



SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS, TEXAS DIVISION

THE JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP NEWS

www.reaganscvcamp.org

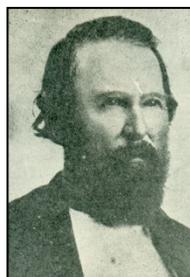
VOLUME 8, ISSUE 5

MAY 2016

COMMANDER'S DISPATCH

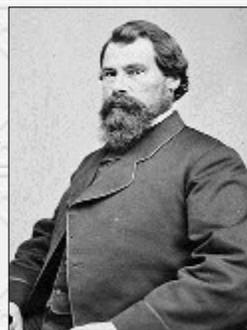
Compatriots, As many of you already know, history is one subject that extremely interests me. I love researching and discovering long forgotten facts and would like to share with you this month the way two lives entwined during and immediately after the War of Northern Aggression. Our story begins back in 1812 in Wadesborough, North Carolina when James Jowers fathered a son who he named, William George Washington Jowers. A young boy with part of a famous name would have much to live up to and history bears witness, that live up to that famous name he did! William graduated with a medical degree from the University of Transylvania in Lexington, Kentucky in 1835 and moved to Monroe County, Mississippi where he

opened his medical practice. Quickly establishing himself as a respected young doctor, he was persuaded to run for public office and in 1838 was elected to the Mississippi State legislature. Upon hearing of the new Republic of Texas, Jowers closed his medical practice and in March 1839 came to Texas.



WILLIAM GEORGE WASHINGTON JOWERS

Arriving in Nacogdoches, he found a nation at war with the Cherokee Indians and immediately joined in the fray and became an assistant surgeon in 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

army. He accompanied John H. Reagan and Martin Lacy on their hazardous journey to see Chief Bowles and deliver an ultimatum from President Mirabeau B. Lamar to move his tribe north of the Red River, peaceably or with force, his choice.

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.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Commander's Dispatch	1-2
Prayer List/ Calendar of Events	3
May meeting pics	4
Historical Program "The Great Beefsteak Raid"	5-7
Upcoming Programs	8
Tex. Civ. War History	9
C.S.A. Gen. Matthew Duncan Ector	10
May Civ. War Calendar	11
Confederate Plaza Info	12
Reagan Camp Contacts	13



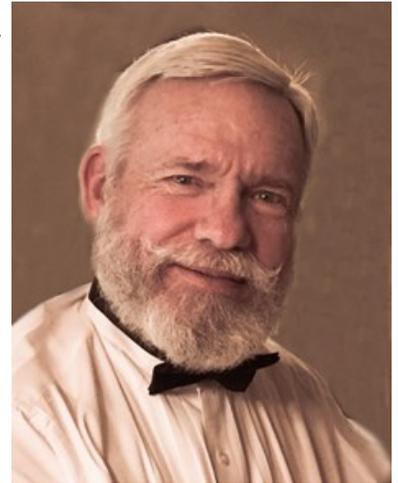
JOHN H. REAGAN SCV CAMP #2156 COMMANDER'S DISPATCH MAY 2016 PG 2



As a doctor who had dabbled in politics, Jowers also ran for public office in Texas and was elected to the Texas House of Representatives, in 1848, and later to the State Senate in 1853. In 1846, he moved his family to Palestine and holds the distinction of having cut down the first tree on the first road built north to Palestine from Crockett, Texas.

With the outbreak of war in April 1861, Jowers was commissioned a Captain in Company F of the 32nd Texas Cavalry and raised a company of men in Palestine that was attached to General Bragg's division. While serving far from home in Mississippi, he learned that his wife had died on September 27, 1862 leaving him with four young children. Discharged, he returned home to tend to his kids.

With the war over, William settled into life on his plantation located twelve miles outside of Palestine. Where he had had fourteen slaves before the war, now he had to rely on his children as well as free men to tend to the crops. As fate would have it, one day in 1865 a rider approached his house who appeared haggard and worn out from many days and nights in the saddle. As the old gentlemen approached Jowers, he inquired if perhaps Jowers might know him. Instantly Jowers recognized the traveler as General Louis Trezevant Wigfall.



