



SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS, TEXAS DIVISION

THE JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP NEWS

www.reaganscvcamp.org

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 8

AUGUST 2013

COMMANDER'S DISPATCH

Compatriots,

As the dog days of Summer are upon us I hope everyone is staying out of the heat as much as possible, I know I am.

An update on Chaplain Rod Skelton. Rod had heart procedure today and they put a stint in a major artery that had 99% blockage. He will go back later for another stint later this month. Please continue to keep Rod and Nancy in your prayers.

John Barnhart is out of the hospital and recuperating at home. He said his leg and foot are still giving him a lot of pain. He is going back on the 28th for a follow up and he said he may lose one of he toes. Keep John and all of our members that are having medical problems in your thoughts and prayers.

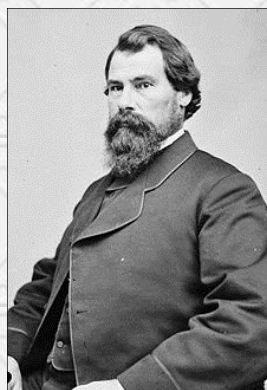
The marker dedication at Pilgrim Cemetery went very well. I would like to thank all the camp members that

were there to honor our veteran, and thanks to Dwight for all the pictures. Tommy Gunnels told us there would be about 100 family members to attend, and I believe they were all there. We do need a lot of practice on our drills, we were kinda rusty but it went ok. Talking about Marker dedications, I have been talking to Joe Rawls about a dedication close to Crockett at Tubbs Cemetery on November 9th. I will have more information on this at a later date.

Other upcoming events are the Hot Pepper Festival Parade and Living History and information at the Confederate Veterans Memorial Plaza on Oct. 26th.

See you at the September Meeting on the 14th.

Dan



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

2nd Saturday of Each Month
06:00 PM

Snacks and drinks served
at each meeting.

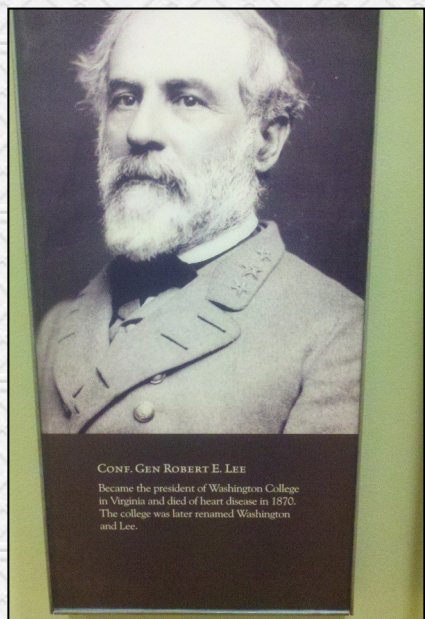
First Christian Church
113 East Crawford Street
Palestine, Texas

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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What happened to Confederate General Robert E. Lee?

He became the president of Washington College in Virginia and died of heart disease in 1870. The college was later renamed Washington and Lee.

"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."

-PRESEDENT
JEFFERSON DAVIS-

Prayer List

- Comander Dan Dyer
- Historian Gary Williams
- Compatriot Ed Furman
- Past Cmdr. Ronnie Hatfield
- Chaplain Rod Skelton
- Compatriot Tom James
- Quartermaster Frank Moore
- Compatriot John Brent Barnhart

Prayer List

- Davis/Reagan UDC Pres. Dollye Jeffus
- Jean Stokes
- The Sons of Confederate Veterans
- United Daughters of the Confederacy
- The Sovereign State of Texas
- The United States of America

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August 24th: Texas 8th Brigade SCV Meeting @6pm in Nacogdoches at the Spring Creek Restaurant

Sept 6-8th: 150th Anniversary Battle of Sabine Pass; Dick Dowling Days Sesquicentennial. <http://csa.tripod.com/reenactment.html>

Sept 19-22nd: 150 Anniversary of Battle of Chickamauga, Ga Reinactment (www.150anniversarychickamauga.com for more information)

Sept 27th: 2nd Texas Frontier Camp 1904 invites SCV members to march with them in 27th Annual Gorman Peanut Festival Parade. Uniforms & Period Clothing requested. Meet at Gorman High School by 8:30am.

