



SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS, TEXAS DIVISION

THE JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP NEWS

www.reaganscvcamp.org

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2016

COMMANDER'S DISPATCH

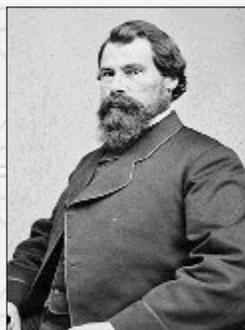
Compatriots, if you missed the meeting last month you missed a most informative program on the Battle of Mansfield,

Louisiana when the advance of the North was stopped and prevented from coming into Texas. Our guest speaker was very well versed into every aspect of the battle and of the combatants that participated.

Since my last dispatch much as happened in New Orleans in regards to the monument removals. On January 26 a federal judge, who I will not name as he doesn't deserve any recognition, ruled that the mayor and city council of New Orleans can remove the statues to, General Lee, General Beauregard, President Jefferson Davis and the obelisk

dedicated to the Battle of Liberty Place. This saddens me greatly. At the dedication of Lee's statue on February 22, 1884, the ceremony was attended by two of the great general's daughters, Jefferson Davis and General P. G. T. Beauregard.

Oh how I wish I could have attended that event and heard from the family and friends of Lee who knew him best. One of the least known statues, the Battle of Liberty Place pays homage to a 1874 insurrection in New Orleans composed of mainly Confederate veterans who rose up against the city's police and state militia. How would these veterans, who cherished justice, feel about how the majority of the



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

populace of New Orleans is caving into the actions of a corrupt Mayor and Council?

Robert E. Lee was a very interesting American folk hero of which much has been written.

- Continued on next page -

CAMP MEETINGS

3rd Tuesday of Each Month
06:30 PM

Snacks and drinks served at each meeting.

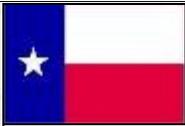
First Christian Church
113 East Crawford Street
Palestine, Texas

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

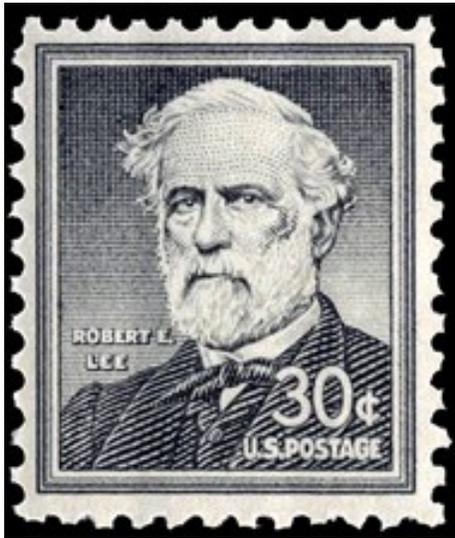
Guests are welcome!
Bring the family.

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JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP COMMANDER'S DISPATCH PAGE 2

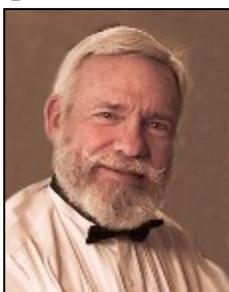


As a young boy I became a stamp collector in 1959 and one of the first stamps in my album was from a package I received from my grandmother, Belle Walker, to my mom, Marion Steen, in the fall of 1955. I thought at the time that the 30 cent Lee stamp was important in that it was honoring an American who had not been President of the United States.

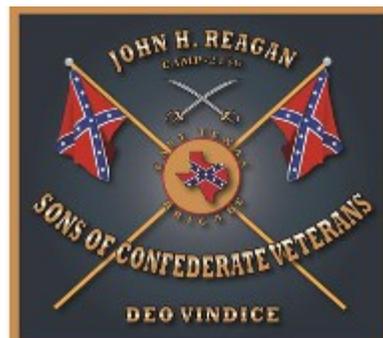
Yes, there was a time when all Americans honored patriots no matter what side they fought on. What has changed is a President who seeks to divide our country and pit race against race. He has ushered in a climate of hate against our police officers and every day we hear of another officer gunned down as he sits by and

says and does nothing. Yet I am sure that someday Obama will be featured on a U. S. postage stamp. How sad as he does not belong anywhere near the same company of Robert E. Lee. Speaking of great historic figures of the Confederacy, at the February meeting I will be presenting a power point program on C.S.A. Major Charles Adolphus Sterne. Born in 1830, Charlie Sterne held a front seat to the early history of Texas. He was personally acquainted with Davy Crockett and Sam Houston and moving to Palestine in 1873, became one of the town's leading citizens. He kept company with John H. Reagan and owned a hotel in town in which he never turned away a confederate veteran even if he was unable to pay for a room and a meal.

Like the program on C. S. A. Colonel John Graham Scott, there are many facets of our confederate veterans that I love to explore and present in addition to their military exploits. The common theme in each man is that the South produced some of the finest men of character, honesty and chivalry that the world has ever known. And what is equally impressive is that it is still doing so to this day - men and women who joined the Sons of Confederate Veterans! Our cause is just, true and right. Lets continue to strive to safeguard and protect our valuable heritage.



Charles



Prayer List

- Adjutant Dan Dyer
- Former Chaplain Ed Furman
- Past Cmdr. Ronnie Hatfield
- Former Chaplain Rod Skelton & his wife, Nancy
- 1st Lt. Gary Williams
- Davis/Reagan UIDC Pres. Dollye Jeffus
- United Daughters of the Confederacy
- The Sovereign State of Texas
- The United States of America
- The Sons of Confederate Veterans



Picture above was taken at a Reagan Camp grave dedication at Pilgrim Cemetery in Elkhart, Texas

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 15th - March Reagan Camp Meeting

April 16 - 17th - 22nd Annual Civil War Living History & Reenactment

Confederate Reunion Grounds, Mexia
(for info call 254-472-0959 or email julianna.lindsay@thc.state.tx.us)

April 19th - April Reagan Camp Meeting

May 17 - May Reagan Camp Meeting

June 3-5 - 2016 State SCV Reunion

June 21 - June Reagan Camp Meeting



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.reaganstvcamp.org

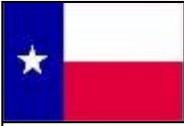
Above: Reagan Camp's battle flag and sign displayed proudly at intersection of FM 315 and Anderson Cty Rd 448, ten miles north of Palestine.