Charles Steen



LOUIS TREZEVANT WIGFALL

General Wigfall confided in Jowers that he was fleeing to Mexico to avoid capture by the Yankee army that had been pursuing him relentlessly. Risking his and his family's safety, William Jowers readily hid Wigfall on his plantation for several days until the General could continue his journey in safety. William Jowers was quite a colorful figure and one of the lesser known facts of his life occurred in early 1869. With the death of his third wife that year, he was informed by his oldest son, Richard that he had met a pretty widow that he intended to marry. Visiting the intended bride, Elizabeth "Bettie" Hill to give his blessing, the elder Jowers convinced the widow to break off the engagement because his son had never been married. A few days later, on January 13, 1869, William Jowers married her himself and they had five daughters.

Our scheduled workday at the Reagan farm had to be postponed due to rain the day before. We are going to try to clean up some more brush and reveal the two brick columns that were located near the road on the east side of the house. We will finalize a date at the June meeting. If you missed the May meeting, you missed a very informative program by Jerry Watt on the September 1864, "Great Beefsteak Raid". Thanks to Gary Williams for scheduling some very interesting programs this year.

Deo Vindice!

Prayer List

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



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 3-5 - 2016 State SCV Reunion

June 11 - Texas Hist. Marker Dedication for the W.L. Moody Memorial park Confederate Reunion Grounds at Fairfield @ 10am

June 21 - June Reagan Camp Meeting

July 13-17 - SCV National Reunion Richardson, Tx
more into at scv2016.org

July 19 - July Reagan Camp Meeting

Aug 16 - August Reagan Camp Meeting

Sept 20 - Sept 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.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 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 MAY MEETING



If you missed the May meeting, then you really missed a good one! We had 18 in attendance, and everyone enjoyed good food and a great historical program. The meeting started off with some good “Southern Cooking” as we enjoyed a meal of fried chicken, new potatoes, cheese potatoes, beans, homemade deli sandwiches, buttermilk pie, carrot cake, homemade apple/oatmeal dessert and Blue Bell ice cream. The meal was great! We would like to thank Sam Hanks, Richard Thornton, David Franklin, Doug Smith, Stuart Whitaker, Marc Robinson, Charles Steen, Gary Williams & Dwight Franklin for bringing food. It was very good. The Reagan Camp is very fortunate to have so many men who are willing to pitch in and bring food for the meetings.



Following the meal, the camp enjoyed an excellent historical program about “The Great Beefsteak Raid of 1864” by Jerry Don Watt.





MAY HISTORICAL PROGRAM

“THE GREAT BEEFSTEAK RAID OF 1864”

BY JERRY DON WATT



The John H. Reagan Camp was in for a treat as we were able to hear about an event that few had ever heard about before. Jerry Don Watt gave a presentation on “The Great Beefsteak Raid of 1864” in which the Confederates were able to rustle 2500 head of cattle from the Union Army. We would like to say “Thank You” to Jerry Don for allowing us to have a copy of his notes so those who were unable to attend the meeting would still be allowed to read about this heroic act from Confederate forces.

BEEFSTEAK RAID - SEPTEMBER 14-17, 1864



In September 1864, the Army of Northern Virginia was in desperate condition.

They had been in constant combat for 120 days. The 50,000 survivors were manning forty miles of trenches from south of Petersburg to north of Richmond.

Facing them were 90,000 well fed, well armed and supplied Yankee troops. Yankee cavalry raids in August had torn up rails and burned bridges on the railroads that brought supplies from North Carolina and the Shenandoah Valley to the Confederate forces. It would be weeks before some of the railroads could continue bringing food and supplies. On August 22, General Lee wrote Jefferson Davis that his troops were completely out of corn and had meat rations for only two weeks. It would be October before grain crops in Virginia would be available. He feared that he would have to abandon Petersburg and Richmond to the Yankees unless he could obtain food. Plans had already been made for their retreat. The starving soldiers were desperate. One even killed his girlfriend’s cat so his men could eat it.