Sept 27-28th: SCV National Leadership Workshop (see page 8 for details).

Oct 19th: Palestine Hot Pepper Festival & Parade

Nov 11: Veterans Day Memorial at East Texas Arboretum in Athens with Reagan Camp Color Guard @ 11am

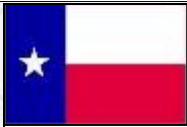


This flag flies in honor and memory of over 1,000 Confederate veterans from Anderson County who marched off to war, one third of whom never returned, and the over 500 Confederate veterans from all across the South who are buried in this county. They fought for liberty and independence from a tyrannical and oppressive government. Provided by the John H. Reagan Camp # 2156, Sons of Confederate Veterans. www.reaganscvcamp.org

"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-

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.



JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP # 2156 HISTORICAL PROGRAM BY CHARLES OLIVER “THE LIFE AND TIMES OF SUL ROSS”



The Reagan Camp's monthly Historical Program for the month of August was presented by Charles Oliver. He is the Commander of the General Felix H. Robertson Camp 129 in Waco, Texas. Commander Robinson delivered an informative talk on the life and times of Sul Ross. Below are a few of the things that he brought to our attention.

Sul Ross was born in 1838 in Iowa where his dad farmed and ranched. They came to Texas to take advantage of the available land and settled in Cameron, Texas. When Sul was 6 or 7, he was working in the fields when four Indian braves appeared from out of nowhere. They were motioning to him with their

hands that they wanted food to eat. As he was leading them toward his parent's house, one of the braves kept poking him in the back with a spear. By the time they were to the house, he had been poked several times and his back was bleeding from where the spear had repeatedly stabbed him. Sul Ross never whimpered about being poked, and the braves decided to allow the family to live since he had proved that he was a brave young man. He had earned their respect.

When he grew up, he attended college at Baylor University. He later became a Texas Ranger at the age of 18 where he later was promoted all the way to captain. In December of 1860, he and his company pursued a Comanche raiding party that ended in what is known as the battle of Pease River. It was here that they rescued Cynthia Ann Parker, who had been captured about 20 years earlier by the Comanche. When the war between the states began, he resigned from the Rangers. In 1861, he enlisted in the Confederate Army. His older brother, Peter was a major for the Confederacy. When Peter got sick, Sul was promoted to the rank of Major of the 6th Texas Calvary. In May 1862, he was promoted to colonel. After covering the retreat of General Earl Van Dorn from Corinth, Mississippi in 1863, he was rewarded with a promoted to brigadier-general. He even served with Nathan B. Forrest for a while. While serving in the war, he had 5 horses shot out from under him and fought in over 130 battles, but he was never wounded.

After the war, he returned to Texas and took up farming, but he was destined to be a leader. He served as sheriff of McLennan County from 1873 to 1875. He served as a state senator from 1881-1886, and he served as governor of Texas from 1887 to 1891. He later became President of the Agricultural & Mechanical College of Texas (which is now known as Texas A&M University) where he brought in confederate officers as military instructors. He interviewed each and every student that applied to attend college there in order to select only those that met his standards. He held the office of President of the college until his death in January 1898. When he took over as President of the College, they were in fear of closing. Sul Ross is a big part of the reason that Texas A&M was able to keep their doors open and continue to operate until this day. He died from botulism from eating food that was improperly canned.

25,000 people showed up for Sul Ross' funeral. Since there were so many, they had the streets lined from where the funeral was held to the cemetery. This route went through Baylor University's campus with the entire student body of A&M marching through the university.

Although he accomplished many things in life, you probably never heard about him in school. The "Political Correct" machine attempts to keep our brave confederate heroes stories untold, but it is the duty of the SCV to ensure that our heroes are honored and are never forgotten. Just as our ancestors were willing to sacrifice for what they believed, we also need to be willing to sacrifice for the cause to which we were called as Sons of Confederate Veterans.



THE JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP # 2156 GRAVE CEREMONY FOR PVT. THOMAS KENNEDY Co. I 7TH TX CALVARY



Left to Right: Color Guard members Marc Robinson, Dale Roberts, Billy Newsome, Bobby Francis, Gary Gibson, & Rudy Ray.



Commander Dan Dyer (left) addresses the crowd as Chaplain Rod Skelton prepares to open the ceremony with a prayer.



