



SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS, TEXAS DIVISION

THE JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP NEWS

www.reaganscvcamp.org

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 2

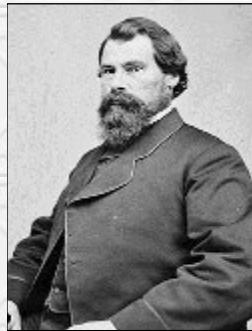
FEBRUARY 2015

COMMANDER'S DISPATCH

I am honored you have chosen me to fill out the remainder of the term for Commander of the Reagan Camp. I first got involved with the SCV in 1989 when I found out about the Hillsboro Camp when I went to visit the Confederate Research Center at Hill College. I came to love Hillsboro Camp members like Buddy Patterson and Bob Moore. I eventually felt that we needed a camp in the Corsicana area where I was then living. With the help of Central Texas Brigade Commander John C. Perry, we were able to reactivate the J. L. Halbert Camp #359 in Corsicana. My daughters grew up frequenting SCV events, battlefields, and historical sites. My wife was patient with my enthusiasm for all things SCV and attended many state and a few national reunions. I was honored to be a Camp Commander, a Brigade Commander, Division Officer, and Army Officer. I was first interested in the SCV because of my love for all things Confederate. I wanted to know more about the War and it was great socializing with men who honored the Confederate soldier as I did and had a thirst for fleshing out the history of that turbulent time.

I have never had a particular

agenda regarding the War and do not now. I would like to see all who honor our Confederate ancestors and would just like to learn more about our Southern history to have a place to come and feel welcome in the Reagan camp. Some of us have deep roots in Anderson County and others of us may be new immigrants to Texas. I have many times harassed friends who have Yankee ancestors, but have never meant it any other way than good natured kidding. Some of our guests may have both Confederate and Union ancestors. I will try and not brag that mine are all Confederate, but I really want everyone to feel welcome and will attempt to lead the camp in that direction. I think the thing that would most honor the memory of my Confederate ancestors is to act honorably, in all things be cordial and polite, and try and live the part of a Christian gentleman. To quote one of my heroes, Nathan Bedford Forrest, in his farewell address to his men: "You have been good soldiers, you can be good citizens. Obey the laws, preserve your honor, and the Government to which you have surrendered can afford to be, and will be, magnanimous."

**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

Forrest certainly did not want to quit, and the Government was not always magnanimous, but I believe he chose an honorable ending to an honorable life. Remembering the sacrifice of our Confederate ancestors and their subsequent honorable lives that rebuilt the wonderful South we now inhabit, we, in the Sons of Confederate Veterans, should be honored to keep their memory and example alive.

Dave Franklin

CAMP MEETINGS

3rd Tuesday of Each Month

06:30 PM

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.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Commander's Dispatch	1
Calendar of Events	2
Upcoming Ceremonies	3
Mexia 21st An. Living History & Reenactment	4
Andrew Harris Conf. Artifact Article	5-6
Feb. Meeting Pictures	7
Feb. Historical Program	8
A Taste of War	9
Jefferson Davis Gravesite	10
Lee The Last Years	11
Tex. Division Chaplains Article	12
Confederate Plaza Info	13
Reagan Camp Contact Info	14

Prayer List

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

Feb 24 — Palestine Library Dedication of John H. Reagan Bust.
Speaker will be Judge Bascom Bentley . Catered by Bishop's Barbeque. Cost for event \$15

Mar 14— Monument Dedication Ceremony in Conf. Vet. Memorial Plaza (see info on page 4)

Mar 17 — John H. Reagan Meeting

Mar 28 — Post War Promotion with Commander-In-Chief Kelley Barrows. (see info on page 4)

Mar 28 — Douglas SCV Camp 124 (in Tyler) Camp Ford Living History from 9am—4pm. (see info on Page 4)

Apr 18-19 — 21st Annual Living History & Reenactment (see flyer on page 5)

Apr 21 — John H. Reagan Meeting

May 2— Jefferson, Texas: Battle for Jefferson Civil War Reenactment

Sept 17-20—Major Battles War reenactment in Hallsville, Tx



Above: Statue of Robert E. Lee taken by Compatriot Andrew Harris



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

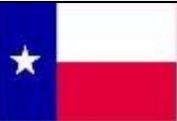
Above: Reagan Camp's battle flag and sign displayed proudly at intersection of FM 315 and Anderson Cty Rd 448, ten miles north of Palestine.