“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 INFLICTED 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-



JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP FEBRUARY MEETING PICTURES



We had 15 Proud Confederate Descendants in attendance at the February meeting. The meeting started off with a prayer which was followed by a meal of sliced ham, pinto beans, sausage balls, buttermilk cornbread, green beans, scalloped potatoes, lemon chess pie, coconut crème pie and blue bell ice cream.



After the meal, Commander Charles Steen presented an excellent powerpoint program on the life of CSA Major Charles A. Sterne.



The meeting was closed out with everyone joining in as we sang Dixie!





FEBRUARY HISTORICAL PROGRAM MAJOR CHARLES ADOLPHUS STERNE PRESENTED BY CHARLES STEEN—REAGAN CAMP COMMANDER



Those who came to the February meeting were able to see a wonderful historical program by Camp Commander Charles Steen. Commander Steen gave a power point presentation on Major Charles Adolphus Sterne. He has allowed us to attach the slides from his presentation in this newsletter so that those who may not have been able to attend the meeting may see them. His program covered Charles A. Sterne's life from birth to death. Sterne was a man who contributed a lot to the Confederacy as well as to the city of Palestine. We thank Charles for his program and for all that he does for the Reagan Camp.

BORN TO A FAMOUS FATHER



The very first Scottish Rite Mason in Texas was Nicholas Adolphus Sterne of Nacogdoches, Texas. Born on April 5, 1801 in Cologne, France, he had sailed to America at the age of 16 and landed at the Port of New Orleans, Louisiana. Raised a Master Mason in Louisiana, he moved to Texas during 1824, and gained prominence and rose to fame by being the person who made the motion in 1837 to organize the Grand Lodge of Texas and served as the First Deputy Grand Master.

A FRONT ROW SEAT TO HISTORY

ON OCTOBER 10, 1830 CHARLES ADOLPHUS STERNE WAS BORN IN THIS HOUSE TO NICHOLAS ADOLPHUS STERNE AND EVA CATHERINE ROSINE RUFF.



SAMUEL HOUSTON



THOMAS JEFFERSON RUSK

AS A BOY HE MET DAVY CROCKETT, SAM HOUSTON AND THOMAS J. RUSK WHO WERE GUESTS AT HIS HOME.

THE TALES THIS OLD HOUSE COULD TELL.....

IN 1830 NICHOLAS ADOLPHUS STERNE CONSTRUCTED THIS HOUSE IN NACOGDOCHES. ON JANUARY 5, 1836 IT WELCOMED MASTER MASON, DAVID CROCKETT, WHO HAD ARRIVED IN TOWN THAT DAY. HE REMAINED A GUEST OF THE STERNES WHO STAYED UNTIL THE MORNING OF JANUARY 19 BEFORE CONTINUING HIS JOURNEY TO SAN ANTONIO, ARRIVING ON FEBRUARY 8, 1836 TO FIGHT AT THE ALAMO. IT ALSO HOUSED SAM HOUSTON, A CLOSE FRIEND OF STERNE. WHEN HOUSTON WAS BAPTIZED INTO THE CATHOLIC FAITH, MRS. STERNE WAS GODMOTHER TO SAM HOUSTON.



UPON THE DEATH OF ADOLPHUS STERNE IN 1852 HIS WIDOW CONTINUED TO LIVE IN THIS HOUSE UNTIL 1859. IN 1869 IT WAS SOLD AND THE NEW OWNER'S FAMILY LIVED IN IT UNTIL 1958 WHEN IT WAS DEEDED TO NACOGDOCHES AS A MUSEUM.

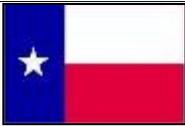
THE START OF A MASONIC LEGACY



CHARLES ADOLPHUS STERNE

PETITIONED EUCLID MASONIC LODGE NO. 45 IN RUSK TEXAS FOR THE MYSTERIES OF FREEMASONRY.

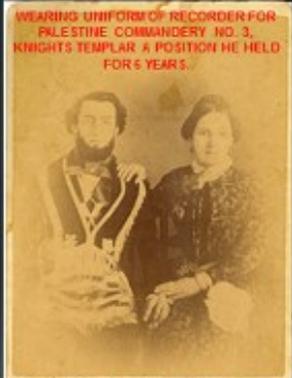
- ENTERED APPRENTICE NOV. 3, 1855
- FELLOWCRAFT – DEC. 1, 1855
- MASTER MASON FEBRUARY 2, 1856
- DEMITTED ON NOVEMBER 5, 1859
- FROM 1859-1878 WAS UNATTACHED TO MASONRY.



FEBRUARY HISTORICAL PROGRAM MAJOR CHARLES ADOLPHUS STERNE PRESENTED BY CHARLES STEEN—REAGAN CAMP COMMANDER



THE FIRST MARRIAGE



WEARING UNIFORM OF RECORDER FOR PALESTINE COMMANDERY NO. 3, KNIGHTS TEMPLAR A POSITION HE HELD FOR 5 YEARS.

CHARLES & MARGARET STERNE
1873

Bailey, Palestine, Texas

- On September 4, 1853 he married a widow, Sarah Margaret Mallard Finch in Rusk, Cherokee County, Texas and became stepfather to her 4 year old daughter, Florence. To this union, Charles and Margaret had 10 children; one son and nine daughters. Living in Angelina County in 1860, to help on the farm the family owned one mulatto slave – a 27 year old male servant. Sarah's famous brother was John Byler Mallard of Palestine, Texas

THE WAR OF NORTHERN AGGRESSION 1861-1865



- At the outbreak of the Civil War in 1861, he enlisted in the Confederate Army and was commissioned as a Quartermaster, rising to the rank of Major before the end of the war and being discharged on May 23, 1865. Major Sterne served with Company F of the 13th Texas Cavalry.

