need not and should not affect our unity. We all have personalities and we all have personality quirks and thus we all to a great extent have to tolerate each other- all of us, even those we like often bug us. But such "bugging" should not and must not divide us. Personality clashes must not divide us.

Secondly, interests outside the SCV should not divide us. I am an Aggie and there are members in our Camp who are- let me be nice, Longhorn fans. That is all well and good and we can have some fun with each other but such things must not divide us or cause strife in the Camp. There are Aggies, Longhorns, Red Raiders, Baylor Bears, etc, etc that can and do fulfill the Charge of the SCV. We do not want or need Aggie SCV Camps or Longhorn SCV Camps, only Confederate SCV Camps.

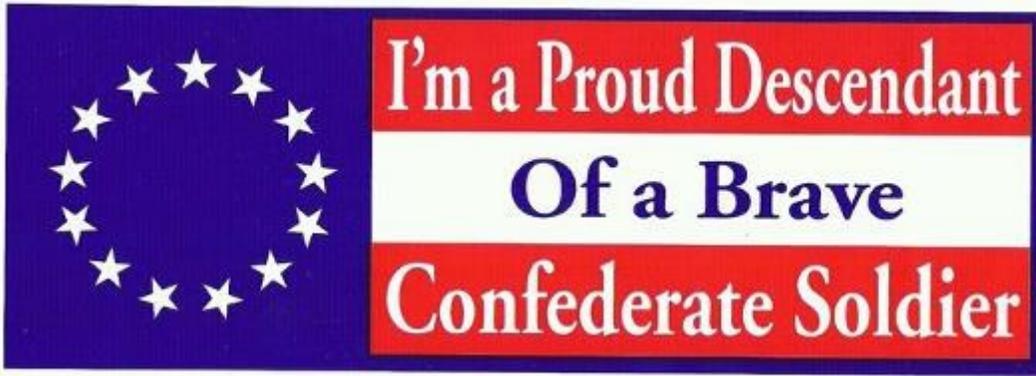
A third significant area that must not divide us is a little trickier than the first two but needs to be addressed. Contemporary Politics must not divide us. Now here we must be careful. As we are going to see later the Charge does give us some values that must be common to all SCV men. Values as set forth by the Charge are basic to our unity but there are some contemporary political, social, and cultural issues that do not necessarily reflect "Charge values" as such. A silly example but one that can instruct us is that for the most part we do not have to all like the same kind of music- some may like country, some bluegrass, some rock, etc. It would be a little hard to see an SCV member standing for the values of the Charge liking hip hop or rap but--- you get my point. Our musical tastes and preferences should not divide us. We do not all have to dress alike to be united. We do not all like to hunt and fish in order to be united. And we do not have to be Republicans or Democrats or Libertarians or whatever to be united in the SCV. Some of these things may touch Charge Values but they do not necessarily do so and indeed most often do not do so. And then here is a big one- we do not all have to agree upon the present United States and its policies to be united in the SCV. Again, such things sometimes will be relevant to Charge values but not always as such. Here is a cardinal principle that addresses this point: Anytime you bring into the SCV a "foreign" element you do so at the risk of dividing us. What do I mean by foreign element? A foreign element would be anything of significance that does not come out of our Charge, our core beliefs and values and our purpose for which we exist. This can have many applications but suffice it for now to simply state the principle.

We could name off several other things but hopefully we get the point concerning what is not basic and fundamental to being a member of the SCV. So now, what is basic and fundamental to being in the SCV and thus to our unity. It is all found in the Charge.

*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.*

It is this Charge that defines us and guides us and unites us. Next month God willing we will look at the things found in our Charge that are basic and fundamental and thus necessary to our unity as SCV brothers.

Rudy Ray



“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**

- Adjutant Dan Dyer
- Former Chaplain Ed Furman
- Past Cmdr. Ronnie Hatfield
- Former Chaplain Rod Skelton
- Compatriot Tom James
- Compatriot John Brent Barnhart

**Prayer List**

- 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

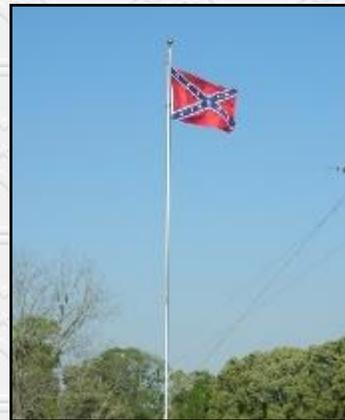
**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**July 16-19:** National Reunion in Charleston

**July 22:** Reagan Camp Executive Comm. Meeting at 6

**July 29:** Reagan Guards drill @ 7pm at Rudy's house

**Oct 18th:** Grave dedications in Houston County



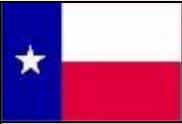
“DUTY IS THE MOST SUBLIME WORD IN OUR LANGUAGE. DO YOUR DUTY IN ALL THINGS. YOU CANNOT DO MORE. YOU SHOULD NEVER WISH TO DO LESS.”

