



SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS, TEXAS DIVISION

THE JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP NEWS

www.reaganscvcamp.org

VOLUME 9, ISSUE 6

JUNE 2017

COMMANDER'S DISPATCH

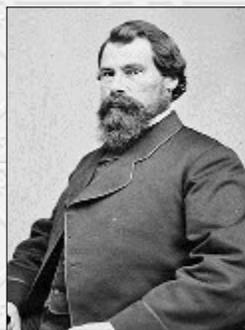


EVERYONE CALL GOV. GREG ABBOTT AT 512-463-2000 AND REGISTER YOUR DESIRE TO HAVE HB 1359 "MONUMENT BILL" TO BE INCLUDED IN THE JULY SPECIAL SESSION

Compatriots, we had 28 members and visitors attend the June meeting last night. I would like to thank my wife, Betty, for cooking lasagna and bread for our delicious meal. Thanks also to all those who brought other food items. It was my honor to be able to share with everyone attending the incredible story of Confederate Spy - Calvin Columbus Castle. We sold out of his biography books and all proceeds went to the Camp fund. I know he would be proud to know that he is still helping to preserve the Confederacy's values and heritage! It was especially great to have as a special guest his great granddaughter, Jill Camp, attending the meeting to hear the one hour program. Also we had guests from Florida and North Carolina and both men are also members of the SCV. We had two Palestine City Council

members present and local minister of the gospel of Jesus Christ, Dan Manuel and his wife Audrey with us! What a great night!!!! Congratulations to Dan Dyer who has been elected as the new 8th Brigade Commander. Joining him is Jim Abney as Lt. Commander and Wayne Jones as 2nd Lt. Commander. Dan has assumed new duties and in regards to this is asking to be relieved as Adjutant come elections in December. I will also be completing my second year as Commander so that position will be open as well. I implore each compatriot to search your heart and answer the call to service by volunteer to fill these important positions in the Camp.

A few years ago, Frank Moore won a drawing in which a wooden plaque with the charge to the Sons of Confederate Veterans given by Lt. General Stephen Dill Lee had been engraved thereon. He has graciously donated this plaque back to the Camp. I was especially surprised that the last line of the quote is a line missing from our rendition. It says, **"REMEMBER IT IS YOUR DUTY TO SEE THAT THE TRUE HISTORY OF THE SOUTH IS PRESENTED TO FUTURE**



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

"GENERATIONS." How true!!!!

At the time of this Dispatch we do not yet have a speaker for the July meeting. Many in our Camp are very talented and knowledgeable on many Confederate themed subjects. If you would like to volunteer a program, please telephone Gary Gibson. Remember, this is our camp and it takes everyone participating to have a successful year!!

Till next month, Deo Vindice! Charles

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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Prayer List

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



Pictured above is the marker that marks the place of the home site of John H. Reagan, who served as the Postmaster General of the Confederacy. The Reagan Camp keeps this location clean for public viewing.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 18 - July meeting

August 15 - August meeting

Sept 19 - September meeting

Oct 17 - October meeting

Nov 21 - November meeting

Dec 19 - December 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

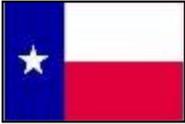
Above: Reagan Camp's battle flag and sign displayed proudly at intersection of FM 315 and Anderson Cty Rd 448, ten miles north of Palestine.

“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-



WORKDAY AT THE REAGAN HOMEPLACE AND THE CONFEDERATE VETERANS MEMORIAL PLAZA



We would like to thank Commander Charles Steen, Eldon Tedder, Marc Robinson and Martin Lawrence for cleaning up the John H. Reagan Homeplace on June 27th. The men removed a rotten picnic table, cut down a tree, removed all the brush and cleaned up around the brick columns. The work they did made a big difference in the appearance of the Reagan Homeplace.



Above: Commander Steen and Eldon Tedder load up brush at the Reagan Home place.



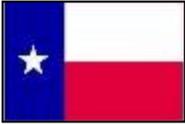
Above: Marc Robinson and Eldon Tedder show how nice the site looks after they had cleaned it up.



Pictured at left is Martin Lawrence with his truck loaded down with tools and equipment used to clean-up the site where John H. Reagan's house once stood.