STERNE'S WAR ASSIGNMENTS

- IN 1861 JOINED THE 3RD TEXAS BRIGADE AND WAS TRANSFERRED TO COMPANY F IN THE 13TH TEXAS CAVALRY COMMANDED BY COLONEL JOHN H. DOUGLAS, THE CHIEF QUARTERMASTER OF TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT.
- NEXT STERNE WAS TRANSFERRED TO THE 1ST INDEPENDENT CAVALRY COMMANDED BY COLONEL JOHN P. BORDER WHERE HE SERVED AS A COMMISSIONED QUARTERMASTER TIL THE END OF THE WAR.

THE YEARS OF 1855 – 1865 OCCUPATION: FARMER & SOLDIER

- THE CHILDREN BORN IN MILLICAN, BRAZOS COUNTY, TEXAS TO CHARLES AND SARAH MARGARET STERNE: 2 DAUGHTERS
 - ALICE 1855
 - CATHERINE "KATE" FEBRUARY 15, 1856 – JANUARY 5, 1929
- CHILDREN BORN IN ANGELINA COUNTY, TEXAS: 1 SON & 4 DAUGHTERS
 - ELDRIDGE 1858 – 1944
 - ELIZABETH 1860 – AUGUST 26, 1928
 - LAURA WAS BORN ON DEC. 14, 1861 – FEBRUARY 5, 1939
 - SARAH "SALLE" 1862 – 1909
 - JULIA WAS BORN ON FEBRUARY 25, 1865
- WITH THE CONCLUSION OF THE WAR, CHARLES CAME HOME TO NACOGDOCHES AND MOVED HIS FAMILY TO BRYAN, TEXAS IN BRAZOS COUNTY WHERE THE FOLLOWING CHILDREN WERE BORN:
 - PAULINE – BORN ON MAY 4, 1866
 - MAME – BORN ON OCTOBER 14, 1869

BRYAN, BRAZOS COUNTY, TEXAS 1870 - 1872

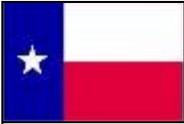
- AFTER THE BIRTH OF MAMIE IN 1869 IN PALESTINE, CHARLES MOVED HIS FAMILY BACK TO BRAZOS COUNTY WHERE HE HAD LIVED DURING 1855-1856 AND SETTLED IN 1870 IN BRYAN FOR THE NEXT TWO YEARS WHERE HE WAS A GENERAL MERCHANDISE MERCHANT.
- PREVIOUS TO THIS TIME, OUTSIDE THE WAR YEARS, HE HAD EARNED A LIVING AS A FARMER AND STOCK RAISING IN HOMER, ANGELINA COUNTY, TEXAS.

A MOVE TO PALESTINE WHERE A LEGACY IS CREATED

- Moving his family to Palestine in 1873, he became very involved in community life. From 1873 to 1875 he was partnered with his nephew, James Wisdom Ozment in the mercantile business. The family made their home in the Little Red Brick schoolhouse on North Perry Street.



FIRST GIRL'S SCHOOL BUILT BY PALESTINE MASONS IN 1862



FEBRUARY HISTORICAL PROGRAM

MAJOR CHARLES ADOLPHUS STERNE

PRESENTED BY CHARLES STEEN—REAGAN CAMP COMMANDER



PALESTINE COMMANDERY NO. 3, KNIGHTS TEMPLAR



- KNIGHTED IN PALESTINE COMMANDERY NO. 3, KNIGHTS TEMPLAR ON FEBRUARY 13, 1873

- SERVED AS THE RECORDER FOR SIX YEARS, 1873-79 AND SEEN HERE IN HIS COMMANDERY UNIFORM

A NEW CAREER CHANGE

- FROM 1875 TO 1876 CHARLES TOOK TO THE ROAD AS A TRAVELING SALESMAN FOR A GALVESTON CLOTHIER.
- IN 1876 HE BECAME THE MANAGER OF THE INTERNATIONAL HOTEL ACROSS FROM THE RR DEPOT IN PALESTINE. THIS WAS THE BEGINNING OF HIS HOTEL CAREER.



MAISON D'OPERA and Hotel, located on Spring Street. The International Hotel was built in 1876-78, and Thomas Barlow was the builder. The hotel replaced the 1861 Arthur Ward, which burned in October of 1872. A Mr. Manning of Dallas, Texas was the first owner of the new hotel. The building was known by many other names over the years: The Grand Hotel, Hotel Nelson, The Fairbanks, and The Grand Hotel. The building stood across from the railroad depot on Spring Street and housed the construction of the Houston Road in 1872.

THE INTERNATIONAL HOTEL PALESTINE'S FINEST IN 1878



LOOKING EAST ON SPRING STREET CIRCA 1910. INTERNATIONAL HOTEL IS ON FAR LEFT - A 3 STORY STRUCTURE WITH MANSARD ROOF.

AFFILIATION WITH PALESTINE LODGE NO. 31 A. F. & A. M.

- CHARLES A. STERNE affiliated with Palestine Lodge on March 9, 1878 while the Lodge was still meeting in the 1850 Masonic Hall on East Lacy Street.



The building in back of the house above still stands at 909 E Lacy Street.

LAYING THE 1878 MASONIC TEMPLE CORNERSTONE ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 29, 1878



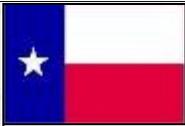
CHARLES A. STERNE'S 8 YEAR OLD DAUGHTER, MAMIE ALSO DEPOSITED AN ARTIFACT IN THE CORNERSTONE OF THE NEW PALESTINE MASONIC TEMPLE BEING BUILT ON THE CORNER OF AVENUE A, HOUSTON AND OAK STREETS.



