

SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS, TEXAS DIVISION

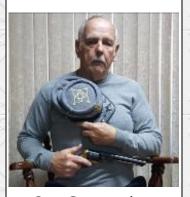
THE JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP NEWS

www.reaganscvcamp.org

VOLUME 13, ISSUE 9

SEPTEMBER 2021

COMMANDER'S DISPATCH



Our September meeting was a great success!

Our program was presented by Past Texas Division Commander Johnny Holley. It was an interesting program on Confederate artillery. He described the cannon and the tactics that both sides used during the War. His presentation included both reproduction and actual cannon shells from the Civil War. Our camp was honored to have such an experienced reenactor give a program.

We did not meet during the month of August due to the virus. Therefore the business meeting was short and to the point. Read the financial report and voted to adjourn.

We had a treat
when Dwight
Franklin made a
large pot of
chicken and
dumplings. He
stated they were
his first attempt at
this dish but it was
well received.
There was an
abundance of food
as usual and all
enjoyed the
meal.

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 19 October at 6:30 PM. Please attend this meeting and bring a guest if possible.

Richard Thornton Commander



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





CAMP MEETINGS

3rd Tuesday of Each Month
06:30 PM
With a meal served
at each meeting.
Commercial Bank of Texas on the
corner of N. Mallard & E. Lacy Street

The Bank is located just south of the Anderson County Courthouse Annex.

Guests are welcome! Bring the family.

www.reaganscvcamp.org www.reaganscvcamp.or

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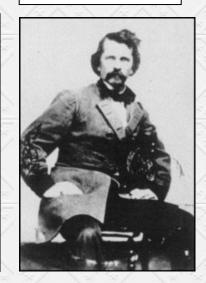
The John H. Reagan Camp is requesting donations from those who would be willing to contribute financially to help keep the Confederate Heroes Memorial Plaza landscape manicured. If you would be willing to donate, please contact Dan Dyer at danieldyer497@yahoo.com

Prayer List

- Compatriot Forrest Bradberry
- Compatriot J.B. Mason
- Past Reagan Camp Historian Gary Williams
- Rod Skelton (former Camp Chaplain)
- Former Camp Commander Rudy Ray
- United Daughters of the Confederacy
- The Sovereign State of Texas
- The United States of America

Pictured to the right is **Conf. Maj. General Earl Van Dorn** (September 17, 1820 – May 7, 1863). His mother was a niece of Andrew Jackson, and he graduated from West Point.

Leaving New Orleans on April 14, 1861 and arriving at Galveston, Tx, he and his men succeeded in capturing three Union ships in the town's harbor, on April 17 and then headed for the last remaining regular U.S. Army soldiers in Texas at Indianola, forcing their surrender on April 23.



Officers for 2021

Commander - Richard Thornton

1st Lt. - Calvin Nicholson

Adjutant/Treasurer - Dan Dyer

Sgt at Arms - Frank Moore

Quartermaster - Andrew Petty

<u>Chaplains</u> - David Franklin & Dwight Franklin

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The Reagan Camp will have monthly meetings on the 3rd Tuesday of each month in the Commercial Bank of Texas meeting room

Tuesday October 19 - October Meeting

Tuesday November 16 - November meeting

December—Reagan Camp Christmas Party date to be decided. It will be announced at a later date. 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





"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-

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.

"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 #2156 SEPTEMBER MEETING PICTURES



The September meeting was held on September 21st in the Commercial Bank of Texas meeting room. We had several who did not make it to this meeting, but we still had a total of 12 who attended. We started off with a meal of homemade chicken spaghetti, homemade chicken and dumplings, barbeque brisket, homemade strawberry cake, homemade brownies, pecan pie, and sweet tea. We are happy to welcome Ed Heitman, from Cedar Creek Lake, as our newest member! He's a great guy, & will be an asset to our group.







We were happy to have Johnnie & Norma Holley and Dennis and Reta Brand join us for our meeting. Johnnie and Norma have presented us with several programs in the past, and they always do a great job. After enjoying a meal together, Johnnie presented the historical program on the War Between the States Artillery. It was a very good program that was very informational. He had a slideshow presentation with diagrams of weaponry, pictures of how they set up in battle, and he also had some various types of canisters, projectiles and other shells. We really had a good time and missed those who were not with us.

Our next meeting will be October 19th. We hope to see you there!