In May, General Jeb Stuart had been killed in combat. His replacement as cavalry commander was Wade Hampton. Hampton was the richest man in the South in 1861. He raised and equipped his own cavalry regiment. His Grandfather had been a General in the American Revolution and his Father a General in the War of 1812. He had several large plantations in S.C.. Hampton was a large muscular man who for entertainment, he and his sons hunted bears in the South Carolina cane-breaks on horseback. When they cornered a bear, they killed him with bowie knives. Completely fearless in battle, he had commanded a division of cavalry under Stuart.

Most Confederate armies had formed special elite units called Scout companies. They were composed of fearless, volunteer teenagers and men in their early 20s. They performed the same duties as modern Special Forces Green Berets, Seals, Rangers and marine Recon. They spent most of the war operating behind enemy lines dressed in civilian or Yankee uniforms. Their duties were to gather intelligence organized civilian spy rings and harass Federal forces. In

1861, Jeb Stuart organized a unit of some 40 men who became known as the Iron Scouts. They were given this nickname by the Yankees because they were so tough and hard to kill. One of their members of John Mosby, the Gray Ghost. Perhaps the most effective member was a Sergeant George Shadburn, a 6’2” Texan. Hampton would say that he was the best man with pistols he had seen during the war, even better than Mosby and could talk Yankee better than a Yankee. A tall, handsome, mild-mannered, soft-spoken man until he went into combat. Then he was transformed into a ferocious warrior. He spent most of the Siege of Petersburg operating in the swamps and jungles east of Petersburg behind Yankee lines. There were over one hundred scouts operating from bases hidden deep in the swamps. They set up civilian spy networks of women, tapped and cut telegraph lines, ambushed Yankee patrols, raided picket lines, captured couriers and killed Yankee counterinsurgents who tried to destroy the rebel Scouts and guerrillas.

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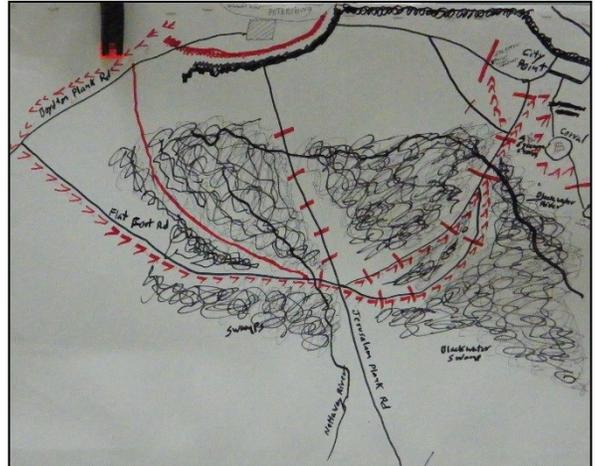
MAY HISTORICAL PROGRAM

“THE GREAT BEEFSTEAK RAID OF 1864”

BY JERRY DON WATT PG 2



The Yankees had a huge supply base on the James River to support their combat operations against Richmond and Petersburg. General Grant had his headquarters here. A large hay depot at Indian Point and thousands of cattle near Coggins Point to feed their troops. Shadburn and two other scouts discovered the cattle herd and their guards and drew careful maps of the area and location of Yankee troops. They also captured a courier with orders that Grant was leaving on September 14 for several days to visit General Sheridan in the Shenandoah Valley. Shadburn sent all of this information to Hampton in Petersburg on September 5. Hampton used this information to plan a raid to capture the cattle herd. He sent the plan to Lee on September 8. The next day Lee sent orders to Hampton to organize a raiding task force. Hampton



selected 3,500 of his best cavalry, two batteries of artillery, an engineer unit, and dogs experienced in herding cattle. This would be a dangerous mission that could turn into a disaster. The raiding party would have to travel 60 miles behind the Yankee army to where the cattle herd was located. There were three regiments of cavalry guarding the cattle and thousands more available troops that would try to trap the raiding force. The cattle would have to be driven some 40 miles through swamps, across two rivers while fighting off pursuing Yankee forces. If the raiding force was destroyed, it would cripple Lee's army.