FIRST NATIVE BORN TEXAN TO RECEIVE THE 33RD DEGREE

- IN THE FIRST WEEK OF DECEMBER 1879 ALBERT PIKE TRAVELED TO PALESTINE AND CONFERRED THE 4-32 SCOTTISH RITE DEGREES ON CHARLES ADOLPHUS STERNE ON THE 10TH DAY OF THAT MONTH. HE ALSO HAND SIGNED STERNE'S CERTIFICATE.
- ALBERT PIKE CELEBRATED HIS 70TH BIRTHDAY ON DECEMBER 29, 1879.



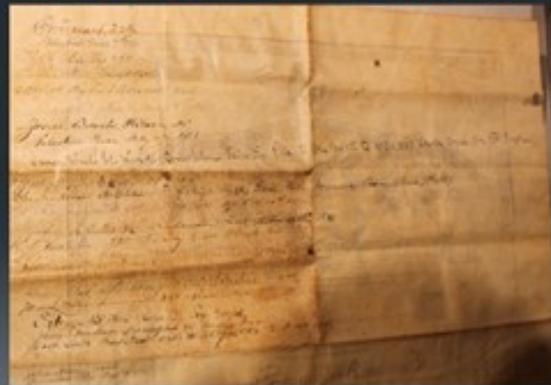


FEBRUARY HISTORICAL PROGRAM MAJOR CHARLES ADOLPHUS STERNE PRESENTED BY CHARLES STEEN—REAGAN CAMP COMMANDER



CHARLES A. STERNE'S ORIGINAL 32ND DEGREE CERTIFICATE DEC. 10, 1879 HAND SIGNED BY ALBERT PIKE – PRICELESS!

FROM JANUARY 7, 1881 TO MAY 10, 1923 STERNE HAD EVERY NEW SCOTTISH RITE MASON THAT HE WITNESSED, SIGN, DATE AND PLACE OF CONFERRAL OF DEGREES.



SIGNATURES ON THE BACK

- E. M. FRENCH 32 PALESTINE JANU 7, 1881
- W. H. BIXLEY 32 DEGREE, PALESTINE, JANU 8, 1881
- ALFRED RYLAND HOWARD, 32, PALESTINE, JANU 8, 1881
- JOSEPH EDWARDS WILSON, 32, PALESTINE, FEBY 5, 1881
- JAMES WARD, E. L. WARD JERUSALEM, PALESTINE,
- CHARLES ALBERT HOTCHKISS, APRIL 7, 1889
- JOHN R. SUTTER, 1891
- HENRY ASH SPIELBERG, 32, PALESTINE,
- JAMES MADISON DAVENPORT, 32, PALESTINE
- JACOB G. BRADSTREET, 32, MUSKAGEE, OK. SEPT. 14, 1918
- JOHN H. PARKS, GALVESTON, MAY 10, 1923

STERNE HOTEL ON AVENUE A

• DURING THE 1880'S CHARLES ADOLPHUS STERNE OWNED AND OPERATED A HOTEL ON AVENUE A ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE 1878 PALESTINE LODGE

MASONIC TEMPLE AT THE RIGHT IS THE HOTEL AS IT APPEARED IN 1900 AT 101 HOUSTON ST LATER KNOWN AS THE BEATTY HOTEL AFTER HIS DEATH.



PALESTINE'S HOPE, HOOK AND LADDER NO. 1 VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADE ORGANIZED ON FEBRUARY 8, 1881 AND STERNE NAMED FIRST CHIEF AND PRESIDENT. HELD JOB UNTIL 1886.



WITNESS TO HISTORIC GUN SHOWDOWN IN PALESTINE



• **MAY 19, 1887**..... Handsome young Tom O'Donnell, night bartender at the Buckhorn, was going to work at twilight after a run-in with his father-in-law. The old man's wife demanded Chris arrest Tom. They met on the sidewalk by the opera house, while the old woman, following Chris, kibitzered that Tom had a gun and it was the marshal's duty to disarm him. Chris had started off a fier ordering Tom to come down to the station and post bail for boating his father-in-law.

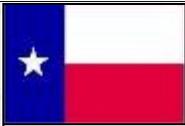
• Now Rogers turned back and asked O'Donnell for his gun if he was carrying one.

• "I give no man my gun," Tom said frowning. He added, in effect, that Chris could come and get the gun if he thought he was man enough.

• The marshal undertook to do just that. O'Donnell gave him the gun, in a way he emptied it at Chris in a moment of senseless passion and fear.

• One bullet broke the marshal's right forearm and lodged above the elbow just as the lawman drew his lethal weapon from the armpit holster. His arm went limp; quickly he snatched the gun in his left hand and shot his friend dead.

• In the subsequent trial, Sterne appeared and offered testimony.



FEBRUARY HISTORICAL PROGRAM
MAJOR CHARLES ADOLPHUS STERNE
 PRESENTED BY CHARLES STEEN—REAGAN CAMP COMMANDER



**TRUSTEE AND SECRETARY OF
 PALESTINE SCHOOL BOARD
 1883 - 1919**



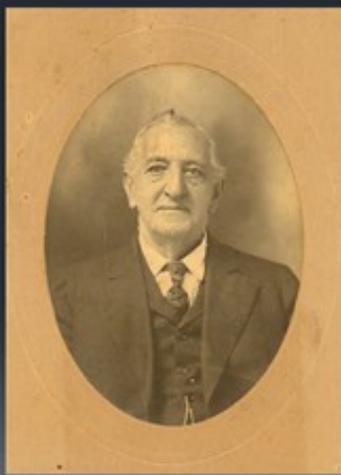
1906

• For six years, 1904 – 1910, he served as Palestine City Secretary as well as serving 25 years as Secretary for the Palestine Independent School District. Brother Sterne also served as Secretary on Palestine's Trade Board for five years and for ten years, 1909-1919 as Secretary of the School Board.