-GENERAL ROBERT E. LEE-

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

**The Reagan Guards** will be having Drill Practice at 5:30pm, 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.

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.

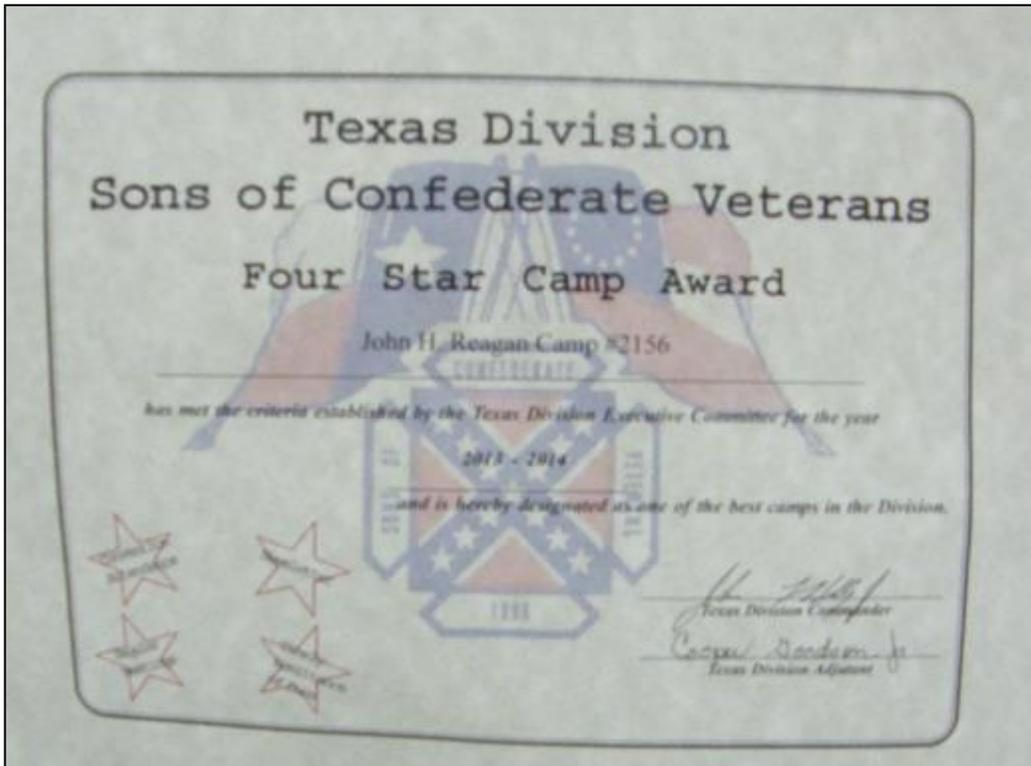


## JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP RECEIVES FOUR STAR AWARD AT THE STATE CONVENTION



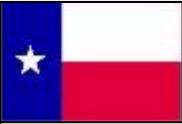
Members of the Reagan Camp pose for a picture with the Texas Division Four Star Camp Award that they received at the 2014 State Convention.

Pictured Left to Right:  
Dwight Franklin, Gary Williams, Gary Gibson, Rudy Ray, Frank Moore, John Brent Barnhart, Dan Dyer, David Franklin, Sam Hanks, & Marc Robinson.

