

SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS, TEXAS DIVISION

THE JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP NEWS www.reaganscvcamp.org

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 8 A

AUGUST 2012

COMMANDER'S DISPATCH

Greetings Compatriots!

Maybe it's just me, and if so, I apologize for bringing the matter up, but sometimes, I seem to get so wound up in heritage related projects that I never seem to get around to finishing them.

Been trying to update my CS Vets in our county cemeteries list for the last few months now, add their pension files and a photo of their current tombstone to a nice CD package for all you folks and others who might be interested in it. Still would like to get the rest of our camp member vets their well deserved War Service Medal, and Lord knows I'm itching, as I'm sure you all are, to get back to work on the Plaza. Not to mention, there's still a hundred or so vets here in the county without a proper CS marker.

I know I'm not as energetic as I was a few months ago, but dang it, there's just so much to do and not near enough time nor energy to get it all done.

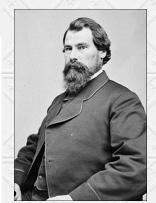
Now, what I'm gonna say next may cause gasps of horror and accusations of "traitor" from some of you, so I'll reassure you up front that I've not gone "carpetbagger" on you.

Simply put, I wonder if

sometimes we, or maybe just I, get so wound up in promoting the SCV as an organization and seeing that it is protected and untarnished, that I forget to save enough time and energy and effort to honor our veterans first.

Some I'm sure would say that by doing one, you automatically do the other, and that may be right, at least to a certain extent. To the extent that one's energy and available time allow. It goes without saying that promoting our heritage with our youth and teaching them the true Southern history is paramount, as is taking each opportunity to honor our heritage in public. (i.e. our Plaza) Add to that the near panic urgency of obtaining markers for our vets before the VA completely stops issuing them, and there just doesn't seem to be enough time left, (if the aforementioned is our or my priority) to see to it that the organization gets it's reports on time, it's reunions attended, newsletter, and yes even a few personalities (MV). tended to, etc.

Don't get me wrong now. I respect the SCV and what it has accomplished on diverse



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

fronts, but I'm just wondering if sometimes our, or at least my, priorities are in the right order where protecting and honoring my heritage is concerned. Something to think about...

Regards,

Cmdr. H.

CAMP MEETINGS

2nd Saturday of Each Month 06:00 PM Light meal served at each meeting. First Christian Church 113 East Crawford Street Palestine, Texas

Turn north on N. Sycamore St. off of Spring St. (Hwy 19, 84,& 287) (across from UP train station) travel three blocks, turn right on Crawford St., go one block Church is on left

> Guests are welcome! Bring the family!

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Memorial Plaza Update

We are pleased and excited to announce that what we hope to be the last hurdle before getting back to work on the plaza, was cleared on Tuesday the 21st when Dan Dyer and Gary Williams presented a splendid and well prepared presentation before the Landmark Historical Commission. We were seeking their approval as to the historical appropriateness of our planned memorial. Dan and Gary are to be commended for their excellent presentation and dedication even though our efforts to merely honor our Confederate heritage were once again slandered and maligned by the same parties and hate group that we dealt with in April 2011.

We were pleased with the <u>unanimous</u> decision of the Landmark Commissioners to grant their blessing to our project, much to the humiliation and disdain of the aforementioned un-named well known hate group.

Our next step will be to secure the necessary permits from the city and issue a press release to the local media and various CS related magazines offering pavers to the public and announcing our planned opening/ dedication date early next spring. The timing is perfect with the weather beginning to cool somewhat and we are all eager to get back to work on our goal. Forward the concrete and



"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-

PRAYER LIST

- The Sovereign State of Texas
- The United States of America
- Lt. Cmdr. and Chaplain Rod Skelton
- The Sons of Confederate Veterans
- The United Daughters of the Confederacy
- Chaplain Ed Furman

- Sgt. At Arms John Brent Barnhart
- Athens SCV Camp Cmdr. Len Patterson
- Davis-Reagan UDC Pres. Dollye Jeffus
- Compatriot James Richardson
- Adjutant Dan Dyer
- The Family of Compatriot Dr. John Keller

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<u>September 8th:</u> Regular monthly meeting. 6 PM First Christian Church

September 24th: 6 PM Reagan Guards drill at the home of Sgt.-At-Arms John Barnhart

September 29th: Grave marker dedication in conjunction with Davis-Reagan UDC Chapter for Miss Dollye Jeffus' ancestor. Full details announced at September meeting.





"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-

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AUGUST MEETING PHOTOS





Historian Gary Williams gave us a heads up on a great book called "The Slaves War." It has some interesting facts that back our long held beliefs!



New member and local artist Andrew Harris is sworn in and welcomed by Cmdr. Hatfield and Adjt. Dyer



Longtime camp supporter, author and local historian Norris White visited with us again with the news that he is 99% certain that he has found his own Confederate ancestor!



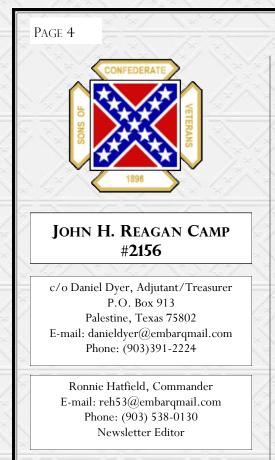
Cmdr. Sam Mercer of the Gregg Camp in Longview was our guest speaker for the meeting. His topic was "The Last General," about Walter Williams who died in 1959. The last known veteran of the WBTS.





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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 descendents 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

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 General,

United Confederate Veterans,

New Orleans, Louisiana, April 25, 1906.



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