On September 14, the Task Force marched SE 20 miles to Dinwiddie Courthouse and rested for several hours. At 1:00 AM, they resumed their march north into the Blackwater Swamp and hid all day. During the day, the engineers rebuilt the bridge across the Blackwater River. After dark, they resumed their march to near the cattle heard and the guard detachments by 3:00 AM. At 5:00 AM, they moved into their assault positions. Each cavalry unit had a certain area to attack or to block roads where enemy forces could move. Other detachments began cutting telegraph lines between the Yankee positions to halt communications. The 11th Pennsylvania Cavalry was guarding the cattle. At Sycamore Church was the 1st DC Cavalry armed with 16 shot Henry repeating rifles. At Prince George Courthouse was the 3rd NY Cavalry. At 5:00AM the Rebel attacks hit. Shadburn with a detachment of Scouts and the 34th Virginia Cavalry Battalion under Elijah "Lige" Viers White led the attack on the 1st DC Cavalry. White had organized his command of Maryland and Virginia mountaineers in 1861. The first three years of the war they were usually behind enemy lines fighting a guerrilla war. However they also fought in campaigns as regular cavalry. At this time they were part of General Tom Rosser's Brigade. Rosser had given them the name Comanche after seeing them in a charge on Yankees early in the war screaming rebel yells that sounded like Comanche Indians. Wade Hampton said that every time he ordered them to charge, they ran over everything in sight. Another General said Lige would charge Hell with a bucket of water. Rosser was 21 years old from Rusk County, Texas. In 15 minutes, most of the DC Cavalry were dead, wounded, captured or running. The herders tried to stampede the cattle but the Rebels quickly got them turned around and headed South. Thirty minutes later Shadburn and the Comanche's approached the 11th Pennsylvania guarding the cattle herd. They tried to get them to surrender but they refused. General Rosser yelled "Come down on them Lige" and they did cutting the Yankee regiment to pieces. Another detachment under General Rooney Lee smashed the 3rd NY regiment. In a short time there was a six-mile long arc of Confederate Cavalry blocking off all pursuit by Yankee reinforcement. By 8:00 the cattle herd was moving fast to the south. The protective arc of cavalry gradually fell back fighting off pursuit. After the herd crossed the bridge over Blackwater River, the rebels burned it stopping pursuit on the road.

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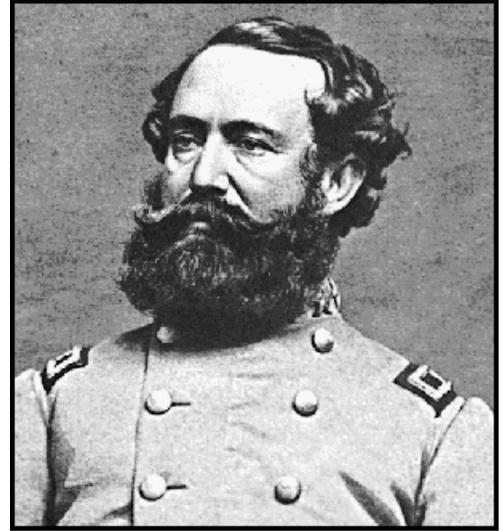
MAY HISTORICAL PROGRAM

“THE GREAT BEEFSTEAK RAID OF 1864”

BY JERRY DON WATT PG 3



The worst danger was a large force of Yankee Cavalry advancing down the Jerusalem Plank Road from Petersburg. If they could get to the Flat Foot Road junction first before the cattle heard, the rebel raiding force would be trapped. Hampton sent Lige White's 400 Comanche to block the advancing 2100 Yankee Cavalry. They would fight a delaying action for several hours until reinforcements and the two batteries of infantry joined and stopped the Yankee force. The cattle herd crossed the Blackwater River and Swamp and then the Nottaway River and swamps in a Cattle Drive through Hell. Meanwhile all Yankee pursuit was fought off. The last Yankee attack was smashed by a counter-attack at 10PM in the swamp. At noon on the 17th, the cattle came out of the swamps into open country. Waiting for them was a large detachment of rebel cavalry from Petersburg to escort them into Petersburg. Some 2,500 cattle were driven into the Confederate lines at Petersburg on September 17. This would be enough meat to feed Lee's army for 40 days until the railroads were repaired so food could be brought in.