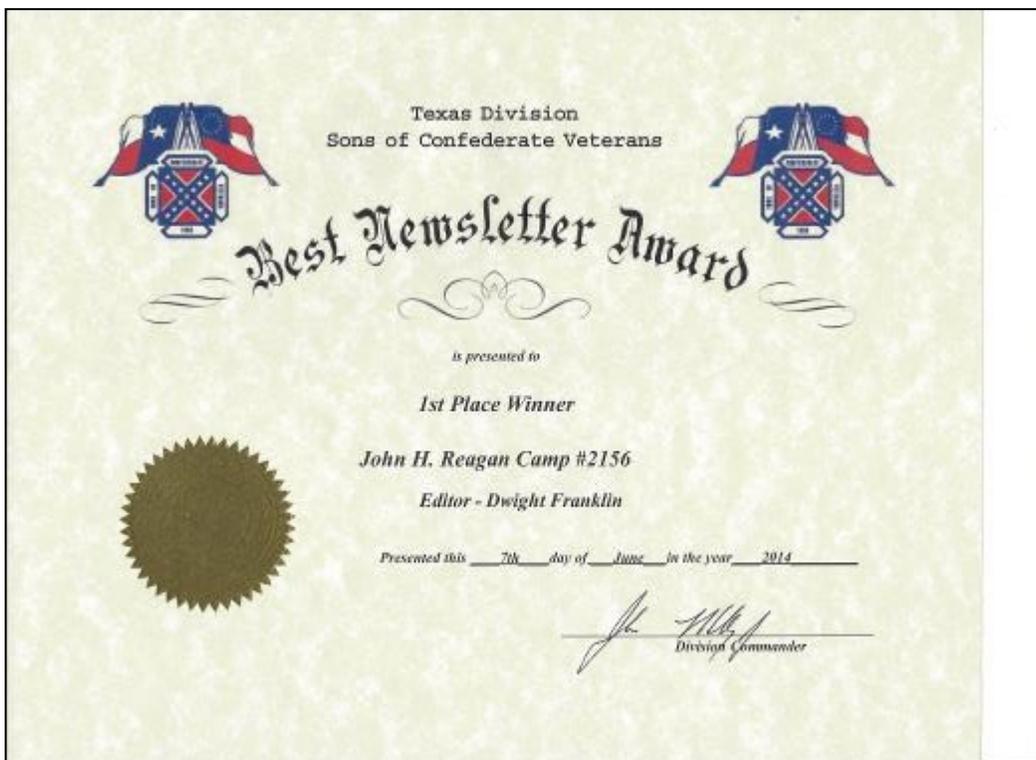


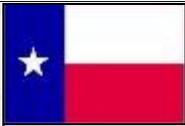
This was the Fifth year in a row that the John H. Reagan Camp was awarded the Four Star Camp Award.

At Left is a close up picture of the award.



# JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP RECEIVES BEST WEBSITE AWARD & BEST NEWSLETTER AWARD





## JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP CADET MEMEBERSHIP OFFER



I believe that the future of the Sons of Confederate Veterans lies with our young men. I am hoping to add 100 new Cadet members by the time we meet in Charleston in July.

As you may already know, a Cadet membership is for those young boys and men who have not reached 12 years of age. Their application for membership is basically the same as for a full membership, i.e., application, family lineage and documentation of their ancestor's Confederate service.

I strongly believe in this program. As my way of getting more young men involved, I am offering to assist them by paying their first years dues of \$10.00. I am also willing to assist in preparing their applications and family lineage.

Your assistance in helping me grow the Cadet program would be greatly appreciated.

If you have any questions, or comments, please contact me.

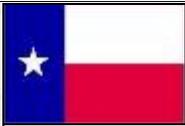
"For the Cause"

Bob Rubel  
1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Commander  
Terry's Texas Rangers Camp 1937  
Sons of Confederate Veterans

(817) 483-6288 - shop

(817) 929-5576 - cell





## JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP JUNE MEETING HISTORICAL PROGRAM BY CAMP HISTORIAN GARY WILLIAMS



Reagan Camp Historian, Gary Williams brought an excellent program titled, “Confederate Soldiers, Then Citizens and Later Community Leaders (1861-1900)” to the members at the June meeting.

As Gary started his program, he quoted the advice that Robert E. Lee gave his soldiers after the surrender where he told them, “To think of the future and not the past and to be loyal citizens as they had been soldiers.”

Gary then gave historical accounts of the contribution made to Anderson County from eight different men who had been Confederate Soldiers before becoming prominent citizens and leaders in the community. The men that Gary told about were W.A. Hagood, Col. Alexis T. Rainey, George Anderson Wright, James W. Ewing, Chris Rogers, Dr. Henry J. Hunter, Dr. Thomas M. Colley, & N.R. Royall. These men had a significant impact on the building, developing, and making of the city of Palestine and Anderson County, Texas after the war between the states.



Gary gave an in-depth account of the lives of each man, and we will print those accounts in future newsletters. This will allow those who missed the meeting to see the interesting lives that each of the men listed lived. Gary also brought some artifacts, articles and pictures from his personal collection that he displayed for people to see.