We would also like to thank Dan Dyer, Calvin Nicholson, David Franklin, Frank Moore, Terry Franklin, Brandon Franklin, and Dwight Franklin for teaming up to keep the Confederate Veterans Memorial Plaza mowed and edged. These men have taken turns working to ensure that the plaza is presentable to visitors who come to honor their ancestors. The pictures below are after one of the workdays where they mowed, edged, and cleaned-up the plaza.





CONFEDERATE MARKER SET

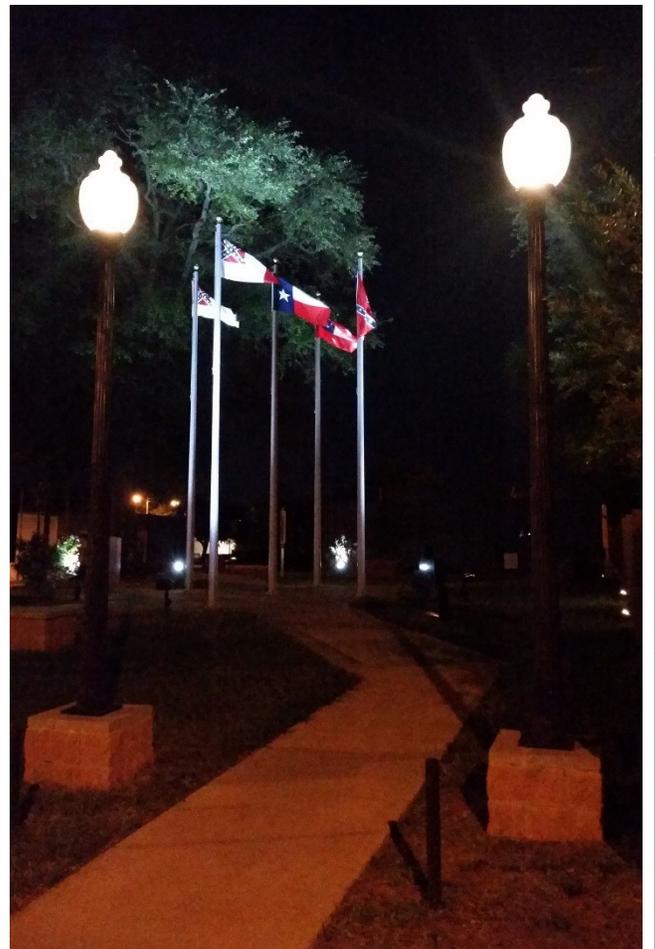


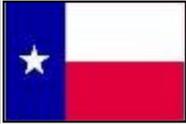
LIGHT GLOBES INSTALLED IN PLAZA



The Confederate Soldier Marker pictured at left was set by Rod Skelton, Vernon Holliman, and Frank Moore so the Pvt Mike Levi Taylor, Co A, 6th Louisiana Infantry would be honored with the marker that he deserves. There was a marker dedication ceremony in honor of this brave confederate soldier. We appreciate these men for their efforts in ensuring that Pvt. Taylor's service and dedication will be remembered.

The picture to the right shows the new globes that were installed by Frank Moore onto the light poles at the Confederate Veterans Memorial Plaza. These globes were donated by the Great-Granddaughter of Confederate Soldier and Spy, Calvin Columbus Castle! We would like to thank Steel and Judy Campbell for the globes and for remembering her Great-Grandfather's service to the Confederacy. For more information about Calvin Castle and his fascinating story, see page 6 & 7 of this newsletter.