SEPTEMBER HISTORICAL PROGRAM "WBTS ARTILLERY" BY JOHNNIE HOLLEY



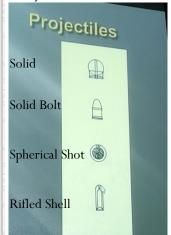


We would like to say "thank you" to Compatriot Johnnie Holley who presented this month's historical program on the artillery used in the War Between the States. It was a great power point presentation with the focus directed mainly at the field artillery. Movement and operation of the artillery used by in the 1800s was a lot different than it is today. Those officers who were assigned to field artillery had to have their minds on their business, because things were much more dangerous and not nearly as easy as today.

Johnnie explained the differences between howitzers, cannons, mortars, colombades, projectiles, etc.

Unless you have been involved in reenactments, you probable don't know all that was involved in transporting artillery. Many may think that you just loaded what you needed in a wagon and hauled it to where it was needed. But that was not how it worked. A three inch Ordinance Rifle (in picture to the right) weighed 1,720 pounds. It had a 3" bore and took a one pound charge with a 9 1/2 pound shot. It is amazing that they were able to fire the projectile to a range of 1,830 yards (over a mile) and place it in an area the size of a window! It was the best all around field piece of the war. It could fire several different types of projectiles. They were solid, solid bolt, spherical shot, and rifled shell. (see picture below left).





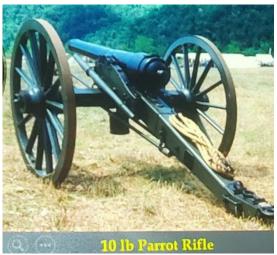
A Six Gun Battery consisted of much more manpower than most realize. It had one Captain in command; 2-1st Lts; 2 - 2nd Lts; 1 Sgt Major; 1 Quartermaster Sgt; 6 Sgts; 12 Corporals; 2 buglers; 1 Guidon Bearer; 2 Artificers; 64 to 125 Privates; and 146 horses.

A six inch howitzer had a bore of 3.67, a charge of 1.25 pounds, and was loaded with a 6.1 pound shot. Its range was 1523 yards, and it weighed 1,784 pounds. It was much smaller than the 12 inch howitzer. The 12 inch howitzer had a bore of 4.62, a charge of 2.5 pounds, and was loaded with 12.3 lb of shot. It had a muzzle velocity of 1485 feet per second, but it was very heavy with a weight of 2355 lbs. It was a very strong gun that was mostly bronze. It is said that one six guard battery fired 1200 rounds in one engagement. It was very effective with canister.

The Ten Pound Parrot Rifle (pic to right and below) weighed 1799 pounds. It had a bore size of 2.9 early in the war, but this was increased to a 3 which made it more usable. It had a charge of 1 lb, &



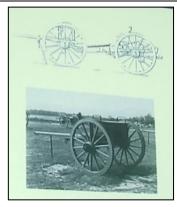
it could fire a 9 1/2 pound shot 1900 yards. It was also on wheels due to its heavy weight, so it could be drawn by horses. In the picture on the left you can see them loading it.





SEPTEMBER HISTORICAL PROGRAM "WBTS ARTILLERY" BY JOHNNIE HOLLEY



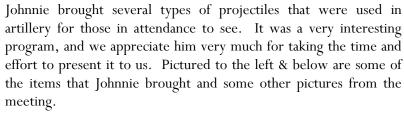


The cannons were first in line while being pulled with the horses. 2nd in line was the Limber. (see picture at left) The limber is a two-wheeled cart designed to support the trail of an artillery piece, or the stock of a field carriage such as a caisson or traveling forge, allowing it to be towed. The limber carried various quantities of fixed or semi-fixed ammunition depending on the cannons in the battery. This would be stored in a limber chest which sits on top of the axel. Friction primers used to fire the cannons and fuses which would be used in some of the shells fired by the guns could also be kept in the limber box. In addition to everything listed previous, glued to the inside of the lid or the limber box would be a "table of fire" chart. This was used to give the gunner the correct elevation to level his gun and the amount of time it would take his projectile to hit it's target.

Pulled behind the limber was a CAISSON. It was a two-wheeled cart which carried the majority of the ammunition for the weapon that it was pulled behind. The limber and the caisson would both be unpinned from the cannon once you were where the cannon was set up for firing. The limber and caisson would be positioned so they didn't interfere with the operation of the cannon, but close enough to allow the soldiers assigned to be able to supply the cannon with anything they might need. About the only time we see "caissons" today are when they are used to bear the casket of the deceased and in military funerals.