"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 INFILCTED UPON ME, ALL THAT MY COUNTRY WAS TO SUFFER, ALL THAT OUR POSTERITY WAS TO ENDURE, I WOULD DO IT ALL OVER AGAIN."

-PRESIDENT JEFFERSON DAVIS-

"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-



3 UPCOMING CEREMONIES

PALESTINE—MARCH 14TH
TYLER & WACO — MARCH 28TH



Monument Dedication Ceremony Honoring Confederate Veterans from Texas will be held March 14, 2015.
The Dedication ceremony will begin at 11:00 a.m. at the Confederate Veterans Memorial Plaza – Palestine at 600 West Oak Street, Palestine, Texas

The beautiful black granite monument dedicated to the Confederate States of America Veterans from Texas and recently placed in the CVMP-Palestine, was the result of a fund raising effort by the 2013-2014 Texas Division Children of the Confederacy, past President Gabby Vasek, to honor these veterans. It is a beautiful monument that will honor these Texas CSA veterans for many years to come.

Confederate military uniforms and 1860 period civilian dress is encouraged, but not required. Please bring your period musket or a Confederate flag with pole if you would like to help in the ceremony. Your attendance and/or participation will be greatly appreciated!

Contact information:

Sandy Vasek
 Children of the Confederacy representative
 Veterans
 evasek@sbcglobal.net
 home 281-373-3936, cell 281-794-5319

OR

Marc Robinson
 Commander, East Texas Brigade, Sons of Confederate
 mrobinson1836@yahoo.com
 cell: 903-676-6069

The Capt. James P. Douglas Camp 124, Tyler, in conjunction with Smith County Historical Society, will host the annual Camp Ford Living History on Saturday, March 28, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm. Our activities will include the following:

Demonstration of steps and safety measures required for firing a ten pound Parrot cannon. The cannon will be fired every hour on the hour. Ladies period attire and period toys. Presentation of flags of the Confederacy, their history, and use. Flag retirement ceremony at 2:00 p.m. (Texas and all Confederate flags will be retired.) We will accept flags for retirement until the ceremony begins. A skirmish between Federal prisoners who are attempting to escape from the prison camp and Confederate guards will take place at 3:00 p.m. Weapons demonstration by Muddy Waters, member of the Douglas Camp. Demonstration of 1860s medical and surgical procedures presented by Doug Garnett, member of the Bonham Camp. TSOCR sales items will be available for purchase. Smith County Historical Society will have books available for purchase, as well as free brochures about the history of Tyler and Smith County. Participants, please wear period attire. If you plan to participate, please let us know you are coming. No fee will be charged for admission.

POCs are: Dennis Brand hobbrand@gmail.com 903-566-3132 John Threadgill john-threadgill@hotmail.com 903-363-7373

Gen Felix H Robertson Camp 129 Waco, Texas will be holding a post war ceremony to promote Col Joseph W Speight to general. It will be a honorary promotion approved by our national commander-in-chief Kelly Barrows. He will be here, in person, to confirm the promotion. Col Speight was the commander of the 15th Texas Infantry Regiment which was under the command of Gen Kirby Smith, Commander of the Trans-Mississippi Army. General Smith approved the promotion but the war ended before the Confederate Congress approved it. We will need riflemen here to fire a salute. It will take place on **March 28, 2015, 10 A. M., at the Oakwood Cemetery, located at 5th St & LaSalle Ave.** All SCV members are invited to attend. All OCR & UDC members are welcome also. Please mark your calendar to be there. If you come into Waco on IH35 it is very easy to find. If you are traveling south on IH35, exit at University Park. Go left on University Park until you reach LaSalle. The Baylor University Coliseum will be on your left. Go right on Lasalle to 5th Street. Go left and it will lead you into the cemetery. If you are traveling north on IH35 exit at University Park, by Baylor University, and go right on University Park and follow the same instructions. We are inviting all Masons to attend. Col Speight was responsible for getting the Grande Lodge of Texas to locate in Waco. He also held the position of President of the Texas Southern Baptist Convention. For more information please contact Charles Oliver at 254-772-1676 or <charlesoliver@grandecom.net>