We appreciate Gary for all that he does for the Reagan Camp and for his willingness and ability to bring us such a good historical program. If you missed this meeting, you definitely missed a good one.



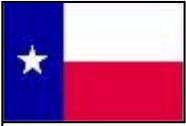
Shadow box with original document of W.A. Hagood.



Above: Chris Rogers. Notorious Lawmen of Anderson County.

Who Died When <i>Notches on the Guns</i>	
Thomas Moorehead, 26 <sup>th</sup> Ind	March 1863
Dan Carey, City Marshal	June 1872
Mose Remington, Saloon Keeper	22 Feb 1873
Hy Hoffman, Policeman	12 Aug 1873
John Scott, Politician	20 Aug 1873
Joseph Kaiser, Marshal	13 Dec 1877
Bill Quisenberry, Grayson Murders	1 Feb 1879
James Quisenberry, Grayson Murders	7 Sept 1879
John C Childs, Deputy Sheriff	7 Nov 1884
Thomas O'Donnell, Bartender	19 May 1887
* Suspected deaths	

Above: List of men who were killed by Chris Rogers.

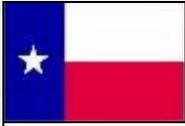


## JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP ROBERT E. LEE CALENDAR



### Shirley Plantation—Charles City, Virginia

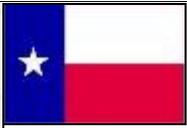
The parlor of Shirley Plantation was the scene of the wedding of Robert E. Lee's mother, Anne Hill Carter, to "Light Horse" Harry Lee on June 18, 1793.



## JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP SCV JUNE CALENDAR PICTURE



<p>1 June 1864 - to Jeff Davis</p> <p>My daily prayer to the great Ruler of the world is that He may shield you from harm, guard you from evil &amp; give you peace the world cannot take away.</p>	<p>2 undated -</p> <p>You cannot be a true man until you learn to obey</p>	<p>3 June, 1863 - to wife</p> <p>I trust that a kind Providence will watch over us, &amp; notwithstanding our weakness &amp; sins will yet give us a name &amp; place among the nations of the earth.</p>	<p>4 June, 1864 - to wife</p> <p>We are all in the hands of our Merciful God, whom I know will order all things for our good &amp; upon Him is my whole faith &amp; reliance.</p>	<p>5 June, 1839 - to his wife</p> <p>Mildness &amp; forbearance, tempered by firmness &amp; judgment, will strengthen their [children] affection for you, while it will maintain your control over them.</p>	<p>6 undated - to Markie</p> <p>I shall therefore have the great pleasure of being at Arlington Saturday where my affections &amp; attachments are more strongly placed than at any other place in the World.</p>	<p>7 undated -</p> <p>No tears at Arlington!</p> <p>No tears!</p>
<p>8 June, 1863 - to wife</p> <p>What a beautiful world god has given us! What a shame that men endowed with reason &amp; knowledge of right should mar His gifts.</p>	<p>9 June, 1861 - to wife</p> <p>I should like to retire to private life, if I could be with you &amp; the children, but if I can be of any service to the state or her cause I must continue.</p>	<p>10 June, 1862 - to wife</p> <p>I cannot help grieving [grandson's death] but when I reflect upon his great gain by his merciful transition from earth to Heaven, I think we ought to rejoice.</p>	<p>11 June, 1863 - to Charlotte Wicham</p> <p>Some good is always mixed with the evil in this world</p>	<p>12 undated - to wife</p> <p>My trust is in our Heavenly Father to whom my supplications continually ascend for you, my children, &amp; my country!</p>	<p>13 June, 1863 -</p> <p>I grieve over the desolation of the country &amp; the distress to innocent women &amp; children occasioned by spiteful excursions of the enemy, unworthy of a civilized nation.</p>	<p>14 June, 1864 - to Jeff Davis</p> <p>We have only to do our whole duty, &amp; everything will be well.</p>
<p>15 June, 1869 - to Robert</p> <p>You will have to get married if you wish to prosper.</p>	<p>16 undated -</p> <p>I have great reluctance to speak on political subjects. I have, however, said I think all who can should register &amp; vote.</p>	<p>17 June, 1865 - to Col. Taylor</p> <p>Tell [our returned soldiers] they must all set to work &amp; if they cannot do what they prefer, do what they can.</p>	<p>18 undated - to College Faculty</p> <p>We must be very careful how we are influenced by hearsay.</p>	<p>19 undated - to wife</p> <p>In this time of great suffering to the state &amp; country, our private distresses we must bear with resignation like Christians.</p>	<p>20 undated - to Robert</p> <p>With the improvement of your farm, proceeds will increase &amp; with experience, judgment, &amp; economy, will augment greatly.</p>	<p>21 undated - to Trustees</p> <p>I need not enlarge upon the importance of a good library to the advancement of the college. A useful literary institution cannot be maintained without it.</p>
<p>22 June, 1851 - to Custis</p> <p>I am opposed to the theory of doing wrong that good may come of it. I hold to the belief that you must act right whatever the consequences.</p>	<p>23 undated -</p> <p>I am fond of independence. It is that feeling that prompts me to come up strictly to the requirements of law &amp; regulations.</p>	<p>24 June, 1861 -</p> <p>No one can say what is in the future, nor is it wise to anticipate evil. But it is well to prepare for what may reasonably happen &amp; be provided for the worst.</p>	<p>25 undated - to Custis</p> <p>In regard to duty do your duty in all things—you cannot do more—you should never wish to do less.</p>	<p>26 undated - to Agnes</p> <p>You know how pleased I am at the presence of strangers, what a cheerful mood their company produces.</p>	<p>27 June, 1863 - to his men</p> <p>It must be remembered that we make war only upon armed men &amp; that we cannot take vengeance for the wrongs our people have suffered.</p>	<p>28 undated - As a general principle you should not force young men to their duty, but let them do it voluntarily &amp; thereby develop their characters.</p>
<p>29 June, 1854 - to Markie</p> <p>Nor is it possible for us always to do 'the good that we would,' &amp; omit 'the evil we would not.'</p>	<p>30 June, 1864 - to wife</p> <p>Do you recollect what a happy day 31 years ago this was? How many hopes &amp; pleasures it gave birth to! God has been merciful &amp; kind to us.</p>					