HONORED BY A STREET

• In recognition of his many years of service to the citizens of Palestine, a street was named in his honor after his death in 1926 as Sterne Avenue as evidenced by the 1936 City Telephone Directory. By vote of the City Council on Monday, May 19, 2008, it was renamed as Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. Unfortunately, for many years, Palestine had little interest in preserving many of its historic old buildings and homes as well as streets that had been named for its earliest citizens. Brother Sterne was one of those casualties.

**PALESTINE LODGE
 CHAPLAIN**



**PHOTO AS HE
 APPEARED WHILE
 SERVING FROM
 JUNE 1902 – JUNE
 1903.**

**IN 1904 WHILE
 SERVING AS
 PALESTINE CITY
 SECRETARY HE
 REMARRIED**

**THE SON MAKES
 3 GENERATIONS OF TEXAS
 MASONS**

- CHARLES ELDRIDGE STERNE FOLLOWED HIS FATHER THROUGH THE DOORS OF FREEMASONRY BY BEING INITIATED A ENTERED APPRENTICE IN PALESTINE LODGE ON AUGUST 12, 1902. HE WAS 44 YEARS OF AGE AT THE TIME.
- PASSED TO FELLOWCRAFT ON OCTOBER 16, 1902
- RAISED A MASTER MASON ON NOVEMBER 11, 1902
- UNFORTUNATELY HE DID NOT TREASURE MASONRY LIKE HIS FAMOUS FATHER AND GRANDFATHER AND WENT SUSPENDED ON MARCH 24, 1908 FOR NON PAYMENT OF DUES. HE NEVER REINSTATED AND DIED IN 1944.

**CHARLES
 ADOLPHUS
 STERNE
 AT THE AGE OF
 85 YEARS**

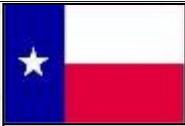


**WITH HIS
 GRANDDAUGHTER
 AND HIS CAT
 IN 1915
 PALESTINE, TEXAS**

TRAGEDY STRIKES

• ON APRIL 6, 1924 STERNE'S GRANDSON, WILLIAM H. NANCE DIED. NANCE WHO HAD LED THE CHARGE SINCE 1906 IN TRYING TO REMAIN IN THE 1878 MASONIC TEMPLE ULTIMATELY LOST IN HIS ENDEAVORS IN 1907. HE HAD SERVED AS THE 43RD WORSHIPFUL MASTER OF PALESTINE LODGE FROM 1904-1905.





FEBRUARY HISTORICAL PROGRAM
MAJOR CHARLES ADOLPHUS STERNE
 PRESENTED BY CHARLES STEEN—REAGAN CAMP COMMANDER



HONORED WITH A CHAIR

- IN 1915 MILAM LODGE NO. 2, A.F. & A.M. HONORED CHARLES ADOLPHUS STERNE WITH ONE OF ITS 12 ORIGINAL 1837 LODGE ROOM CHAIRS.

- BROTHER CHARLIE UPON RECEIVING HIS CHAIR PUT IT ON DISPLAY IN BAILEY FURNITURE STORE WITH THE STIPULATION THAT IT BE DONATED TO PALESTINE LODGE. AT HIS DEATH IN 1926 IT WAS STILL ON DISPLAY. IT NEVER MADE IT TO THE LODGE.



CHARLES ADOLPHUS STERNE



1885

CHARLIE STERNE LEFT A MOST IMPRESSIVE LEGACY IN PALESTINE – TEXAS – UNITED STATES

CITY LEADER
 SUCCESSFUL BUSINESSMAN
 HONORED MASTER MASON

CHARLES ADOLPHUS STERNE DIED AT THE AGE OF 96 YEARS AND 8 MONTHS ON SUNDAY EVENING, JUNE 6, 1926.

AT THAT TIME HE WAS THE OLDEST LIVING 33RD DEGREE MASON IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

STERNE AVENUE IS DEDICATED A SECOND TIME – NOV. 3, 2015

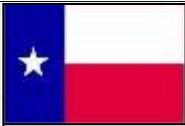


ENSHRINED IN LODGE ROOM NOVEMBER 3, 2015



The Reagan Camp would like to thank Charles for an excellent program on a Confederate War Veteran who made a difference in the city of Palestine. Without history programs such as this one, we would not know about many of the men who proudly defended the Confederacy from the invasion of Abraham Lincoln's Union Forces. These men went on to be productive citizens who helped mold our country into what it became after the war. Charles Sterne's life started off by knowing Sam Houston while a child. In fact, his mother was Sam Houston's God-mother. He met Davey Crockett as a boy, when Davey stayed with Charles' parents as he was on his way to San Antonio. His first wife's brother was John Byler Mallard. Mallard is the man that "Mallard Street" in Palestine is named for. The house that Charles lived in was just north of Roger's Chevrolet on Perry Street and has an historical marker marking where it was located. It was also the building that the Masonic Lodge built for the first girls school of Palestine. Sterne was Palestine's first fire chief, and he owned the Sterne Hotel. This hotel was very important for confederate soldiers who came through Palestine after the war, because Sterne would allow them to stay there whether they had money or not. He never turned a confederate soldier down who needed a place to stay.

We would like everyone to know that we meet the third Tuesday of every month, and that we welcome you to come join us. We will feed you good and treat you right. We are just a bunch of good guys who are honoring our confederate ancestors as best we can. If you are a descendant of a confederate soldier, we welcome you to join the Sons of Confederate Veterans and come join us.