**CONFEDERATE REUNION GROUNDS
21ST ANNUAL CIVIL WAR
LIVING HISTORY & REENACTMENT ANNOUNCEMENT**



CONFEDERATE REUNION GROUNDS

state historic site

21TH ANNUAL CIVIL WAR LIVING HISTORY AND REENACTMENT

**Military Demonstrations ★ Reenactments ★ Ladies Tea
Music ★ Refreshments for Sale**



ADMISSION		
Adults		\$5.00
Children 12 and under		FREE
2-Day Pass (Sat./Sun)		\$7.50

**Hosted by the Friends of the
Confederate Reunion Grounds**



Confederate Reunion Grounds
State Historic Site
1738 FM 2705
Mexia, TX 76667
254.472.0959
crg@thc.state.tx.us
www.visitcrg.com



TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
real places telling real stories

www.thc.state.tx.us



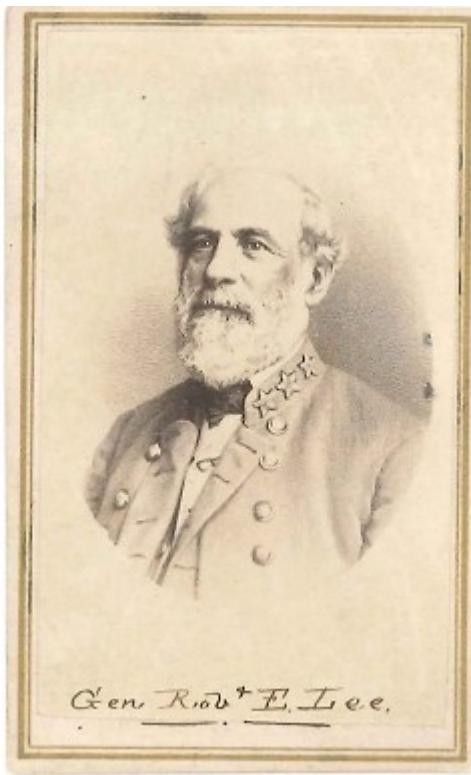
JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP CONFEDERATE ARTIFACT BY ANDREW HARRIS



Images of Robert E. Lee War-Time Photographs of the General in Carte de Visite

It is said that a picture is "worth a thousand words". However, in the case of a picture of Robert E. Lee, a thousand words - perhaps even volumes - would fall far short of an adequate description. So in this instance we will just let the pictures speak for themselves.

Featured here are two examples of war-time photographs of General Lee. These period photographs are of the "carte de visite" format (abbreviated "CDV"). These small photographs, usually measuring about 2.5 by 4 inches in size, were made of a thin paper albumen print mounted on a thicker card stock. Patented in the 1850's, albumen prints were the first commercially viable method of reproducing photographic images from negatives. CDVs began to gain widespread use by 1860 and they became very popular in America during the War Between the States. The immense popularity of these card photographs led to the publication and collection of photographs of prominent persons and military leaders, such as General Lee.



*Left: "In the Field" CDV with Period Ink Inscription (Collection of Andrew Harris)
Right: "Booted and Spurred" Standing View of General R. E. Lee, ca. Spring 1863*

The first CDV pictured here, is a bust view of Lee that has become known as his "In the Field" (with unbuttoned jacket) pose. The original photograph is believed to be one of a series of three, taken by the Richmond-based photographer Minnis & Cowell. The other two pictures in the series include an additional seated view with his jacket buttoned, as well as a full-length standing view known as the "Booted and Spurred" photograph. This series of pictures were the first formally posed photographs of Lee as a general. Evidence suggests that they were taken in the field, at Lee's headquarters, sometime after the Fredericksburg Campaign ended in December 1862 but prior to the May 1863 Battle of Chancellorsville. In case there were any doubt as to who the subject might be, this particular CDV bears a nice handwritten inscription, in period ink, at the bottom of the card.