**THE ARTICLE BELOW WAS CONTRIBUTED  
BY CAMP HISTORIAN GARY WILLIAMS. IT CONTAINS EXCERPTS  
FROM THE BOOK "LEE THE LAST YEARS" BY CHARLES BRACELEN FLOOD**



On the chill and overcast morning of April 12, three days after the signing of the surrender terms, that Army of Northern Virginia was to perform its last act as a unit. It was to march up the sloping road to Appomattox Court house. There, on the outskirts of the village, where the road flattened out, each successive division was to halt, face the blue-clad Federal formations, and lay down its arms.

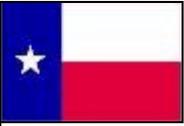
By chance, the Union general appointed to receive the surrender, and the Confederate general who was to lead up the first of the Southern divisions, were living symbols of the distances that men had traveled to kill each other in this war.

Joshua Chamberlain of Maine, newly promoted to major general, had entered the army and risen to be colonel of the famous Twentieth Maine, winning the Congressional Medal of Honor for his defense of Little Round Top at the battle of Gettysburg. He had received the last of his several wounds when he was hit twice at Hatcher's Run, just two weeks before. Chamberlain's Southern opposite number in this last necessary business was Major General John B. Gordon of Georgia, whose Second Corps had made the final doomed attack on Palm Sunday morning. General Gordon was Lee's hardest-fighting corps commander during the last year of the war. The most obvious of his many wounds was a deep gash in his thin face.

Shortly after breakfast, six thousand men of a Federal division lined up to receive the surrender. There were troops from Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, New York, and Pennsylvania. Soon they saw the long dispirited column of Confederates trudging up the road from the river, muskets on their shoulders for the last time. Gordon was at their head on horseback, the expression on his scarred face as crushed as those of his men. The first unit behind him was an understrength regiment of two hundred and ten men, the survivors of the Stonewall Brigade, which had started the war with forty-five hundred eager recruits. Behind them came many famous regiments, so few left in each that the red Confederate battle flags at their heads followed each other by short intervals. At a distance it looked like a parade of massed banners — to Chamberlain, watching them come, "The whole column seemed crowned with red."

The Confederates were nearly abreast of the Union ranks. As far as they knew, the blue-clad division of their late enemies was simply there to see to it that they laid down their arms. Suddenly the Southerners heard bugles and drums. The soldiers of the United States Army were lifting their muskets to the position of Carry Arms in a salute to the Confederate Army.