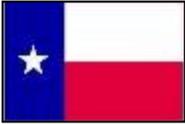


JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP #2156 JUNE 2017 MEETING

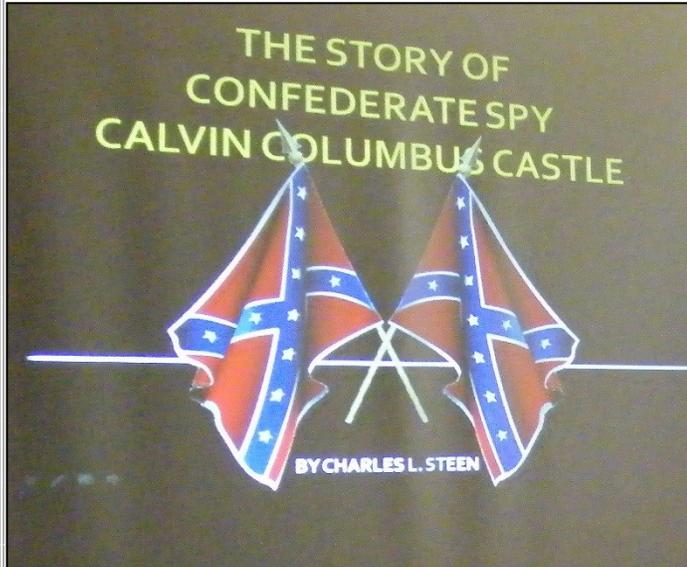


We had 28 in attendance at the June meeting. We would like to thank Commander Charles Steen and his wife Betty for providing the meal for everyone at the meeting. Betty worked very hard on the meal, and it was great! After the meal, Charles provided an excellent power point presentation on Calvin Columbus Castle, Confederate Spy. It was a good night!





JUNE HISTORICAL PROGRAM CALVIN COLUMBUS CASTLE—CONFEDERATE SPY BY COMMANDER CHARLES STEEN



Reagan Camp Commander Charles Steen gave an informative and interesting power point presentation on “The Story of Confederate Spy Calvin Columbus Castle”. Charles’ program was about a man who lived and is buried in Palestine, Texas and who was an important participant in the war between the states. We were very honored to have the Jill Jeffcoat Camp, the Great-Granddaughter of Calvin Columbus Castle, in attendance with us at the meeting.

Charles had first wondered about this Confederate Soldier after seeing Castle’s headstone in the Palestine City Cemetery. Charles said that he felt

the need to see what he could find out about the soldier buried there. Never in his wildest dreams did he think he would find such a story as he found when he read a book from Calvin Columbus Castle.

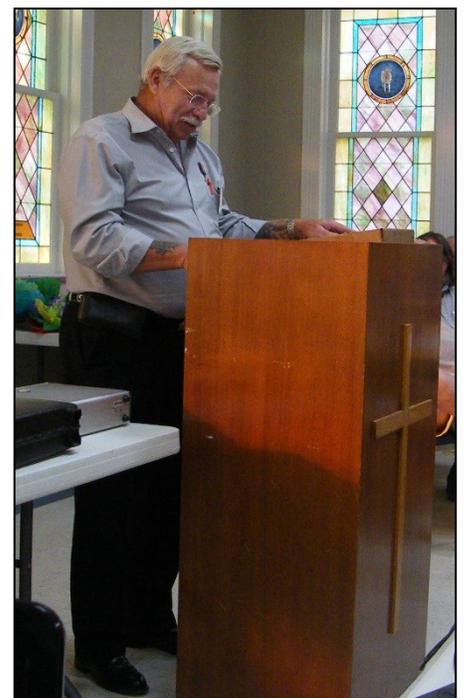
Calvin Columbus Castle was born in Cobb County, Georgia on June 10, 1830, to full blooded Huguenot French parents. The only schooling that Castle received was two weeks of school before “dropping out” after disciplinary problems. When Castle was eleven years old, his father sent him to Germany to learn how to be a shoe cobbler. He stayed there about four years and then returned to the United States to work at his trade.

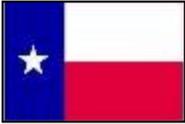
In 1861, Castle and four of his brothers enlisted in the Confederate Army. He said that his mother was crying, and he told her not to cry for him because the Yankees had not made a bullet that would kill him. He said he expected to live to see his 115th birthday.

He went away on May 18, 1861 and joined under General Stonewall Jackson. He was one of 700 soldiers who was marched before General Jackson to take the oath as a southern spy. Only 150 were selected to take that oath, and Castle ended up being one of those 150.