The Reagan Guards fold the flag that covered the grave of Private Thomas Kennedy.



The firing of the cannon was a crowd pleaser for the Thomas Kennedy descendants both young and old.



Back row left to right: Nancy Bundrick, Billy Newsome, Dale Roberts, Rudy Ray, Dan Dyer, Marc Robinson, Rod Skelton.
Front: Gary Gibson (left) and Bobby Francis (right)



Each lady in attendance placed a red rose at the foot of the grave marker.



**JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP # 2156
HELPS SPONSOR THE KOREAN VETERANS DAY
AT THE DOGWOOD HILLS ASSISTED LIVING**



The John H. Reagan Camp was proud to help sponsor the Korean War Veterans Day at the Dogwood Hills Assisted Living. In the picture at left, Commander Dan Dyer speaks to the crowd.

There was a HUGE turnout for the SCV sponsored event. We want the community to know that we are not a divisive group. Just as others are proud of their veteran ancestors, we are a group of men who are proud of our confederate ancestors and want the true history told.



The event was very successful. The Reagan Camp was proud to have been able to help make this day one that the Korean Veterans and their families will remember.



ANCESTOR OF THE MONTH DANIEL PINCKNEY “PINK BENNETT” ANCESTOR OF MARC ROBINSON



Daniel Pinckney “Pink” Bennett

By Marc Robinson

Daniel Pinckney “Pink” Bennett was born in the state of Alabama about 1837 to David and Louisa “Louisey” Lee Bennett who were originally from Anson, North Carolina. Pink Bennett’s maternal grandfather was Richard Lee, also of Anson, North Carolina. Richard Lee served in the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War.

The 1850 census places Pink living with his family in Rusk, Texas. The 1860 census shows that Pink, his parents and siblings moved further west and were living and farming in Freestone County, Texas.

Pink Bennett’s first wife was Virginia Thornton, niece of John Martin Day, who followed her uncle into the teaching profession. Of this union two children were born. One child died in infancy. The second child, Odelia L. “Dee” Bennett, was two years old when her mother, Virginia, died on 30 November 1867. Dee (Bennett) Hubbard raised a daughter and a son and lived to be seventy-five years old. She is buried in McClennan County, Texas.

Pink Bennett married a second time to Laura E. Chamblee on 22 February 1870 in Freestone County, Texas. Pink and Laura had ten children. They were D. Walter, Elizabeth Lucivy “Bettie”, Jinnie, Savannah, Roxie, Temperance “Tempie,” Pink D., William “Willie,” Laura L., and Bennie. Their third child, Jinnie, was thought to have been named after Pink’s first wife. She died at one year and 8 months of age as is buried at Rehoboth beside her namesake, Virginia (Thornton) Bennett. As of this date, the grave site of Laura E. Chamblee Bennett is not known. Any information that would help locate her grave site would be gratefully appreciated.

Pink Bennett served in the Confederate States Army. One of three muster roll cards found in the National Archives, dated October 28, 1861, documents that D. P. Bennett enlisted at Camp Hebert near Hempstead, Texas as a private in Co. B, of the 12th Texas Cavalry Regiment for a period of 12 months. The 12th Texas Cavalry Regiment later became part of Parson’s Brigade. This muster card also records that Pink travelled 260 miles to the rendezvous point and was allowed \$150.00 for the value of his horse and \$25.00 for his equipment. Another muster roll card dated for September 1 to December 31, 1863, shows that he was present for duty. He is thought to have served throughout the War.

Unfortunately, there are fewer muster roll cards available for veterans who served in some units of the Army of the Trans-Mississippi or the Confederate Army west of the Mississippi River. Proof of his exact discharge date is not available.