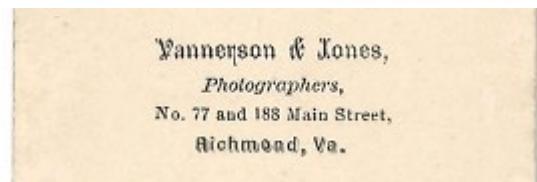
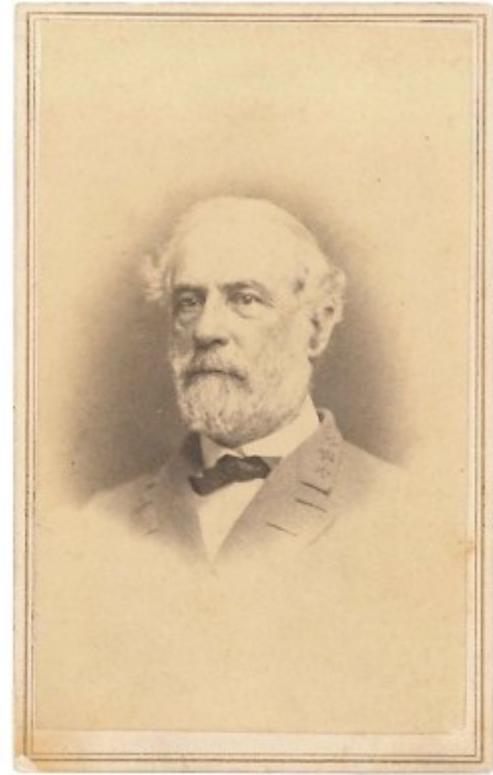


JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP CONFEDERATE ARTIFACT BY ANDREW HARRIS



Many eyewitness descriptions of General Lee's uniforms worn during the war corroborate that of the Chaplain of the Army of Northern Virginia: "[He] was always simply attired and carefully avoided the gold lace and feathers in which other delighted. During the war he usually wore a suit of gray, without ornament and no insignia of rank save the three stars on his collar which every Confederate colonel was entitled to wear. But he always kept a handsome though equally simple uniform which he wore upon occasions of ceremony."

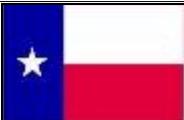
The second CDV highlighted here is also a bust view of General Lee. The original photograph was taken by the photographer Julian Vannerson, at a Richmond studio, in 1864. Vannerson was a native of Virginia and historical documents indicate that he may have been the only photographer operating in Richmond for most of 1864. In May of 1865, Vannerson partnered with C.E. Jones and for a short time they operated their studio out of two different Richmond locations. The back of this CDV bears the "Vannerson & Jones" imprint and lists the two address for their studio, which suggests that this CDV was printed between November 1865 and May 1866. Surviving correspondence between the studio and Lee indicate that the General, himself, was accumulating images from Vannerson during this time period for his personal use and dispersal.



*Top: 1864 Richmond CDV of General Lee
Below: Vannerson & Jones Imprint on Verso
(Collection of Gary Williams)*

Left: Fall 1864 Petersburg Photograph

The last war-time photograph of Lee was taken on the streets of Petersburg, Virginia, by an unknown photographer in the fall of 1864. It is an uncommon view of the General mounted on Traveller in all his martial splendor. As a contemporary of Lee's once wrote, "I have seen all the great men of our times...and I have no hesitation in saying that Robert E. Lee was incomparably the greatest looking of them all." No doubt the noble features of this honorable man are the personification of "duty faithfully performed".



JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP FEBRUARY MEETING PICTURES



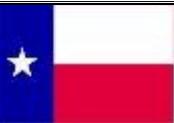
During the February meeting, the Reagan Camp compatriots elected David Franklin as the new Camp Commander to fill the vacancy left after Rudy Ray stepped down last month. David has been an SCV member for 25 years, and during that time he has served as Camp Commander, Brigade Commander, Division Officer, and Army Officer. We welcome him as the new Commander of the John H. Reagan Camp #2156.

The February 2015 meeting went very well. We had 31 in attendance for the meal and the meeting to follow. The meal consisted of pizza, fried chicken & gravy, peas, cornbread, squash, and all kinds of desserts.



We appreciate all that brought food, There was enough food to have fed 50. So if you weren't there, we hope you will make plans to join us next month.





**JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP
FEBRUARY HISTORICAL PROGRAM
BY NORRIS WHITE**

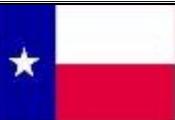


The John H. Reagan Camp was honored to have Norris White Jr. present the February Historical Program. He gave an excellent presentation that covered some of the orders enacted in the Trans-Mississippi Department in 1864 by Commanding General E. Kirby Smith.

Mr. White stated the following: "Because of lack of attention paid to historical coverage of military affairs in the Confederacy's Trans-Mississippi Department, the significance of operations that took place in Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas in the over-all strategic picture is often over-looked or ignored." His discussion examined strategic policy and actions rendered by (General Smith) in order to prevent Union occupation of the Lone Star State. Mr. White informed us that most Texans have great pride in being Texans and put that ahead of being Confederate, American, or anything else. He told of how Texans felt an obligation to Texas above that of the Confederacy, and many that were reported as deserters were not deserters at all. They simply left their battle in other states to defend their home state of Texas. In 1864, an invasion of Texas was certain. 5000 men successfully defended Texas, and many of these had left the battle in other places to defend their homeland. He pointed out that deserters stopped fighting. These men didn't desert, since they kept fighting. They simply fought where their loyalty was.

In the fateful year of 1864 with the fall of Vicksburg and Port Hudson, General E. Kirby Smith had lost contact with the main army. General Smith realized that he did not have the man power to prevent the Yankees from invading Texas, so he started enlisting black men as soldiers to fight for Texas. These black men were confederate soldiers who helped defeat the Yankees who tried to invade Texas. Although many would like to say that blacks did not fight for the south, they did indeed fight. They fought, and they should be honored just as other soldiers who fought. Mr. White went into detail as he made the point of black confederates enlisting to keep the Yankees out of Texas. As he said, one of the strongest powers in the universe is the power and pride of being a Texan! It was a driving force whether you were black or white or whatever. The John H. Reagan Camp appreciates and honors all soldiers who fought for the South, no matter their color.

The John H. Reagan Camp appreciates Mr. White for bringing us an excellent program. His book "Black Texans in a Trans-Mississippi Confederate Army" will be in print next year. We encourage everyone to purchase a copy.



JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP “A TASTE OF WAR”



Civil War soldiers were incredibly prolific writers, even though some had a mighty crude command of grammar. Despite this, most penned letters home daily due to the fact that a vast majority of their time was spent in camp rather than in battle. Much is written about the momentous battles fought over the four-year span of the war; however, nearly 90 percent of a combat soldier's time was spent in camp or on the march.

What the soldiers wrote about more often than anything else was their daily bread. The old military truism that states “An army marches on its belly” is certainly an apt metaphor for the Civil War soldier.

Nearly every soldier went hungry at some time during the war. And in the Confederacy, where most of the war was fought, Southern men were never fed to satisfy any of their dietary needs. In fact, of the 700,000 soldiers that died in the war, nearly 100,000 died of “die-rear”—the usual spelling of the word diarrhea in soldiers’ letters and memoirs.

Clearly, the Northern armies had better supply organizations and quantity of foodstuffs, but there is no tangible proof that the South ever lost a battle due to inadequate food or supplies. Yet food did play a vital role in how the armies functioned and performed. While the Campaign of Gettysburg was climaxing here in the bountiful farmlands of Pennsylvania in the middle of the summer of 1863, thousands of besieged Confederates holed up in the sultry confines of Vicksburg, Mississippi, were slowly starving to death as federal forces surrounded the fortress city for more than a month. By the final days of the siege, a Confederate soldier was subsisting on a cup of peas and rice and one cup of water per day.

Both armies were mostly made up of volunteer soldiers who had never worried about cooking meals or tending to their dietary needs while at home in the nineteenth-century America. When the armies formed, neither were able to provide enough cooks or “mess” facilities to handle the tens of thousands of mouths that needed at least three meals per day.

Off on their own, soldiers came up with remarkably innovative ways to satisfy their hunger. Perhaps the most famous memoirist for the Confederacy was Private Sam Watkins, who survived four years of war and penned a fascinating chronicle of life in camp and on the numerous battlefields in Tennessee.