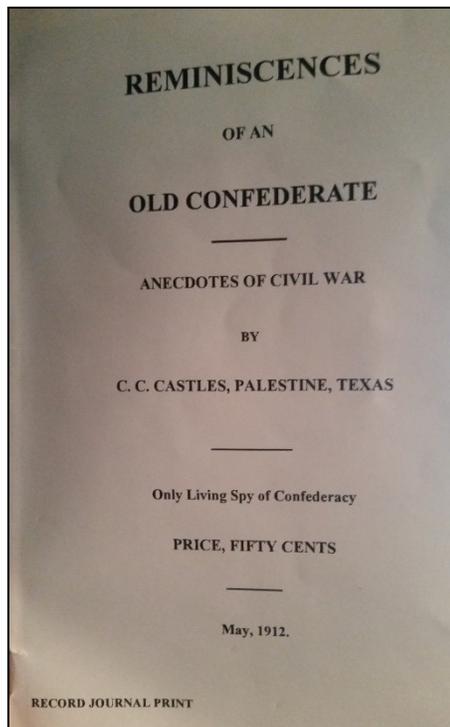
In the first Battle of Manassas, he lost one brother. He lost another in the Battle of the Wilderness. That only left him and two brothers alive out of the five that joined.

Castle said, “If there ever was a praying man, it was Stonewall Jackson.” He said that Jackson never sent him out on a spy mission without first praying for God to protect him. He did not realize the importance of this until he became a Christian himself. - next page-





JUNE HISTORICAL PROGRAM CALVIN COLUMBUS CASTLE "CONFEDERATE SPY"



In the book pictured to the left, C. C. Castel told of specific event that happened while he was Stonewall Jackson's spy. At times, he would dress up as a female in order to get behind enemy lines. Dressing like this allowed him to get into the Union Camp by claiming that he was looking for his little brother. General Sherman was smitten by him and told "her" about his plans and his movements. Sherman started calling his "my girl" and wanted to continue to see "her". Castle was able to pass this information on to C.S.A. General Wheeler. Commander Steen told those in attendance several other stories of Castle dressing as a woman to get information from the Yankees. Castle would also dress as a black man and infiltrate the Yankee camps and towns where the Yankees were in control. He was able to get information this way too. After the war was over, he spoke to General Sherman about how he had fooled him by dressing as a woman and a "darky". Sherman asked General Wheeler how many more boys he had like Castle. General Wheeler said, "Not another one." Sherman replied, "Well at one

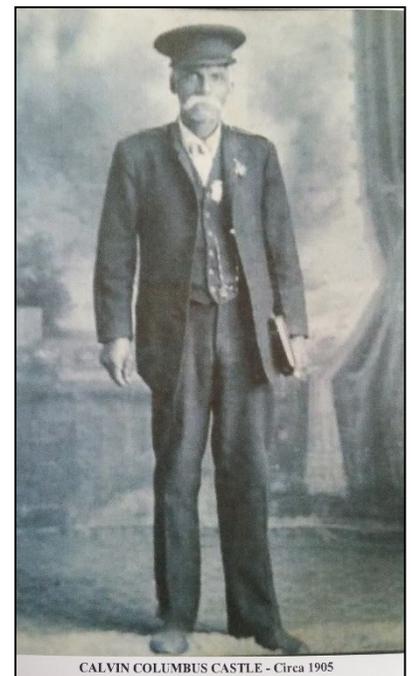
Time he is the ugliest negro and another time he is the most beautiful young lady, then a handsome soldier."

Castle was wounded at the battle of Missionary Ridge, when a shell busted and part of it struck his canteen and cartridge box, crushing five of his ribs. But he fought for another 8 hours anyway.

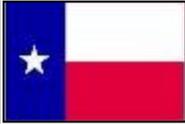
He was wounded again in the fall of 1864 in the battle at Ed Hill when he was shot through his hat with a bullet that just cut the skin enough to bleed freely and give him an awful headache. When his Captain told him that he thought he was killed, Castle replied, "No, the Yankees have not molded a bullet to kill me with." He must have been right, because he lived through the war and after the war, Castle was an ordained minister for 41 years. Castle moved his family to Palestine, Texas where he was a police officer. In 1905 he attended John H. Reagan's funeral. He died on October 21, 1914, and is buried at East Hill Cemetery in Palestine, Tx.

Commander Steen had an excellent program, and we really appreciate him presenting it to us. He stated that if there are any other SCV Camps who would like to have him present this program at their meeting, he is willing to do so. The story of Calvin Columbus Castle is one that needs to be told. This hero was one who deserves to be remembered.