Anne J. Bailey, of the Texas Historical Association, wrote the following regimental history about the 12th Texas Cavalry:

“TWELFTH TEXAS CAVALRY. The Twelfth Texas Cavalry served in the Trans-Mississippi as part of Parsons's Brigade throughout the war. The regiment organized for state service on September 11, 1861, at Rockett Springs near Waxahachie. Originally known as the Fourth Texas Dragoons, it became the Twelfth Texas Cavalry Regiment when mustered into the Confederate Army on October 28, 1861. William Henry Parsons, a newspaper editor from Waco, had begun recruiting men shortly after the outbreak of war in April 1861 and was elected colonel. The companies that made up the Twelfth Texas were: Company A, the Hill County Volunteers, recruited in Hill County; Company B, the Freestone Boys, from Freestone County; Company C, the Johnson County Slashers, from Johnson County; Company D, the Bastrop Cavalry Company, from Bastrop County; Company E, the Ellis Grays, from Ellis County; Company F, the Ellis Rangers, made up of the companies of the Texas Mounted Guards from Ellis County and the Texas Mounted Rangers from Parker County; Company G, the Kaufman Guards, from Kaufman County; Company H, the Ellis Blues, from Ellis County; Company I, the Williamson Bowies, from Williamson County; and Company K, the Eutaw Blues, from Limestone County.

Although the men hoped to serve on the east side of the Mississippi River, upon reaching Memphis in May 1862, they were diverted to Little Rock to participate in stopping the Federal advance there. The regiment distinguished itself fighting Federal cavalry during Union Brig. Gen. Samuel R. Curtis's White River Expedition. The Texans' first important skirmish came at the battle of Whitney's Lane on May 19; they also fought in the battle of Cotton Plant on July 7. On August 3, the regiment took part in attacking Curtis's supply line at L'Anguille Ferry and destroyed federal property estimated at half a million dollars. This earned them a reputation for hard fighting.



ANCESTOR OF THE MONTH DANIEL PINCKNEY "PINK BENNETT" ANCESTOR OF MARC ROBINSON (PG 2)



In the autumn of 1862, the Twelfth became the nucleus of a brigade commanded by Colonel Parsons. Early in the war the regiment was led by Lt. Col. John W. Mullen, but after his resignation, Lt. Col. Andrew Bell Burleson generally commanded the men. When the Confederate government dismounted most Texas cavalry near Little Rock, the Twelfth Texas retained its horses because of the distinguished reputation it had garnered fighting Union cavalry. Federal troopers called the Twelfth the "Swamp Fox Regiment," because the men traveled the swamps at night and often attacked Federal positions after dark.

Throughout the war the Twelfth Texas served as scouts and raiders along the west side of the Mississippi River in southeast Arkansas and northeast Louisiana. In mid-1863 the troopers fought in northeast Louisiana with John G. Walker's Texas infantry, raiding Federal depots near Milliken's Bend and Lake Providence in an attempt to help the Confederate defenders at Vicksburg. Their efforts were unsuccessful, and after Vicksburg surrendered in July 1863, the regiment returned to Southeast Arkansas.

The regiment's most significant fighting came during the Red River campaign in Louisiana in the spring of 1864. Although the troopers did not arrive in time to fight at Mansfield and Pleasant Hill, they did attack the Union fleet at Blair's Landing on April 12, 1864. They continued to harass the retreating Federal army under Brig. Gen. Nathaniel Banks and fought in the last battle of the campaign at Yellow Bayou on May 18, 1864.

Following the Red River campaign, the Twelfth Texas returned to southern Arkansas and remained there until ordered to Texas by early 1865. The regiment disbanded on May 23, 1865. Although the troopers fought in few significant battles, their efforts helped prevent a Federal occupation of southern Arkansas and northern Louisiana. As scouts and raiders, they protected East Texas from Federal soldiers and became one of the best known Texas cavalry regiments in the Trans-Mississippi Department."

After the war Pink Bennett returned home to Freestone County and began farming again, married, and started his family. He was a very successful farmer and rancher and over time, prospered. The W.L. Moody United Confederate Veterans Camp No. 87 was formed with its first encampment being held on August 6, 7, and 8 of 1890. This first year's camp was located about six miles southwest of Fairfield in Freestone County, Texas with approximately 3000 or more people in attendance. A register of officers and general committee members lists D. P. Bennett as serving in that general committee. In the late 1890's, Col. W.L. Moody, donated land for use as the official Confederate Reunion site for the W. L. Moody Camp No. 87 of the United Confederate Veterans. This same land is the present day Freestone County Fairgrounds.

Daniel Pinckney "Pink" Bennett lived a good life and died on February 28, 1909 at the age of 73. He was buried in the Rehoboth Cemetery in what is called the Young Community of Freestone County, Texas near his first wife and a very young daughter by his second wife.





JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP #2156 SELECTED "OUTSTANDING CAMP" IN TEXAS



Members of the John H. Reagan Camp pose for a picture with the "Outstanding Camp" award that was presented to the camp at the Texas SCV State Reunion last month.

Front Row: Left— Marc Robinson Right: Dan Dyer.

Back Row left to right: Sam Hanks, Dale Roberts, Frank Moore, Gary Gibson, Rudy Ray, Doug Smith, Gary Williams, Dwight Franklin

2012 OUTSTANDING

2012 OUTSTANDING



JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP # 2156
SCV NATIONAL LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP
SEPT 28TH SAN ANTONIO



SCV National Leadership Workshop

As we move through the challenging years of the Sesquicentennial, leadership training has become even more important to the defense of our Southern heritage. In an effort to insure that our members better understand the challenges of leadership roles and to aid our leaders in acquiring the knowledge to better perform their duties, the SCV has scheduled an Autumn National Leadership Workshop.

This year's event will be held September 28, 2013 at the Sheraton 4 Points Hotel, 8818 Jones Maltsberger Rd (at intersection with Hwy 410), San Antonio, TX. It will be hosted by the Alamo City Guards Camp 1325. A tentative schedule for the day is posted below along with registration and lodging information.

Please note that this event will include relevant presentations and individual workshops for more specialized training for Commanders and Adjutants; however, ALL members are invited to attend!

8:30 – 8:40 Welcome & SCV Protocol Cmdr. Russ Lane, Camp 1325

8:40 – 8:55 Introductions & Overview Lt. CIC Charles Kelly Barrow

8:55 – 9:40 Commanders & Command CIC R. Michael Givens

9:40 – 9:50 BREAK

9:50 – 10:30 Adjutants & Administration AIC Stephen Lee Ritchie

10:30 -10:45 BREAK

10:45 – 11:30 Recruiting & Retention Lt. CIC Charles Kelly Barrow

11:30 – 12:30 DINNER

12:30 – 1:15 Vision 2016 Past Chief of HD Tom Hiter, Ph.D

1:15 – 1:25 BREAK

1:25 – 2:10 Camp Operations & Success Lt. CIC Charles Kelly Barrow

2:10 – 2:20 BREAK

2:20 – 3:05 Commander's & Adjutant's Workshops CIC, Lt. CIC & AIC

3:05 Concluding Remarks & Discussion Lt. CIC Charles Kelly Barrow

Benediction

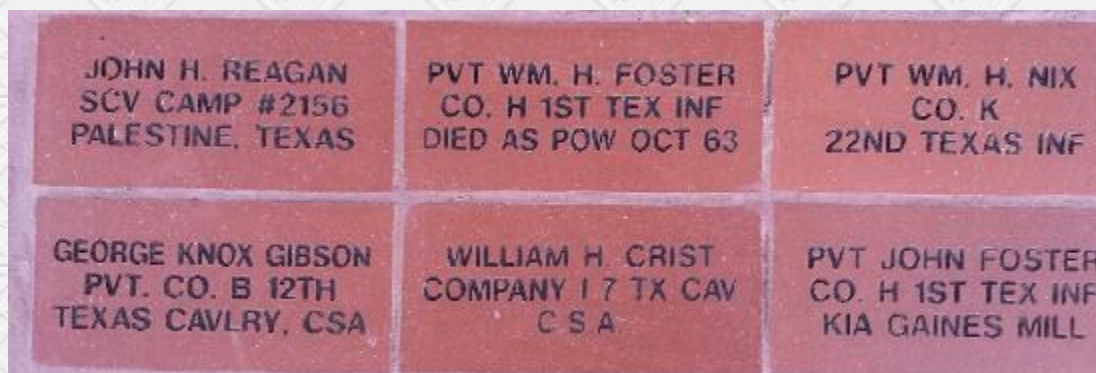
Registration, which includes dinner, is only \$20 each and will be handled through our General Headquarters at Elm Springs. You may mail a reservation with a check or call 1 (800) 380-1896 ext 209 (Cindy) or email accounting@scv.org with credit card information (MC, VISA or AMEX).



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 purchase a paver, please contact Dan Dyer at E-mail: danielyer@embarqmail.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.



JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP #2156

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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 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: 2nd Saturday of
Each Month - 06:00 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)