UPCOMING HISTORICAL PROGRAMS



The following programs have been scheduled for future Reagan Camp meetings:

March 15th-Confederate Snipers and Sharpshooters

Presented by Shawn Eytcheson

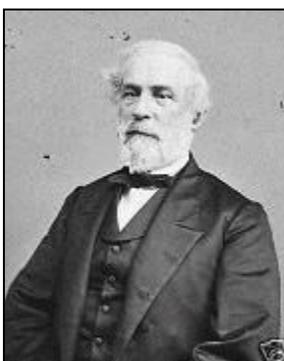


April 19th - The Scottish Migration to the South and then to Texas

Presented by Pat Baughman

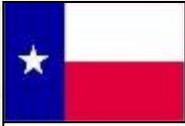
May 17th - The Great Beefsteak Raid in 1864

Presented by Jerry Don Watt



June 21st -Robert E. Lee & The Post War Years

Presented by Frank Crisp



CHARLES ADOLPHUS STERNE BY STUART WHITAKER



(ARTICLE COPIED FROM STUART'S FACEBOOK POST)

Birth: 1830 Death: 1925

CHARLES ADOLPHUS STERNE

When, in 1925, word was circulated that Charles Adolphus Sterne had passed away in Palestine, the public felt that a striking member of one of the most glamorous families of Texas had gone to his reward. Mr. Sterne was ninety-five years of age at time of his death. Born October 10, 1830, his life span stretched further by six years than that of the "Lone Star State."

Mr. Sterne was a son of Adolphus Sterne, the founder of the Texas' family of Sternes.

Adolphus Sterne, merchant, gentleman, patriot of Nacogdoches was identified with Texas History from 1824. Born in Cologne, Germany in 1801 he ran away at sixteen to escape military service. He reached Nacogdoches just before the "Fredonian Rebellion" was suspected of being in league with Edwards, its leader, and imprisoned by the Mexican authorities. Many stories of his experiences are told. He was sentenced to be shot (one affirms) but persuaded his captors to spare him. His personality was so pleasing he won his jailor's friendship.

Sterne was allowed to attend a Christmas eve ball. Like "Cinderella" he met his fate; a beautiful girl he met at the ball, Rosine Roff, daughter of a Louisiana planter, listened to his wooing, agreed to marry him "as soon as he could get out of jail." How the jailor came at 12 to take him back to prison, and how he eventually became Alcalde of Nacogdoches and married the faithful Rosine would make a story as romantic as that of Cinderella herself.

Sam Houston whom Sterne had met at Nashville, Tennessee, before coming to Texas, was delighted to find Mr. Sterne, Alcalde of Nacogdoches, when he arrived in Texas. The two men were staunch friends for man years. After the Texas Revolution Sterne was a state senator.

Charles A. Sterne's life in Palestine was lived along the line of other progressive citizens. For many years he kept a hotel, proving an agreeable "Mine Host". He was active in various civic and fraternal organizations. For ten years he was secretary' of the School Board. He was a steward in the Methodist Church for many years, and he reached the 32nd degree rank in Masonry. General Albert Pike conferred the Scottish Rite degree on him in 1878. Mr. Sterne helped to organize the Masons of Palestine and was said to be the oldest Shriner in the United States. Adolphus Sterne was Worshipful Master of Nacogdoches and his chair is preserved in the Scottish Rite Cathedral of Galveston today. Mr. C. A. Sterne served as recorder of Palestine Commandary No.3. Knights Templar for six years. He belonged also to the Knights of Honor, Knights of Pythias and the LOOF. Mr. Sterne married a daughter of the Hon. E. Mallard of Cherokee County and had ten children nine "daughters and one son. Of the daughters one, Kate, married a member of the prominent Word family, Horace Word of Palestine. Two of the daughters of this marriage reside in Palestine. They are: Mrs. Anna Word Davis and Mrs. Sallie Word Nance.

Taken from; A Centennial History of Anderson County Texas
By; Pauline Buck Hohes.
1936

Family links:

Parents:

Nicholas Adolphus Sterne (1801 - 1852)

Eva Catherine Rosine Ruff Sterne (1810 - 1897)

Spouse:

Sarah Mallard Finch Sterne (1828 - 1903)

Children:

Katherine Rosine Sterne Word (1856 - 1929)*

Eldridge M. Sterne (1858 - 1944)*

Siblings:

Charles Adolphus Sterne (1830 - 1926)

Joseph A Sterne (1832 - 1892)*

Placide R. Sterne (1837 - 1921)*

Laura Therese Sterne Cave (1840 - 1872)*

*Calculated relationship

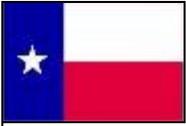
Burial:

Palestine City Cemetery

Palestine

Anderson County





2016 SAM DAVIS YOUTH BALL HELD AT MUSEUM FOR EAST TEXAS CULTURE PICTURES BY SHASTA STAGNER



Several SCV members from the East Texas Brigade attended and supported the Sam Davis New Year's Ball this year. It was held at the Museum for East Texas Culture again and was well attended. As most of you know, proceeds from the ball support the Sam Davis Youth Camp here in Texas. It isn't too late to send in contributions. You may either mail a check made payable to Sam Davis Fund to Deborah Robinson, 6720 ACR 448, Palestine, Texas, or contribute with a credit card. The PayPal "Donate Now" button will be available for an unlimited time at

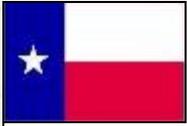
<http://www.oldwaysmadenew.com/sam-davis-ball.html>

For further information, you can email Deborah at deborah@oldwaysmadenew.com or call her at 903-724-1406. Thank you to everyone that helped to make this ball a huge success!

The youth are our future and educating them on the true history of the South is more important now than ever!

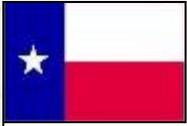
Deborah Robinson





2016 SAM DAVIS YOUTH BALL PICTURES BY SHASTA STAGNER

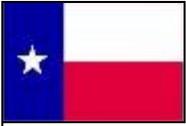




2016 SAM DAVIS YOUTH BALL PICTURES BY SHASTA STAGNER



You can tell from the pictures that all the youth had a great time at the Sam Davis Youth Ball. If our Confederate History is going to endure the attacks that it is currently receiving, it is going to take all of us standing together. If you would like to make a contribution to help the Sam Davis Youth Camp, please contact Deborah Robinson at 903-724-1406.



JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP TEXAS CIVIL WAR HISTORY IN FEBRUARY

From the Texas State Historical Association



February 1, 1861

On this day in 1861, Texas became the 7th state to secede from the Union when a state convention voted 166 to 8 in favor of secession. Even though Sam Houston objected to Texas leaving the Union, the vote passed.

February 2, 1861

On this day in 1861, a declaration of the causes which impel the State of Texas to secede from the Federal Union was adopted.

February 16, 1861

On this day in 1861, The U.S. Army facility at San Antonio was seized under authority of the Texas Committee of Safety.

February 18, 1861

On this day in 1861, U.S. General David E. Twiggs surrendered all U.S. military posts in Texas.

February 21, 1861

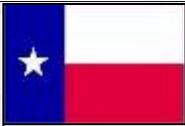
On this day in 1861, Volunteers under the command of Col. John S. 'Rip' Ford seize U.S. property at Brazos Santiago in the Rio Grande Valley.

February 23, 1861

On this day in 1861, the people of Texas went to the polls to vote on a referendum to secede from the Union. The vote was 46,153 for secession and 17,747 against. Of the 122 counties casting votes, only eighteen cast majorities against secession. Only eleven others cast as much as 40 percent against. The referendum was held pursuant to a decision in favor of secession in the state Secession Convention.

February 27th, 1850

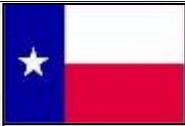
On this day in 1850, Carlos Esparza, a supporter of the Mexican folk hero Juan N. Cortina, and various followers attempted to establish a territorial government and separate themselves from the rest of Texas. The Territory of the Rio Grande was intended to protect the interests of Hispanics, but the proposal became politically complicated and was dropped. Esparza, born in Matamoros, Tamaulipas, in 1828, was to all appearances an ordinary rancher, possessing neither Cortina's striking appearance nor leadership qualities. The eccentric, sharp-tongued Esparza remained Cortina's man in the shadows, however. During the Civil War, he managed to aid Union and Confederate forces against each other while promoting the Cortinista cause.



CIVIL WAR CALENDAR FEBRUARY 2016



	1	2, 1863 CSA Gen. Albert Sydney Johnston born 1865 Weather so cold that James River freezes around Richmond, Va	3, 1807 CSA Gen Joseph Johnston born	4, 1861 Confederate States of America formed in Montgomery, Al.	5	6, 1863 US Sec of State Seward rejects France's offer to mediate peace 1833 CSA Gen Jeb Stuart born
7	8, 1820 US Gen William Sherman born	9, 1861 New Conf gov elects Jefferson Davis President	10, 1862 CSA blockade-runner "Mosquito Fleet" is destroyed off North Carolina Coast	11, 1812 CSA V.P. Alexander Stephens born In 1861, While pruning roses, Davis hears that he is president- elect	12, 1865 Lincoln's b'day. Electoral College votes 212-21 to re- elect him	13
14	15	16, 1863: U.S. Senate passes Conscription Act to draft men into army	17, 1864: The USS Housatonic sinks in 28 ft of water after being rammed by submarine Hunley. The Hunley sinks too.	18	19	20, 1865: Conf. Congress passes bill that authorizes the arming of slaves.
21, 1862: Conf. win handily at Battle of Ft Craig near Santa Fe, NM	22, 1861: On Washington's b'day, both Lincoln & Davis give important speeches.	23	24, 1864: Pres Davis appoints Braxton Bragg his military advisor, despite generals' outcry	25, 1862 US War Dept seizes control of all telegraph lines	26	27, 1864: A rudely constructed prison outside Andersonville, Ga houses its first prisoners
28, 1862: A day of fasting is proclaimed across the South. Pres Davis invokes martial law in parts of Virginia	29					



DON'T ELIMINATE BLACK CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS?

BY WALTER E. WILLIAMS

PUBLISHED IN NEWSPAPERS JANUARY 19, 2016



Last July, Anthony Hervey, an outspoken black advocate for the Confederate flag, was killed in a car crash. Arlene Barnum, a surviving passenger in the vehicle, told authorities and the media that they had been forced off the road by a carload of “angry young black men” after Hervey, while wearing his Confederate kepi, stopped at a convenience store en route to his home in Oxford, Miss.

His death was in no small part caused by the gross level of ignorance, organized deceit and anger about the War of 1861. Much of the ignorance stems from the fact that most Americans think the war was initiated to free slaves, when in truth, freeing slaves was little more than an afterthought. I want to lay out a few quotations and ask what you make of them.

During the “Civil War,” ex-slave Frederick Douglass observed, “There are at the present moment many colored men in the Confederate army doing duty not only as cooks, servants and laborers, but as real soldiers, having muskets on their shoulders, and bullets in their pockets, ready to shoot down loyal troops, and do all that soldiers may to destroy the Federal Government and build up that of the traitors and rebels” (Douglass’ Monthly, September 1861).

“For more than two years, negroes had been extensively employed in belligerent operations by the Confederacy. They had been embodied and drilled as Rebel soldiers, and had paraded with White troops at a time when this would not have been tolerated in the armies of the Union.” (Horace Greeley, in his book, “The American Conflict”).

“Over 3,000 negroes must be included in this number (of Confederate troops). These were clad in all kinds of uniforms, not only in cast-off or captured United States uniforms, but in coats with Southern buttons, State buttons, etc. These were shabby, but not shabbier or seedier than those worn by white men in rebel ranks. Most of the negroes had arms, rifles, muskets, sabres, bowie knives, dirks, etc. They were supplied, in many instances, with knapsacks, haversacks, canteens, etc., and were manifestly an integral portion of the Southern Confederacy Army. They were seen riding on horses and mules, driving wagons, riding on caissons, in ambulances, with the staff of Generals, and promiscuously mixed up with all the rebel horde” (report by Dr. Lewis H. Steiner, chief inspector of the U.S. Sanitary Commission).