(Pictured at right is C.C. Castle in his Palestine Policeman Uniform)



CALVIN COLUMBUS CASTLE - Circa 1905



CONFEDERATE VETERANS MEMORIAL PLAZA BRICK PAVERS



Our brave ancestors were willing to make the ultimate sacrifice for their families and the Confederacy. Why not make the small donation of \$50 to purchase a paver that will ensure that your ancestor will always be remembered? Pictured below are just a few of the pavers in the plaza.

PVT T. JEFF PARKS 22ND TX INFANTRY CO K	TERRY LEE HULSEY FOR 24 GA CO I PVT JOHN MCAFEE HULSEY	JAMES HALL BENDY PVT CO. A 25 TEXAS CAV. CSA
PVT W.C. HERRING 12TH TX INFANTRY CO K	JOHN PINKNEY MANN PVT. CO. K 13 TEXAS CAV. CSA	WILLIAM H L WELLS VA LIGHT ARTILLERY WELLS CLAN PLANO
WILLIAM A. HIGGINBOTHAM 7TH MISS. REGIMENT	GEORGE WASHINGTON HIGGINBOTHAM 3RD ALABAMA CAV	D.P.M. BRAND, PVT 10TH AL CAV CO. H RODDY'S BRIGADE

SAMUEL R. CORN CO. B 33RD ALA. INF CSA	PVT. DAVID A. BRAY CO H 34TH GA. INF. CSA	O. M. ROBERTS CAMP 178 - SCV WAXAHACHIE, TEXAS
GEN. HORACE RANDEL CAMP # 1533 CARTHAGE, TEXAS	ERASTUS W. DAVIS 31ST MISS INFANTRY 1825-1862	WILLIAM A LOYD 30TH TEXAS CAVALRY COMPANY F PRIVATE
PVT. JOHN LAND 54TH GA. INF CO H RUSSELL GUARDS	1ST LT. LEWIS P. BROOKS CO. B 7TH GA REGT	PVT THOMAS M. LORD CO L MARTIN-HOWELL GA LT ART. CSA

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

UPSHUR COUNTY PATRIOTS CAMP 2109 GILMER, TEXAS	PRIMUS KELLY BODY SERVANT GRIMES COUNTY	SGT JACOB M GAUNTT K CO 18 TX CAV CSA
1ST LT. LEWIS P. BROOKS CO. B 7TH GA REGT	ROGER Q. MILLS CHAPTER 2466 UDC	PVT. T. J. BARRON 8TH AL INF CO B WILCOX'S BRIGADE
CPL J RILEY PATTY 59TH TN MTD INF. CO. A	MARY WEST #26 UDC WACO, TEXAS	JOHN A. MATTHEWS PVT. CO. A 18TH ALABAMA INFANTRY

PVT. R. M. LUMMUS 53 GEORGIA INF. COMPANY B C.S.A.	PVT ALLEN G TURNER CO A 7TH BATTALION MISS INF. CSA
SGT. AMOS G. HANKS CO F. 1ST TEX INF HOODS BRIGADE CSA	WILLIAM H. DYER PVT CO K MISS INF C.S.A.

CHARLES GASKINS REGIMENT TEAMSTER 13TH ARKANSAS INF.	LEWIS GRACE WALKER'S TEX. DIV C.S.A.
WARD T. SPEIGHT PRIVATE CO. F 19TH LOUISIANA INF	RANSOM D. BUCHANAN PRIVATE CO. H 27TH MISS INFANTRY

JOHN A. BUCHANAN SERGEANT CO H 27TH MISS INFANTRY	JOEL S. WALTERS PRIVATE CO C 12TH MISS INFANTRY
WILLIAM L. WALTERS PRIVATE CO. K 37TH MISS INF REGT	JESSIE C. ROBERTS 1ST LIEUTENANT 20TH TEXAS CAVALRY

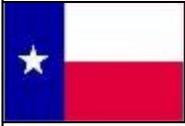
JOHN DANIEL LILES PVT DIED 4/25/1865 POW	WILLIAM J. CHAFFIN CO H 5 TEX CAV CSA 1829 - 1908
RICHARD A. HODGES CO K 22 TX INF CSA 1833 - 1905	ANDREW J BEAUCHAMP CO F 13 TEX INF 12-9-1834 9-1-1894

JOHN H. REAGAN SCV CAMP #2156 PALESTINE, TEXAS	PVT WM. H. FOSTER CO. H 1ST TEX INF DIED AS POW OCT 63
GEORGE KNOX GIBSON PVT. CO. B 12TH TEXAS CAVLRY, CSA	WILLIAM H. CRIST COMPANY I 7 TX CAV C.S.A.