In the picture to the left, Johnnie is holding an original shell from the war time period. He was able to bring two items with him from that time period. The items on the panels are reproductions.

We would like to say "Thank You" to Johnnie & Norma Holley and to Dennis and Reta Brand for coming to our meeting so we could learn more about the artillery used during the War Between the States.



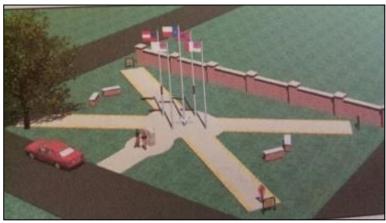
A GREAT WAY TO ENSURE THAT YOUR ANCESTOR'S SERVICE AND HONOR IS NOT FORGOTTEN



Many Americans have forgotten that freedom isn't free at all. There have been hundreds of thousands of Americans who have willingly given their life for their country so that we could continue to have the rights of free men. But there is a group of people in our country who have decided that they have the right to take away the rights of others, especially if those others do not agree with their agenda. These people have no respect for the true history of anything that goes against what they want. Although they cannot change true history, they are changing the history books and in so doing are changing what people are taught about the history of our country. These people don't care if they are dishonoring our Confederate ancestors. They care nothing about our ancestor's service. Do you care about preserving your ancestor's service? If so, you can do so by having his service noted in the Confederate Veteran's Memorial Plaza with a paver that will include his name and service information on it for only \$50. It will last for years and years to come and will let countless people see his name and information. It is a wonderful way to give him the recognition that he deserves.



WILLIAM C FRANKLIN



PVT WM. H. FOSTER CO. H 1ST TEX INF DIED AS POW OCT 63

WILLIAM H. CRIST COMPANY I 7 TX CAV

PVT ALLEN G TURNER CO A 7TH BATTALION MISS INF. CSA

WILLIAM H. DYER PVT CO K MISS INF

CO D 12 BTTN ARK SHARP SHOOTERS	DIED 4 25 1865 POW	CO H 5 TEX CAV CSA 1829 - 1908	SCV CAMP #2156 PALESTINE, TEXAS
JASPER N. CARNES	RICHARD A. HODGES	ANDREW J BEAUCHAMP	GEORGE KNOX GIBSO
CO B 8 REGIMENT	CO K 22 TX INF CSA	CO F 13 TEX INF	PVT. CO. B 12TH
TEXAS INFANTRY	1833 - 1905	12-9-1834, 9-1-1894	TEXAS CAVLRY, CS
JACOB L. SHERIDAN	JOHN H. SHERIDAN	COL. A.T. RAINEY	PVT. R. M. LUMMUS
CAPT CO I 1ST REGT	PVT. CO I 1ST REGT	CO. H 1 TEX. INF.	53 GEORGIA INF.
TEXAS INFANTRY	TEXAS INFANTRY	HOOD'S TEX. BRIG	COMPANY B C.S.A
L. E. SHERIDAN	PVT WM. N SHERIDAN	STEPHEN O. RAINEY CAPTAIN 1ST BATT. TEX CAV	SGT. AMOS G. HANK
PVT. CO I 1ST REGT	CO C 6 BATTALION		CO F. 1ST TEX INF
TEXAS INFANTRY	TEXAS CALVARY		HOODS BRIGADE CS.

JOHN DANIEL LILES

Above are some pictures of some of the pavers in the plaza. If you would like to purchase a paver for your ancestor, you can pick what you want to have inscribed on it. These pictures will give you some ideas to what you might want on your paver.