The effect was electric. Chamberlain, who had given the order to salute, watched the Confederate general react: *Gordon at the head of the column, riding with heavy spirit and downcast face, catches the sound ... looks up ... wheels superbly, making with himself and his horse one uplifted figure, without profound salutation as he drops the point of his sword to the boot toe; then, facing to his own command, gives word for his successive brigades to pass us with the same position of the manual, — honor answering honor. On our part not a*



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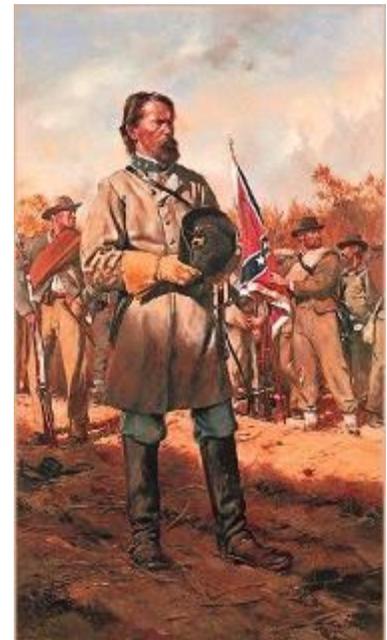
*sound of trumpet more, nor roll of drum . . . but an awed stillness rather, and breath-holding, as if it were the passing of the dead!*

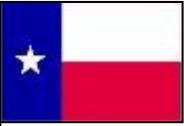
The Confederates halted and turned, lines of men in grey rags looking from twelve feet away into the eyes of men they had been shooting at seventy-two hours before. Chamberlain thought, "It is by miracles we have lived to see this day, — any of us standing here."

It was the soldiers who were showing the nation how a war should be ended. No Southern poet could say more than this, from General Chamberlain: *Before us in proud humiliation stood the embodiment of manhood, men whom neither toils and sufferings, nor the fact of death, nor disaster, nor hopelessness could bend from their resolve; standing before us now, thin, worn, and famished, but erect, and with eyes looking level into ours, waking memories that bound us together as no other bond. . .*

Veterans that there were, Lee's soldiers stacked their muskets with precision and few shows of emotion, but when each regiment in succession had to give up the flag it had followed into battle, placing it on a stack of surrendered muskets, the tears and curses and cries of pain began again. Men ran out from the ranks to kiss their flags good-bye. Some tore them from their staffs and hid them among themselves as they marched off. A few regiments marched up without a banner; the flag was tucked inside someone's tunic, or torn into a score of small secreted pieces that would become framed heirlooms in Southern houses.

The surrendering went on for six hours. When the last of the casualty-shrunken grey units marched up, a Confederate described what happened: *"...someone in the blue line broke the silence and called for three cheers for the last brigade to surrender. It was taken up on all about him by those who knew what it meant. But for us this soldierly generosity was more than we could bear. Many grizzled veterans wept like women, and my own eyes were as blind as my voice was dumb."*





## JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP CONFEDERATE ARTIFACT CONTRIBUTED BY ANDREW HARRIS



### Captured Union Canteens

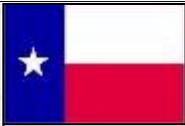
#### A Favored Accoutrement of the Southern Soldier

Last month we featured an identified Confederate Gardner canteen - the wooden Gardner's were the standard issue canteen produced by the Confederacy due to the shortage of metals throughout the South. However, the most sought after canteen for any Confederate soldier was the standard Union Army canteen. These became available among the Southern ranks in great numbers after the early-war victories in the East, and captured Federal equipment remained a welcome supplement throughout the war.



*Model 1858 Smooth-Side Canteen; Collection of Andrew Harris*

In contrast to the more crudely constructed wooden canteens produced by the Confederacy, the more common "Union Army canteen" was made of tin. The tin canteens were more durable, light-weight and water-tight. Not only was the supply of metal a barrier to the production of this kind of canteen by the Confederacy, but Southern industry also lacked the stamping dies needed to make these oblate, spherical containers.



## JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP CONFEDERATE ARTIFACT CONTRIBUTED BY ANDREW HARRIS



The Union canteens were made in two primary designs, known as the "Smooth-side" and the "Bull's-eye". The bull's-eye canteen was introduced in late 1862; similar to the smooth-side, but it incorporated a series of corrugated ridges in concentric rings on the faces of the canteen for added rigidity – the corrugated rings resembled a target or "bull's-eye". Both types of tin canteens were covered with brown, grey or light blue wool blanket material or jean cloth. The cloth cover provided a layer of insulation and when wetted would keep the contents cooler by retaining a bit of moisture around the body of the canteen.