PVT WM. H. NIX CO. K 22ND TEXAS INF	THAD S. SKELTON CO. F 5TH GA. INF WIA JAN. 3, 1863
PVT JOHN FOSTER CO. H 1ST TEX INF KIA GAINES MILL	WM. FRANKLIN HAYS 7 CONF. CAV. CO I WIA AUG. 6, 1864



Pictured on this page are just a small amount of the pavers that are lining the sidewalks in the Confederate Veterans Memorial Plaza. This is a wonderful way to honor the brave men who fought for the confederacy. If you haven't purchased a paver in honor of your ancestor, why not? It will be a permanent memorial that will be here for our descendants to enjoy for decades to come. All proceeds from the paver sales are used to pay utilities and flags for the Plaza. 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



JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP JUNE CIVIL WAR CALENDAR



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



JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP TEXAS CIVIL WAR HISTORY IN JUNE

From the Texas State Historical Association

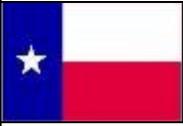


June 1, 1864 On this day, celebrated Confederate partisan Adam Rankin (Stovepipe) Johnson was promoted to the rank of brigadier general. Johnson was born in Henderson, Kentucky, and moved to Texas in 1854. There he gained a reputation as the surveyor of much virgin territory in West Texas, as an Indian fighter, and as a stage driver for the Butterfield Overland Mail. With the outbreak of the Civil War Johnson returned to Kentucky and enlisted as a scout under Nathan Bedford Forrest. His subsequent exploits as commander of the Texas Partisan Rangers within the federal lines in Kentucky earned him a colonel's commission in August 1862 and a promotion to brigadier general in 1864. One of his most remarkable feats was the capture of Newburgh, Indiana, from a sizable Union garrison with only twelve men and two joints of stovepipe mounted on the running gear of an abandoned wagon. This episode won him his nickname. Johnson was blinded and captured at a skirmish at Grubb's Crossroads in August 1864. Upon his release he returned to Texas, where he lived for his remaining sixty years and founded the town of Marble Falls, "the blind man's town."

June 11, 1865 On this day, an estimated fifty desperados broke into the state treasury in Austin, one of the boldest crimes in Texas history. The robbery occurred during the chaotic period immediately after the downfall of the Confederacy in the spring of 1865. Gen. Nathan G. Shelley informed George R. Freeman, a Confederate veteran and leader of a small company of volunteer militia, that the robbery was imminent. By the time Freeman and about twenty of his troops arrived at the treasury, the robbers were in the building. A brief gunfight erupted in which one of the robbers was mortally wounded; all the other robbers fled toward Mount Bonnell, west of Austin, carrying with them about \$17,000 in specie, more than half of the gold and silver in the state treasury. None was ever captured. The loot was never recovered, although some of the money was found strewn between the treasury building and Mount Bonnell. Freeman and his company of volunteers were later recognized by the state for their service in defending the public treasury, but the resolution providing a reward for their services never passed the legislature.

June 19, 1865 On this day ("Juneteenth"), Union General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston and issued General Order Number 3, which read in part, "The people of Texas are informed that, in accordance with a proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of personal rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves, and the connection heretofore existing between them becomes that between employer and hired labor." The tidings of freedom reached the approximately 250,000 slaves in Texas gradually as individual plantation owners informed their bondsmen over the months following the end of the war. The news elicited an array of personal celebrations, some of which have been described in *The Slave Narratives of Texas* (1974). The first broader celebrations of Juneteenth were used as political rallies and to teach freed African American about their voting rights. Within a short time, however, Juneteenth was marked by festivities throughout the state, some of which were organized by official Juneteenth committees.