ROBERT E. LEE CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 2021

		SE	EPTEMBER 202	·I		- 1111
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			Sept 1, 1856 to wife. We are all in the hands of a kind God, who will do for us what is best, & more than we deserve & we have only to endeavor to deserve more & to do our duty to him.	Sept 2, 1864 to Jeff Davis. Our ranks are constantly diminishing by battle & disease, & few recruits are received.	Sept 3, 1861 to Custis. Know that wherever you may be placed you will do your duty. That is all the pleasure, all the comfort, all the glory we can enjoy in this world.	Sept 4, 1865 to A.M. Keiley. It should be the object of all to avoid controversy.
Sept 5, 1857 to Agnes. It is persuasion and not forcecultivate the powers of pleasing.	Sept 6 undated to A.M. Keiley. Encouraging our citizens to engage in the duties of life with all their heart & mind our country will not only be restored but will be advanced in science, virtue, & religion.	Sept 7, 1865 to Capt. Tatnall. I believe it to be the duty of every one to unite in the restoration of the country & the reestablishment of peace & harmony.	Sept 8 undated to J. Gordon. The thorough education of all classes of the people is the most efficacious means, in my opinion, of promoting prosperity.	Sept 9, 1861 to his wife. Everybody is slandered, even the good.	Sept 10, 1863 to Mildred. You have only always to do what is right. It will become easier by practice.	Sept 11 undated I shall, however, endeavor to do my duty and fight to the last.
Sept 12 undated to wife. Feeling lonesome, as the saying is, and out of sorts, I got on a horse & took a ride	Sept 13 Undated to Capt. Tatnall. I have since the cessation of hostilities advised all with whom come within the terms of the President's proclamation to take the oath of allegiance.	Sept 14, 1869 to Col. Duncan. As individuals prosper, communities will become rich.	Sept 15 undated Study human nature, more by experience than by precept.	Sept 16, 1853 to his wife. Young men must not expect to escape contact with evil, but must learn not to be contaminated by it.	Sept 17, 1861 to wife. I had taken every precaution to insure success, & counted on it; but the Ruler of the Universe willed otherwise.	Sept 18, 1864 to wife. It is from no desire of exposure or hazard that I live in a tent, but from necessity. I must be where I can speedily attend to the duties of my position.
Sept 19 undated To Markie Action in this World goes farther than Sentiment.	Sept 20 undated To wife. I have been offered rooms in the houses of our citizens, but I could not turn the dwellings of my kind hosts into a barrack.	Sept 21 undated to Capt Maury I look forward to better days, & trust that time & experience, the great teachers of men, under the guidance of an ever merciful God, save us from destruction.	Sept 22 undate to Capt Maury. The thought of abandoning the country is abhorrent to my feelings & I prefer to struggle for its restoration & share its fate, rather than give up all as lost.	Sept 23 undated to Mildred. The more you know, the more you find there is to know in this grand & beautiful world.	Sept 24 undated The more you learn the more you are conscious of your ignorance	Sept 25 undated to Mildred. You will find all the days of your life that there is much to learn & much to dolearn all you can.
Sept 26, 1861 to wife. It is raining. The men are exposed on the mountain without tents. Today my tent came up & I am in it. Yet I fear I shall not sleep for thinking of the men.	Sept 27 undated to Mildred. The struggle which you describe you experience between doing what you ought & what you desire is common to all.	As long as virtue was dominant in the republic, so long was the happiness of the people secure.	Sept 29, 1862 to Mary. If God spares me to the end of the war, I trust to be with you all at least, for the few remnant years of life.	Sept 30 My Beautiful Daughters: May good angels guard you & bright visions cheer you.		



TEXAS CIVIL WAR HISTORY IN SEPTEMBER



From the Texas State Historical Association

Sept 1—On this day in 1863, Maj. Santos Benavides, the highest-ranking Mexican American to serve in the Confederacy, led seventy-nine men of the predominantly Tejano Thirty-third Texas Cavalry across the Rio Grande in pursuit of the bandit Octaviano Zapata. Union agents had recruited Zapata, a former associate of Juan N. Cortina, to lead raids into Texas and thus force Confederate troops to remain in the Rio Grande valley rather than participate in military campaigns in the east. Zapata was also associated with Edmund J. Davis, who was conducting Northern-sponsored military activities in the vicinity of Brownsville and Matamoros. For these reasons, and because his men often flew the American flag during their raids, Zapata's band was often referred to as the "First Regiment of Union Troops." Benavides caught up with Zapata on September 2 near Mier, Tamaulipas. After a brief exchange of gunfire, the Zapatistas dispersed, leaving ten men dead, including Zapata. Benavides later defended Laredo against Davis's First Texas Cavalry, and arranged for the safe passage of Texas cotton to Matamoros during the Union occupation of Brownsville. He died at his Laredo home in 1891.

Sept 7—On this day in 1866, federal soldiers under Bvt. Maj. George W. Smith reportedly set fire to and looted several stores in Brenham. The incident grew out of a controversy involving newspaper editor D. L. McGary's frequent attacks on the local Freedmen's Bureau in the Brenham Banner. McGary was arrested by federal authorities; after his release, on September 7, three soldiers were shot during an altercation at a dance. Other soldiers returned to the scene, arrested two citizens, and set a fire that burned part of the town. Smith maintained the innocence of his men and refused to turn them over to local officials. The episode helped Brenham gain a reputation for the "unreconstructed" Southern mentality of its white residents. After lengthy hearings by both federal and state officials, the issue of the soldiers' guilt remained unresolved. Smith was transferred to Seguin, where he was later convicted of theft of Freedmen's Bureau funds. Though his conviction was overturned on appeal, he resigned his commission in 1869, the same year that a convention of Democratic editors met in Brenham and denounced, among other things, the idea of black suffrage. Smith died in 1890.