Pictured here is a classic example of the early Model 1858 smooth-side canteen. It measures about 8 inches in diameter and 2-3/4 inches thick. In addition to its gray-brown wool cover, the canteen still retains its seldom seen original cotton carrying sling, which is attached with three iron loops spaced around the edge of the canteen. One of the loops also secures a short, iron chain that is attached to a cork stopper with a pull ring. The flanged, pewter spout is soldered to the top of the canteen.

This particular canteen was carried by Private William E. Manchester, Company F, 18<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts Infantry. He inked his initials, "W.E.M.", in large, block letters in two places on the cotton strap. Manchester was killed in action on August 30, 1862, in the attack of Fitz John Porter's Corps on Stonewall Jackson's position at the railroad cut, during the Battle of Second Manassas. This desperate fight is illustrated in Don Troiani's painting, "The Die Hards" (below), which depicts the battle from the Confederate vantage point of Brig. Gen. W.E. Starke's Louisianans. Confederate soldiers posted along the unfinished railroad embankment ran short on ammunition and resorted to hurling rocks into the attacking Federal ranks. The assault was successfully repulsed at great cost to the Union Army.

A closer look at these historic canteens illustrates the superior resources of the Northern war machine, right down to the most basic piece of military equipment; and gives us some additional insight into the fighting ability and resolve of the average Confederate soldier, who so often achieved much more on the battlefield in spite of his lack of material provisions.



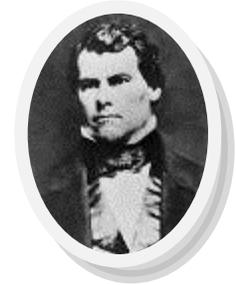
Detail of "The Die Hards" by Don Troiani; [www.historicalartprints.com](http://www.historicalartprints.com)



**JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP #2156**  
**JUNE IN THE LIFE OF JOHN H. REAGAN**  
**CONTRIBUTED BY DAN DYER**



June 6, 1857- John H. Reagan made 1st speech in bid for US Rep. at Palestine.



June 10, 1891- John H. Reagan's official appointment by Gov. Hogg as 1st Railroad Commissioner of Texas.

June 19, 1896- John H. Reagan 5th recipient of honorary doctorate at Tulane Univ., New Orleans, La.



June 23, 1865- John H. Reagan's letter to Gov. A.J. Hamilton asking for pardon and release from Federal Prison, Boston Harbor.

Other important dates in June

June 23, 1861- Co. G (Reagan Guards) 1st Texas Vol. Regt., Hood's Brigade, org. in Palestine by J.R. Woodward.



June 24, 1861- Co H, 1st Texas Vol. Inf. Regt., Hood's Brigade, org. in Palestine by J.G. Deveroux; A.T. Rainey was Capt.

June 21, 1900- Hood's Brigade veterans began 3 day convention in Palestine.



June 28, 1900- Reception held at John H. Reagan's home for Hood's Brigade veterans.



## TEXAS DIVISION CHAPLAIN'S ARTICLE A MESSAGE FROM REV. DON MAJORS TEXAS DIVISION CHAPLAIN



"The post-war era was a time of greed and arrogance in the North, and poverty, hunger, and bitterness in the South."

- The War Between The States, America's Uncivil War      By John J. Dwyer

"Our fields everywhere lie untilled. Naked chimneys are charred ruins all over the land mark the spots where happy homes, the seats of refinement and elegance, once stood. Their former inhabitants wander in poverty and exile, wherever chance or charity affords them shelter or food. Childless old age, widows, and helpless orphans beggar and hopeless are everywhere."

Quote from John J. Dwyer's book

A similar scene is found in 444 B.C. Living under Persian (Iran) rule, Nehemiah the Jew served in the court of Artaxerxes, as a cupbearer, which was a position of great trust as advisor to the king and the responsibility of keeping the king from being poisoned. Nehemiah enjoyed the luxury of the palace, but his heart was in Jerusalem. Around 444 B.C., Nehemiah petitioned the Persian king regarding the need to return to Jerusalem and rebuild the walls of the city. He would face many obstacles. Nehemiah describes the scene (chapter two), "The walls are broken down and the gates are burned with fire. He stated, "Jerusalem lies in waste, and the people are in distress."

It was not a pretty picture. Nehemiah rallied the people by saying, "Come, let us build the walls where we will no longer be a reproach. Rise up and build."

In verse 18 we are told, "They (the people) set their hands to work." A ray of hope. Light at the end of the tunnel. Everything is going along pretty good, especially when you consider the mountain that they are up against. The people are in unity. They are in one mind with one purpose, and that is to rebuild the walls of the city. They are tired of being a reproach, and they have decided to rise up and build.