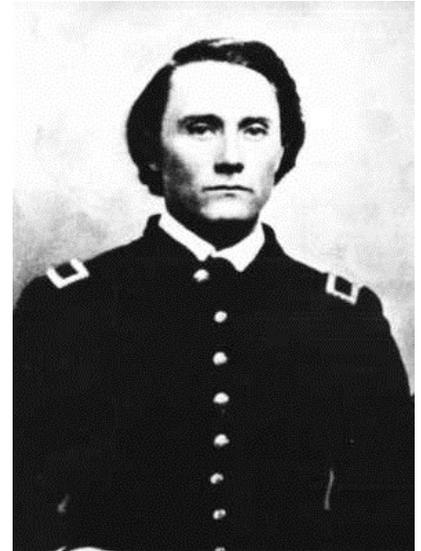
June 25, 1864 - On this day, a skirmish between Confederate and Union forces was fought at Las Rusias, a colonia located one mile north of the Rio Grande in southwest Cameron County. Confederate officer Refugio Benavides of Laredo led a company and joined John Salmon (Rip) Ford to overrun Union forces. Ford, a colonel of the Second Texas Cavalry who engaged in border operations protecting Confederate-Mexican trade, praised Benavides for his gallant conduct during the battle. Las Rusias had also been the site of a skirmish on April 25, 1846, when Mexican troops ambushed an American patrol; the shedding of "American blood upon American soil" sparked the Mexican War.



JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP
CSA TEXAS GENERAL OF THE MONTH
HORACE RANDAL 1833-1864



Horace Randal was born January 4, 1833, in McNairy County, Tennessee. His parents moved to San Augustine, Texas, in 1838, where his father, a doctor and army surgeon, was elected Texas congressman. Randal was appointed to West Point in 1849 and graduated 5 years later. He was posted to the infantry and transferred to the 1st Dragoons in 1855 with whom he fought Indians on the southwest frontier. In 1857 the Secretary of War Jefferson Davis recommended a brevet promotion of Randal's gallant and meritorious conduct in affairs with the Apache Indians". The week before Lincoln's inaugural, Lt. General Winfield Scott who thought highly of Randal allegedly offered him a commission in the Regular US Army to keep him loyal.



Randal followed his state and resigned from the U S Army on February 26, 1861. On March 26 he was commissioned a 1st lieutenant in the

Confederate Army. By April 25 he was a captain and ordered to Pensacola where he served as quartermaster for Gen. Braxton Bragg. In the summer of 1861 Randal resigned because so many officers junior to him in the old army were being promoted over him. He intended to return to Texas and raise a regiment. His brother-in-law Maj. Gen. G. W. Smith who was in command of a corps took up his cause with President Davis during which time Randal served as a volunteer aide-de-camp to Smith. He was eventually appointed to the position by Davis as a lieutenant with responsibility of inspector general of Smith's troops during the winter of 1861. Gen. Joseph E Johnston admired Randal and "often gave him the most important duties and authority". A fellow staff officer remembered him as "in some respects the most remarkable man I met during the war". Randal was, among other talents, a most remarkable horseman continually riding at a full gallop no matter what the terrain. His West Point roommate and friend John Bell Hood predicted that "he would be the cavalry leader of the war if he got a chance".

On December 19, 1861, Randal was authorized to a regiment of cavalry out of the companies then being raised in Texas. On February 12, 1862, he was commission colonel of cavalry. He returned to Texas and was given command of the 28th Texas Cavalry which fought dismounted most of the war. By December Col. Randal was in charge of a brigade of infantry under Gen. Henry McCulloch's division. His brigade was left in reserve during the June 25, 1863, attack on Milliken's Bend. On November 8, 1863, Gen Kirby Smith recommended him for promotion to brigadier general, but the brigade was too small. At the battle of Mansfield, April 8, 1864, Randal's brigade crushed the union line and led the pursuit capturing five hundred prisoners and the Union wagon train. The army commander reported that "in vigor, energy, and daring Randal surpassed my expectations, high as they were of him and his fine brigade". Five days after the battle, Gen Kirby Smith assigned Randal to duty as brigadier general to date from April 8. While leading his brigade in a charge at Jenkins' Ferry in Arkansas on April 30, 1864, Randal was mortally wounded, and died on May 2.