CSA Major General Wade Hampton

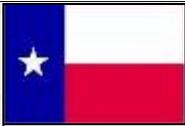
For days, the Confederates would put up signs for the Yankees advertising fresh beef for sale. The Beefsteak Raid had covered over 100 miles in 4 days. They brought back over 300 prisoners with them, many horses and weapons as well as a number of wagons loaded with supplies. Many other Yankees had been killed and wounded. The rebel raiders had lost 10 killed, 47 wounded and 4 missing. The Beefsteak Raid would delay the fall of Richmond and Petersburg for seven months. It was one of the best executed and daring military operations of the war.



Abraham Lincoln would say, “It was the slickest piece of cattle stealing I ever heard of.” After his return from the Shenandoah Valley, Grant invited his top generals to dinner. After the meal that had no beef, one General asked Grant how long before he starved out Lee and captured Richmond and Petersburg. Grant replied, “Forever General if you keep feeding Lee's army with our beef”. There were no more questions on the subject.

After the war, Shadburn earned a law degree. He moved to San Francisco and became a wealthy businessman and respected citizen. He married, had several children and lived in a large mansion.

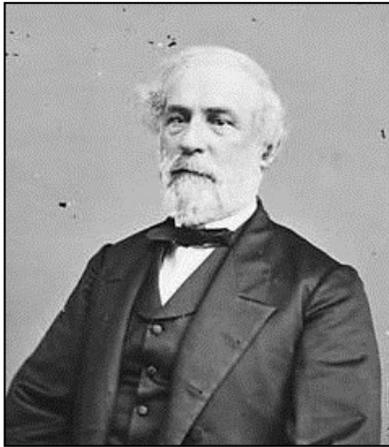
Few citizens there realized that this quiet man had been a daring Scout during the War. After the railroad was built to California, several Confederate Generals including Wade Hampton traveled to visit him. After Reconstruction, Hampton was elected Senator and later Governor of South Carolina.



UPCOMING HISTORICAL PROGRAMS



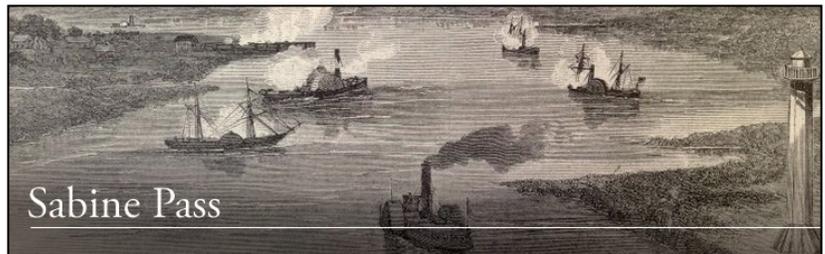
The following programs have been scheduled for future Reagan Camp meetings:



June 21st -Robert E. Lee & The Post War Years
Presented by Frank Crisp

July 18th - The Battle Of Sabine Pass

Presented by David Franklin



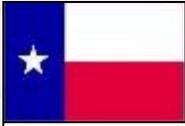
Picture from Civil War Trust Website

Confederate Exodus to South America after the War

By Bonnie Woolverton



Picture from breitbart.com



JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP TEXAS CIVIL WAR HISTORY IN MAY