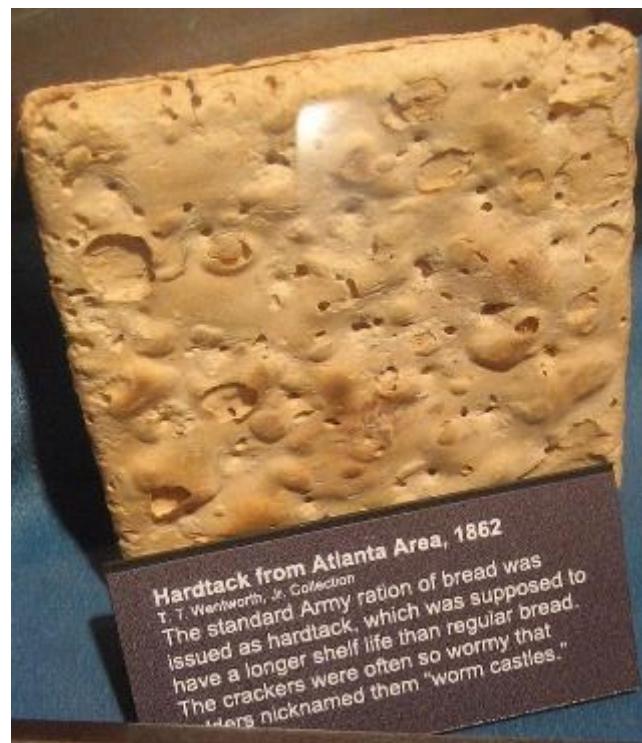
“One day we heard folks of Vicksburg were living on rats, so we knocked down an old outhouse and out jumped an old and gray rat,” Watkins wrote.

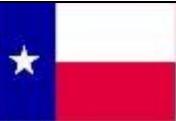
“I suppose he had been chased before because he slipped back down his hole, but we grabbed him by the tail as he went into his hole...We skinned him, washed him, salted him and buttered and peppered him, then we fried him. He actually looked nice.”

But as Watkins was about to take a bite, he remembered the rat’s former home and thought twice about eating him. “I never thought of eating a rat again,” Watkins wrote.

The most basic food item in both armies was hardtack—a 3-inch, square, bricklike cracker of bread made with flour, yeast, and very little water. The average soldier ate a dozen “tooth dollars” or “worm castles” a day. Most of the hardtack was made in makeshift ovens in a matter of minutes. Afterward, it was stored in boxes that usually were exposed to hot sun and rain, often making them breeding grounds for worms and flies. On the march, an army might consume more than two million hardtack crackers per day.

(Article copied from 2006 Civil War Calendar) Picture At Right: "Pensacola Wentworth Aug 2008 Hardtack" by Infrogmation of New Orleans - Photo by Infrogmation. Licensed under CC BY-SA 3.0 via Wikimedia Commons - <http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/>
File:PensacolaWentworthAug2008Hardtack.jpg#mediaviewer/
File:PensacolaWentworthAug2008Hardtack.jpg





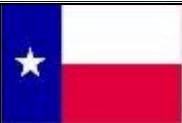
**JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP
JEFFERSON DAVIS GRAVESITE**



Photograph by Chris Heisey

**The gravesite of Jefferson Davis, Hollywood Cemetery, Richmond,
Virginia**





THE ARTICLE BELOW IS AN EXCERPT FROM THE BOOK
“LEE THE LAST YEARS”
BY CHARLES BRACELEN FLOOD



Nine days after Virginia was stripped of its statehood, some Washington College students heard that white Northern speakers were going to make speeches to the blacks of Lexington that night. Five students, three from Texas, one from Georgia, and one from Alabama angrily headed into the evening, not certain of what they were going to do. The boy from Alabama took along a pistol.

Coming to the schoolhouse in which the Freedman's Bureau conducted classes for blacks, the boy from Alabama went up to a window to see if anyone was inside. Suddenly, a black man stepped out of the shadows to intercept him. The startled boy drew his pistol and started hitting the black man with it. The other students pulled them apart and rushed the boy from Alabama into the night, but in a few minutes all were apprehended, except for the young man with the gun, who vanished.