He was initially buried on the battlefield but was reburied in old Marshall Cemetery in Marshall, Texas. Randall County, Texas is so named in his honor.

Article found online at <http://www.b17.com/mosb/generals/randal.htm>



**TEXAS STATE SCV CHAPLAIN'S ARTICLE
FROM REV. DON MAJORS
TEXAS DIVISION CHAPLAIN, SCV ATM DEPT, SCV**



June 2017 (Part Three)

"Let us start rebuilding." - Neh 2:18

"So I turned about and gave my heart up to despair." - Ecc 2:18-20

"Aim at heaven and you will get earth thrown in. Aim at earth and you will get neither." - C.S. Lewis

Once upon a time, Satan was growing old and weary, and he decided that the time had come for him to retire from active work. His plan was to offer all of his devilish inventory of tools for sale to the highest bidders.

At the time of the auction, the tools were neatly arrayed. Envy, malice, deceit, enmity, and numerous other devices of evil were put on the auction block.

Each "tool" was plainly marked, and the prices were surprisingly low, except for an ungainly piece of much-used steel marked "discouragement." It was priced higher by far than that of any of the other tools.

"Why, Mr. Satan" asked a prospective buyer, "Why do you ask so much for this tool?" "Well, replied the Tempter, "This tool has always been my most useful one. You can see that it had more wear than any of the others. I can use it as a wedge to get into a man's mind when all other means fail. Discouragement, once inside the consciousness of a man, will cause him to do anything I feel he should. Practically, every human being has had this tool used on him. Discouragement is the finest device ever patented by Hades, Inc. It certainly should bring the highest price."

As it worked out, none of the shoppers could afford to pay the price Satan wanted for discouragement. Since he will not reduce the price one cent, he is still using it, and we see the results every day.

"Hope deferred makes the heart sick." - Prov 13:12

"A quitter never wins, and winners never quit."

Nehemiah had a daunting task. His job was to lead scattered and saddened Jews in rebuilding their holy city of Jerusalem. It was more than just a city to them. It symbolized re-birth. It symbolized the rebuilding of personal dreams and national dreams. Nehemiah's mission was to rally disillusioned Jews to dream again. They needed to rebuild their dreams.

Rebuilding dreams is not an "event." It is a "process."

Their spirits began to revive. Instead of seeing broken walls, they visualized newly built walls. They visualized a rebuilt city. Nehemiah's vision became their vision. "Let us rise up and build."

Even with the scorn, the hatred, the ridicule, the slander, the contempt and the innocuous mockery they went forward. They persevered. Even with the misrepresentation they stood strong.

To rebuild dreams, talk must turn into action.

Texas Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans, may we keep the dream alive, and may we rise up and build. God bless Dixie. God bless the Southland.

Southern Blessings,

Reverend M. Don Majors
Texas Division Chaplain
ATM Department Chaplain

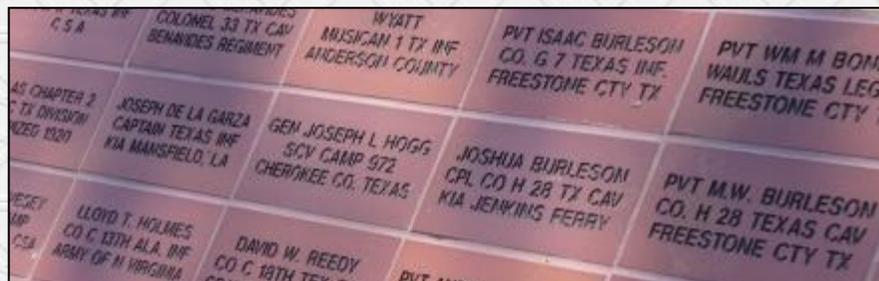




CONFEDERATE VETERANS MEMORIAL PLAZA INFORMATION



The Confederate Veterans Memorial Plaza had the official opening and dedication on April 13, 2013. It is a beautiful Memorial to the Confederate Veterans. It is open for visitors 365 days per year. The sidewalks are lined with pavers that are engraved with information about brave men who fought for the Confederacy. 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



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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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)