Sept 9—On this day in 1861, the Eighth Texas Cavalry, a group of volunteers popularly known as Terry's Texas Rangers, was mustered into Confederate service in Houston. The regiment had been assembled by Benjamin Franklin Terry in August. Terry was elected colonel, Thomas S. Lubbock lieutenant colonel, and Thomas Harrison major; by the fall of 1862, Terry and Lubbock were dead, and Harrison became regimental commander, serving in that post until the end of the Civil War. The Terry Rangers distinguished themselves in a number of battles, including those at Shiloh (1862) and Chickamauga (1863); in the Atlanta campaign (1864); and as raiders in Kentucky and Tennessee under Lt. Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest. They were also part of the force under Gen. Joseph E. Johnston that attempted in vain to slow Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman's "march to the sea" during the final months of the war. Rather than surrender with the rest of Johnston's army in April 1865, 158 of the reported 248 survivors of the regiment slipped through Union lines to join other Confederates yet in the field. With the total collapse of the Southern cause, however, the Terry Rangers drifted home as individuals and in small groups, having never officially surrendered. With the exception of Hood's Texas Brigade, the Eighth Texas Cavalry was probably the best-known Texas unit to serve in the Civil War.

Sept 19—On this day in 1863, the two-day battle of Chickamauga began, ending in one of the last great field victories for the Confederacy. The first day's action, fought in densely wooded terrain, became a classic "soldier's battle" in which generalship counted for little and the outcome was decided by fierce small-unit encounters. Texas units in the Georgia battle included Hood's Texas Brigade, Ector's Brigade, Deshler's Brigade, and Terry's Texas Rangers. As Hood's Brigade went into battle they called to a regiment of exhausted Tennesseans, "Rise up, Tennesseans, and see the Texans go in!" When they in turn came staggering back from the woods after being repulsed by Union cavalry, a Tennessean was waiting to yell, "Rise up, Tennesseans, and see the Texans come out!" Among the Texas casualties in the battle were Gen. James Deshler, who was killed, and John Bell Hood, who lost a leg.

Sept 29—On this day in 1867, Francis McMullan, the leader of a group of Texans who moved to Brazil rather than remain under a Reconstruction government, died at Iguape, Brazil. McMullan was active in politics in Hill County before the Civil War and served as a delegate to the Texas Democratic convention in Galveston in 1860. After serving the Confederacy in Mexico during the Civil War, he joined William Bowen in a plan to take advantage of liberal Brazilian immigration terms and move a colony of 154 from north central Texas to South America. McMullan and Bowen left for Brazil in late 1865 to locate lands and decided on fifty square leagues on the headwaters of the São Lourenço River south of São Paulo. McMullan returned to Texas in June 1866. After a series of delays and misadventures, he guided the emigrants to colony lands before becoming terminally ill with tuberculosis. His colony is credited with introducing the moldboard plow and modern agriculture to Brazil. In addition, colony members established a Baptist church there and made major contributions to Brazil's educational system.

Sept 30—On this day in 1869, Texas governor Elisha Pease resigned in protest against the actions of Reconstruction authorities. Pease, a Unionist during the Civil War, helped organize the Republican party in the state after the war. In 1867 he was appointed governor by Gen. Philip Sheridan. Pease's efforts to reorganize the state government and bring accountability to its actions bred conflict in the Republican ranks and bitterness among former Confederates. He resigned from the governorship in 1869 because of differences with Gen. Joseph J. Reynolds over Reconstruction policies that Pease considered radical and despotic, particularly the army's dismissal of Pease's supporters from state office.

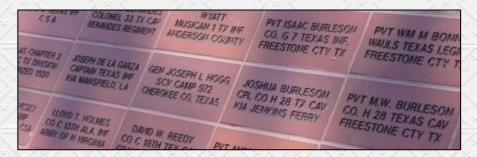


CONFEDERATE VETERANS MEMORIAL PLAZA INFORMATION





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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Phone: 903-729-3864

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 Each Month - 06:30 PM Snacks served at each meeting.

Commercial Bank of Texas on the corner of N. Mallard & E. Lacy Street

The Bank is located just south of the Anderson County Courthouse Annex.