The first two words in verse 19 says, "But, when....." That's the way life is sometimes. Verse 18 is followed by verse 19. "But, when." There will always be, "But, when's" in life.

The Governor of Samaria, Sanballat, was a bad guy. He lived north of Jerusalem around 408 B.C. He did not want to see the city come back from its ruin state. He wanted it to stay in rubble and brokenness. So he got others on his bandwagon of opposition.

But, there are three things happened with Nehemiah. There's a message in this for us. First, Nehemiah stayed focused on the task that God gave him. Two, Nehemiah and the people did not stop working. Third, they kept a shovel in one hand and a sword in the other.

Good news. Despite the external opposition, the walls got built. Jerusalem was repaired.

I wish I could say that everyone lived happy ever after, and this is the end of the story, but unfortunately, it's not. Like everything else in life, when the enemy of our soul cannot destroy us with external situations, he will do his best to knock us out of the saddle with internal problems (chapter 5).

We can hang on pretty good when there is external opposition, but it is another matter when there is internal opposition. This is where the true battle is fought. Nehemiah was dealing with all kinds of internal headaches, but he persevered through it all, and God gave him the victory. Again, he stayed focused on the task at hand, and he did not stop working, and they kept a shovel in one hand and a sword in the other.

What's the message in this for us?

Like Nehemiah, our Southern ancestors came home to ruin, rubble, and destruction. The people were broken and discouraged, and there was great opposition and persecution that they faced. It would be a struggle to rebuild the walls of our Southlands. But, in spite of opposition, the walls were built. Southern integrity would prevail.

There's another message here for us descendants of the South. THERE WILL ALWAYS BE SANBALLAT'S. There will always be external opposition. The Southern Cause will always face their Sanballat's. So, what do we do? We must follow Nehemiah's plan. First, we must focused on the task and the cause given to us by our ancestors, and General Stephen Dill Lee. Second, we must NOT stop working. External opposition will always cause us to stay focused and to keep pressing on.

In closing, this brings us another question to ponder. What do we do about internal opposition and strife? The third thing that Nehemiah and the people did was to keep a shovel in one hand and a sword in the other. Like the people of the Book, we must stay in unity. We must honor the Cause of our ancestors, and we cannot do that effectively if we not together in purpose and unity. If one's purpose is to hold a sword then keep holding it. If one's purpose is to hold a shovel then keep holding it. We will not persevere if we allow internal problems to divide and destroy us.

Southern Blessings,

Reverend Don Majors, Chaplain

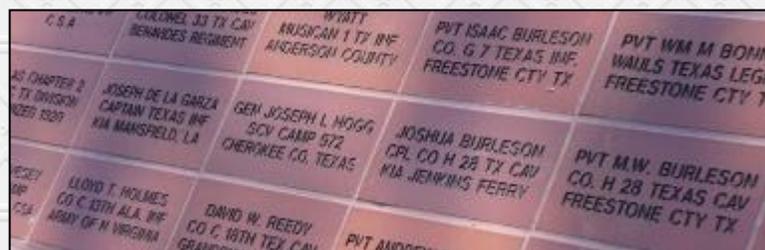
Texas Division Sons of Confederate Veterans



## 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](mailto:danielyer497@yahoo.com) or Phone: (903) 391-2224



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



## JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP #2156

c/o Dan Dyer, Adjutant/Treasurer  
Palestine, Texas 75802  
E-mail: [danielyer497@yahoo.com](mailto:danielyer497@yahoo.com)  
Phone: (903) 391-2224

Rudy Ray, Commander  
Palestine, Texas  
E-mail: [rudyray1951@hotmail.com](mailto:rudyray1951@hotmail.com)  
Phone: (903) 731-7045

Dwight Franklin, Chaplain/Newsletter  
Editor: [dwrightfranklin1@yahoo.com](mailto:dwrightfranklin1@yahoo.com)

Please visit our website @

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

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

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

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

Membership in the **Sons of Confederate Veterans** is open to all male descendants of any veteran who served honorably in the Confederate armed forces. Membership can be obtained through either **lineal or collateral** family lines and kinship to a veteran must be **documented genealogically**. The minimum age for full membership is 12, but there is no minimum for Cadet membership. **Friends of the SCV** memberships are available as well to those who are committed to upholding our charge, but do not have the Confederate ancestry.

## THE CHARGE TO THE SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

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

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

United Confederate Veterans

New Orleans, Louisiana, April 25, 1906.



Camp meetings: 3rd Tuesday of Each  
Month - 06:30 PM  
Snacks 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)