A few more minutes, and the word was all over campus that fellow students had been in a fight with a black man at a meeting — Freedman's Bureau, white Northern agitators, damn Yankees — and had been thrown in jail. There were close to four hundred students now in the college, and most charged out of their rooms, determined to rescue their college mates. It looked as if there was about to be an angry march to the jail, and a scene similar to that when the horse thief had been imprisoned, except that this time Lee was at home, with no idea that anything was happening. The students were going to storm the jail and free their comrades.

Suddenly a student appeared as Lee had, but this was no ordinary student. He was Givens B. Strickler, the former captain of the Liberty Hall Volunteers who had led an attack that carried into the Union lines at Gettysburg, where he had been captured. “Steady men!” he was saying as he had heard it said, and had said it to others, on a score of battlefields. “Steady men! Steady Men!” As each group stopped shouting to look at him, he added, “Remember General Lee! No violence! Remember General Lee. Let the law take its course. You must do what General Lee would wish.”

The excited crowd dispersed. The four jailed students were tried by the mayor and fined for disturbing the peace. When they were released, they were asked to come to Lee's office. As they entered, they saw that the student from Alabama who had escaped detection was also there, voluntarily coming forward. This youth, who had carried the pistol and struck the black man, explained what had happened and said that the fault was entirely his. Lee nodded and instantly expelled him. The others he formally reprimanded and put on probation. By the time an official of the Freedman's Bureau wrote Lee a letter of complaint and inquiry, the offender was back in Alabama, and Lee's explanation of the actions he had taken satisfied the Freedman's Bureau. Lee understood better than anyone that this was now a situation in which one wrongful, passionate pull of a trigger could close Washington College, perhaps permanently.

In the late spring of 1867, Lee found person after person railing against the Reconstruction Acts, against the Republican Party, against Washington, against the damn Yankees. To a Confederate widow who was expressing hatred for the North, he said: “Madam, do not train up your children in hostility to the government of the United States. Remember, we are all one country now. Dismiss from your mind all sectional feeling, and bring them up to be Americans.”



TEXAS DIVISION CHAPLAIN'S ARTICLE

A MESSAGE FROM REV. DON MAJORS

"NO GREATER LOVE"



During WWII, an enemy submarine approached a fleet of ships in the North Atlantic. The captain of the vessel spotted the white mark of a torpedo coming directly at his ship. His transport was loaded with literally hundreds and hundreds of young soldiers on the way to the European front. He realized that they would not have time to maneuver to avoid the torpedo. He grabbed the loudspeaker and cried out, "Boys, this is it!"

Nearby, though, a little escorting destroyer also observed the torpedo. The captain ordered, "Full speed ahead." The ship steamed into the path of the torpedo. The destroyer was blown up; it sank very quickly. Every man on it was lost. The captain of the troop transport ship sadly commented, "The skipper of that destroyer was my best friend." Now one verse in the Bible has an even deeper meaning for that captain. "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friend." (John 15:13) That "Man" that laid down His life for us was our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

The poet said.....

"When nothing whereon to lean remains,

When strongholds crumble to dust;

When nothing is sure,

Our God still reigns."

When the Southland laid in death, burned fields, and wasteland, when seemingly nothing remains to lean on, and when Southern strongholds appeared to be crumbled in the dust, and the future seemed unsure, our Southern ancestors remained strong in their Christian Faith. They knew God still reigned. He would restore and heal our land.

As we celebrate Valentine's Day with beautiful flowers and candy with those we love, never forget the greatest "Valentine" of all. His love still reigns, and may we never forget to love, honor, and remember our Southern ancestors to whom we owe so much.

God Bless Ya'll and God Bless Dixie!

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 make a donation for a paver, please contact Dan Dyer at E-mail: danieldyer497@yahoo.com or Phone: (903) 391-2224



Would you like to honor your ancestor? There is still room in the plaza for you to have a paver with your ancestor's name and military information. You can also acquire a paver in the name of your SCV Camp.



JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP #2156

c/o Dan Dyer, Adjutant/Treasurer
Palestine, Texas 75802
E-mail: danielydyer497@yahoo.com
Phone: (903) 391-2224

David Franklin, Commander
Slocum, Texas
david.franklin@dpd.ci.dallas.tx.us
903-478-2308

Dwight Franklin, Chaplain/Newsletter
Editor: dwightfranklin1@yahoo.com

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

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)