From the Texas State Historical Association



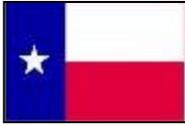
May 6th, 1864: On this day in one of the most moving incidents of the Civil War, Confederate General Robert E. Lee ordered the celebrated hood's Texas Brigade to the front, and they in turn ordered him to the rear. During a critical moment of the fierce Battle of the Wilderness, as the Southern battle line was crumbling, Lee, commander of the Army of Northern Virginia, was heartened to see the Texas Brigade, under the command of John Gregg, arrive on the field as reinforcements. With a cry of "Hurrah for Texas!" Lee ordered them forward against the Union army and, carried away by his enthusiasm, began to lead them into the charge. The Texans unwilling to risk their idol in battle, stopped and gathered around him, yelling "Lee to the rear!" and held onto his horse until he withdrew. The Texas Brigade suffered severe losses, but the Union army was once more fought to a standstill.

May 9th, 1865: On this day near Abbeville, Georgia, Jefferson Davis, former Texas governor Francis R. Lubbock, and Confederate postmaster and temporary treasurer John H. Reagan were captured by Union forces. Davis had been forced to flee Richmond with his cabinet on April 2, and the Confederate government had eluded Union patrols in both North and South Carolina. After his capture, Texan John Reagan was imprisoned until December.

May 13th, 1865: On this day, more than a month after the surrender of General Robert E. Lee, the last land action of the Civil War took place at Palmito Ranch near Brownsville. The battle lasted four hours. Confederate casualties were a few dozen wounded. The federals lost 111 men and four officers captured, and thirty men wounded or killed. Ironically, at the same time, the Confederate governors of Arkansas, Louisiana, Missouri, and Texas were authorizing Confederate commander Kirby Smith to disband his armies and end the war.

May 17th, 1865: On this day, the last 1,200 Federal prisoners left Camp Ford, a Confederate prison camp located four miles northeast of Tyler. The camp, named in honor of Col. John S. (Rip) Ford, originally opened in 1862 as a facility for training Confederate conscripts, but the Trans-Mississippi Department ordered the establishment of a prison camp there in July 1863; the notorious John Pelham Border became commandant in May 1864. About 6,000 prisoners were confined at Camp Ford over the two years of its existence, making it the largest Confederate prison camp west of the Mississippi River. Of this number, 286 died there. The remains of the prison compound were destroyed in July 1865 by a detail of the Tenth Illinois Cavalry.

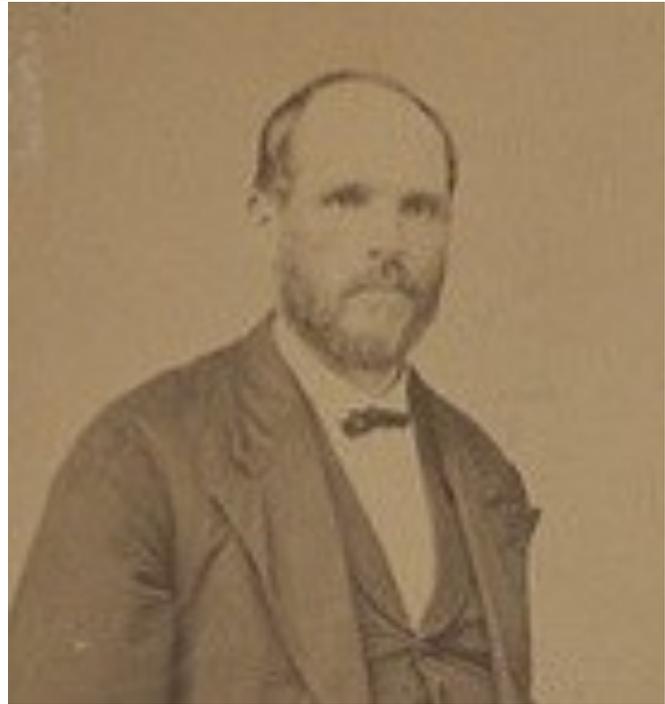
May 25th, 1896: On this day, the Texas Division of the United Daughters of the Confederacy met for the first time in Victoria. The United Daughters of the Confederacy was established in 1894 by the merger of state groups in Georgia, Missouri, and Tennessee. The Texas Division was organized by Kate Cabell Muse, who had earlier organized a local chapter in her hometown, Dallas. The Texas Division has been active in marking historic locations and holds annual memorial observances to remember not only Confederate Veterans but veterans of all wars. The division formerly sponsored the Texas Confederate Home and the Confederate Woman's Home and each year awards thousands of dollars in scholarships to descendants of Confederate veterans. It also maintains the Texas Confederate Museum.



JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP
CSA GENERAL MATTHEW DUNCAN ECTOR



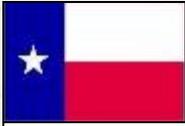
Matthew Duncan Ector was born on February 28, 1822 in Putnam County, Georgia to Hugh Walton and Dorothy Duncan Ector. He was raised in Merryweather County, Georgia. He received his education at La Grange, Georgia, and at Centre College in Danville, Kentucky. He began studying law at Greenville, Georgia in 1841. After admission to the Georgia bar in 1844, he served one term in the legislature and then moved to Henderson, Texas, where he settled in Henderson. While in Henderson, he studied law under Judge William Wright Morris. In 1851, he was admitted to the bar and opened his law office in Henderson. In 1855, he became the editor of the Henderson Democrat and was elected to represent Rusk County in the Sixth Texas Legislature.



Once the War of Northern Aggression began, Ector enlisted as a private and was soon elected first lieutenant in the Third Texas Cavalry. He was then appointed adjutant of Gen James L. Hogg's brigade where he saw combat in battles of Wilson's Creek, Missouri, Chustenahlah, Cherokee Nation, and Pea Ridge, Arkansas, before being promoted to colonel and command of the Fourteenth Texas cavalry. This regiment, dismounted, he led through Gen Bragg's invasion of Kentucky and distinguished himself by hard fighting at the battles of Richmond, Kentucky. He was promoted to brigadier general on August 23, 1862, commanding the 10th, 11th, 14th, and 32nd Texas regiments of dismounted cavalry. His new command, known as Ector's Brigade, fought at Murfreesboro, Tennessee, before joining Joseph E. Johnston in Mississippi. He was present at Chickamauga, and returned to Mississippi to take part in the Atlanta campaign, during which he was wounded in the left leg on July 27, 1864. His leg was amputated just below the knee. His injury put an end to his participation in field service.

In 1864, Ector (who was twice widowed) married Sallie P. Chew in Mississippi. In 1866, he returned to Texas to resume his law practice and was later elected as a district judge. Union General Joseph J. Reynolds removed him from the bench in 1867 for being a "Southern obstructionist." The following year he moved to Marshall, Texas to form a law partnership with N. H. Wilson. In 1875, he was appointed judge of the Seventh District. In 1876, he was elected to the Court of Appeals. He died in Tyler, October 1879, while serving as presiding justice of the Texas Court of Appeals. He is buried in Greenwood Cemetery in Marshall, Texas. Ector County, Texas, which was established in 1874, and named in his honor.

Information above can be found at <http://www.b17.com/mosb/generals/ector.htm> and <https://tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fec02>