In April 1861, a Petersburg, Va., newspaper proposed “three cheers for the patriotic free Negroes of Lynchburg” after 70 blacks offered “to act in whatever capacity” had been “assigned to them” in defense of Virginia.

Those are but a few examples of the important role that blacks served as soldiers, freemen and slaves on the side of the Confederacy. The flap over the Confederate flag is not quite so simple as the nation’s race “experts” make it. They want us to think the flag is a symbol of racism. Yes, racists have used the Confederate flag as their symbol, but racists have also marched behind the U.S. flag and have used the Bible. Would anyone suggest banning the U.S. flag from state buildings and references to the Bible?

Black civil rights activists, their white liberal supporters and historically ignorant Americans who attack the Confederate flag have committed a deep, despicable dishonor to our patriotic Southern black ancestors who marched, fought and died not to protect slavery, but to protect their homeland from Northern aggression. They don’t deserve the dishonor. Dr. Leonard Haynes, a black professor at Southern University, stated, “When you eliminate the black Confederate soldier, you’ve eliminated the history of the South.”



Walter E. Williams is a professor of economics at George Mason University. To find out more about Walter E. Williams, go online to <http://econfaculty.gmu.edu/wew>



TEXAS DIVISION CHAPLAIN'S ARTICLE
A MESSAGE FROM REV. DON MAJORS
THE BATTLE OF LIFE (PG 1 OF 3)



In Psalm 124, the Psalmist asks the rhetorical question, "What if the Lord had not been on our side when we were attacked?" The Psalmist closes Psalm 124 with a profound statement when he says, "Our help comes from the Lord who made heaven and earth."

The battle of life.

Life is complex at times. Life is emotional. It is physical. It is spiritual. Life is relational, cultural, and life is moral. There are many other definitions for life. One thing we know for sure, life can be a battle, and that battle comes in many forms.

We have to acknowledge that in life there is a real enemy who desires to destroy us. We need to acknowledge that in life this enemy desires to reap havoc over our lives. This enemy wishes to destroy us through the experience of suffering.

In the Book of Galatians (5:1), Paul says, "Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage."

The Thirteen original colonies understood this admonition clearly. They knew they were living under bondage and oppression. Life was a battle for the early colonists. The British Government had placed them under a yoke of bondage. They passionately desired freedom from that yoke. They would fight against the entanglement that the British Crown had placed them under.

Their Southern descendants in 1860 and 1861 would hold to the same opinion and beliefs of their ancestors. The South knew that she was living under a yoke of bondage, and the entanglements of northern oppression must be lifted.

Interestingly, Paul coins this verse, "Do not let yourself be tied up again" with a yoke of bondage. In other words, the yoke of oppression can happen again if we are not careful.

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TEXAS DIVISION CHAPLAIN'S ARTICLE
A MESSAGE FROM REV. DON MAJORS
THE BATTLE OF LIFE (PG 2 OF 3)



Liberty is won. But, liberty cannot be won without a battle. Life is a battle. Liberty must be won. There is no other way. A passive and impotent approach to liberty is not true liberty. Liberty calls for action. Liberty must not only be won, liberty must also be maintained not only in the present tense, but also in the future tense. We must "stand fast" in that liberty.

Ephesians 6:13-14 says, "Take up the whole armor of God that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all to stand, stand therefore having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness."

We cannot stand in evil days against evil men if we do not take up our armor.

"Withstand" in the Greek is "anthistemi," which translates into English as "antihistamine." "Anti" (against) and "Histemi" (to cause to stand). The verb suggests "vigorously opposing," "bravely resisting," "standing face-to-face against an adversary," and "standing your ground."

The great Southern Gentleman, George Washington said, "Remember officers and soldiers that you are free men, fighting for the blessing of liberty."

This is an evil day in which we live. Liberty must be maintained in a society that considers right to be wrong and wrong to be right.

Another great Southerner, Thomas Jefferson, said, "The price of freedom is eternal vigilance."

Life is not for weaklings. Life is a battle.

Saint Paul reminded his readers that the entanglements of the yoke of bondage can become a true experience again, if we do not maintain and stand fast in the liberty by which Christ has made us free.

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TEXAS DIVISION CHAPLAIN'S ARTICLE
A MESSAGE FROM REV. DON MAJORS
THE BATTLE OF LIFE (PG 3 OF 3)



General Robert E. Lee saw the storm approaching. This time the storm would not approach from across the Atlantic Ocean. This time the storm would not be dressed in red. It would be dressed in blue, and it would be a storm of oppression blowing in from the north.

Life is a battle.

After a long night in prayer, General Lee knew what his decision would be. He would stand with Virginia. He would stand with the South. He would stand for a righteous Cause. He would stand fast in the liberty by which Christ had made him free. He would stand against tyranny and the yoke of bondage.

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." - 2 Timothy 4:7

These words, I believe, also describe the great General Robert E. Lee. He fought the good fight. He finished the race. He kept the faith. However, these words do not fully describe us, the Sons of Confederate Veterans. Why? Because we have not finished our race. There is still a fight to be won, and we must keep the faith. We must not allow ourselves to once again be entangled with the yoke of bondage. There is still a Cause to live for and a Cause to fight for as God gives us strength.

"Mark the perfect man and behold the upright, for the end of that man is peace."

Southern Blessings,

Reverend M. Don Majors, Pastor
Texas Division Chaplain
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: danielyer497@yahoo.com or Phone: (903) 391-2224

JACOB L. SHERIDAN CAPT CO I 1ST REGT TEXAS INFANTRY	JOHN H. SHERIDAN PVT. CO I 1ST REGT TEXAS INFANTRY	COL. A.T. RAINEY CO. H I TEX. INF. HOOD'S TEX. BRIG
L. E. SHERIDAN PVT. CO I 1ST REGT TEXAS INFANTRY	PVT WM. N SHERIDAN CO C 6 BATTALION TEXAS CALVARY	STEPHEN D. RAINEY CAPTAIN 1ST BATT. TEX CAV

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. 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
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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
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)