CIVIL WAR CALENDAR MAY 2016



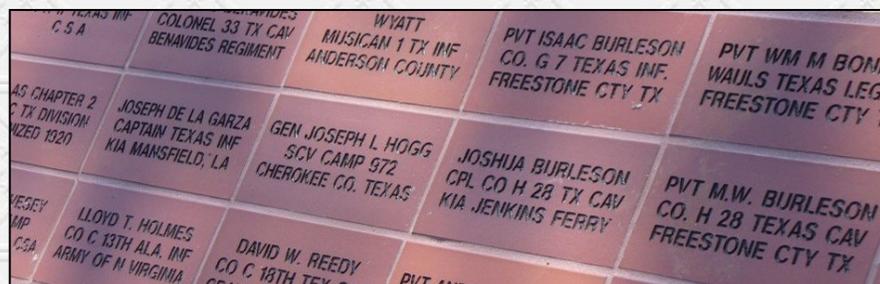
<p>1 undated—[children] should also be taught to know that after having been reared & educated by their parents, they should not expect them to further provide for them.</p>	<p>2 May 2, 1865—To Markie: I trust in time to be able to procure a humble home somewhere.</p>	<p>3 undated—If habits of self control & self denial have been acquired during education the great object has been accomplished.</p>	<p>4 May 4, 1851— Be strictly honorable in every act, & be not ashamed to do right. Acknowledge right to be your aim & strive to reach it.</p>	<p>5 undated— to Custis Hold yourself above every mean action.</p>	<p>6 undated— Diligence & integrity in any useful pursuit of life will be sure to secure prosperity.</p>	<p>7 undated— In answer to the prayers of God's people. I trust He will soon give us peace. I haven't seen my wife for nearly a year—my home in nearly two years.</p>
<p>8 undated to Custis Daily exercise of all your energies, acquiring knowledge, & knowing to do your duty, will bring you a delight surpassing all that idleness & selfishness can give.</p>	<p>9 undated— The choice of a profession is not of so much consequence as the manner in which it is pursued.</p>	<p>10 May 10, 1863—To Gen Jackson: Tell him to make haste & get well & come back to me as soon as he can. He has lost his left arm, but I have lost my right arm.</p>	<p>11 Undated—to son No one will attend to your business as well as you will yourself</p>	<p>12 undated to wife Study human nature, more by experience than by precept, learn to guard himself & his actions & not to be deceived by the low, the cunning, & the envious.</p>	<p>13 undated to Mrs. Fitzhugh In truth the wilderness of Texas is more agreeable to me than its cities.</p>	<p>14 undated— We must never relax in our efforts to save our people or save our Country.</p>
<p>15 May 15, 1864 to General Hill: When a man makes a mistake, I call him to my tent, talk to him, & use the authority of my position to make him do the right thing the next time.</p>	<p>16 May 16, 1864 to Gen. Hill: These men are not an army... I have to make the best of what I have.</p>	<p>17 May 17, 1867—The greater difficulties in our lives the harder must we strive for success.</p>	<p>18 May 18, 1857—to wife: If they [daughters] can lead the life of pure & earnest Christians they will realize the only true happiness in this world.</p>	<p>19 undated to Custis The necessity I daily have for money has I fear made me parsimonious.</p>	<p>20 May 20, 1863 to Jeff Davis: I wish to take advantage of every circumstance to inspire & encourage, & induce the officers & men to believe that their labours are appreciated.</p>	<p>21 May 21, 1863 to Gen. Hood: There never were such men in any army before. They will go anywhere and do anything.</p>
<p>22 undated— I know the difficulty of farmers. Their success & in a measure their pleasure, depend upon their daily attention to their affairs.</p>	<p>23 May 23, 1863 to wife: I hope the doctor's prescriptions under the blessing of Heaven relieve your painful affliction for I can do nothing but offer my feeble prayers to God for your relief.</p>	<p>24 undated to wife: Kiss my daughters for me, & you must all remember me in your prayers</p>	<p>25 May 25, 1863 to Agnes: Good-bye my precious child. Kiss your mother for me & take good care of her.</p>	<p>26 May 26, 1863 to Robert: I wish I could be of some advantage to you, but I can only give you my love & prayers, & commit you to God who never forgets those who serve Him.</p>	<p>27 undated—To Custis: so long as I meet with such return from my children, & see them strive to respond to my wishes I can meet with calmness all else the world may have for me.</p>	<p>28 May 28, 1870 I am unwilling that my family should become a tax to the College, all its funds should be devoted to the purposes of education.</p>
<p>29 May 29, 1866 Above all things, learn at once to worship your Creator & to do His will as revealed in His Holy Book.</p>	<p>30 May 30, 1858 to Rooney: I hope you will always be distinguished for your avoidance of the "universal balm", whiskey & every immorality.</p>	<p>31 May 31, 1863 to wife: I pray that our merciful Father in Heaven may protect and direct us! In that case, I fear no odds & no</p>				



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 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

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www.reaganscvcamp.org

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

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

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

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

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)