



SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS, TEXAS DIVISION

THE JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP NEWS

www.reaganscvcamp.org

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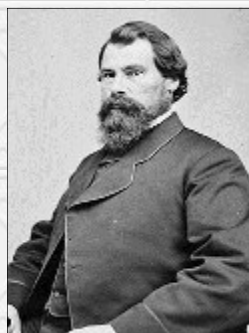
COMMANDER'S DISPATCH

Last month I talked about how we often get accused of "re-fighting" the War. This was seen as being an impossible thing to do seeing how the "fighting", the War, has never ended. There has never been a cease fire between the two warring factions. Just in case someone missed last month's Dispatch let me clarify what I am saying before I get accused of being crazy as a loon.

The War, the war between the North and the South began long before the Secession of the South and the forming of the Confederacy and the literal firing of literal guns that began at Sumter. And the war between the two warring parties has continued after Appomattox. The conflict that broke out in gunfire in 1861 was and is a conflict of thinking, of beliefs, of ideologies; and as such

can never be settled with bullets and bayonets. For SCV members it is indeed a war for our Southern, Confederate Heritage. But that word heritage means a whole lot more than many think. Webster's defines *heritage* as being "something handed down from one's ancestors". General Stephen Dill Lee and those other Confederate Veterans that helped him formulate the Charge given to the SCV well understood the scope of the Son's Heritage, well understood just what it was that he and the others were handing down to their sons.

"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



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

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."

Commander's Dispatch continued on the next page

CAMP MEETINGS

3rd Tuesday of Each Month
06:30 PM

Snacks and drinks served at each meeting.

First Christian Church
113 East Crawford Street
Palestine, Texas

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

Guests are welcome!
Bring the family.

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JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP COMMANDER'S DISPATCH

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Our Heritage as Sons of Confederate Veterans is "the Cause for which [our Fathers] fought, their "good name"/ reputation, their true "history", their "virtues", "principles", and "ideals". Everybody with just a small lick of sense knows that the United States is embroiled in a Cultural War. And whether the average US Citizen knows it or not, this Cultural War which is daily being waged across this country and which is daily in the News Headlines in one form or another, is a war over our Heritage, our Heritage as Sons of Confederate Veterans! Yes, not just here in the South but from Coast to Coast and from the Canadian Border to the Gulf of Mexico this war is raging and it is a war over those things that we are charged with defending! We SCV men ought to know this and we ought to be in the thick of the fight! And since it is a fight and a war there should be no compromise or dallying with the enemy. How can one expect victory in a war if one compromises with their enemy? Now I should not have to say this but; I am well aware that the current fight is not a literal physical fight nor do I want it to become such (And those silly people who want it to become such have no clue what they wish for.) But just because it is not a literal physical fight does not means that it is not a literal fight. It is a war of ideologies, of thinking, of beliefs and values, of principles and ideals, which was exactly the Cause for which our Fathers fought. And we are and must continue their fight for the same Cause; and, we must fight to win or why fight at all.

In this war for our Southern Cause wherever the Southern Flag flies is where the hotspot of the fighting is. Note, where it flies for if and where it does not fly there is little to no fight as the lowering of one's flag in a war is a sign of surrender. When Lee surrendered the Southern Arms under him at Appomattox the troops not only stacked arms but they also furled colors. Again, to furl one's colors in the midst of a war is to declare to your enemy that you surrender. And yes I deliberately said "the Southern Flag". I am well aware that there are many Southern, Confederate Flags but I am also well aware that there is ONE Southern Flag. Since we are engaged in a war, that flag that I speak of would be the most famous Flag of the Southern Confederacy, the Battle Flag of the Army of Northern Virginia. It is our Flag! There is a reason that under the guidance of the UCV the SCV adopted THAT Flag as its Flag!

Why does the battle rage around the Battle Flag? Why is this the hotspot of the conflict? Why does the flying of this Flag arouse so much controversy? (And again it's only the Flying of it that creates the controversy. You can say that you support the Flag all you want but if you never fly it on any kind of regular basis it is highly questionable how much you support it.)

The Yankee horde who invaded the South and with overwhelming numbers and resources overcame our Southern Arms in 1865 have been ever since then seeking to overcome that which was behind our Southern arms, our Southern thinking and values. They are still after them. They will not rest until the last vestige of the Southern Soul is wiped out and regulated to some dark corner of a museum. AND our enemies well understand what that Flag stands for. Do not be deceived by the red herrings of racism and slavery that they pour out upon the issue. That is nothing but pure subterfuge. That old, besieged, shot at, cursed, hated, slandered, and dearly loved Starry Crossed Flag stands for the Southern Cause- nothing more and nothing less. That Flag more than any other symbol stands for the Cause that we as SCV members have sworn to vindicate. (I hope we all take said oath seriously.)

What do you do with your battle flag while engaged in battle? FLY IT!!!! Fly it high and fly it proud and rally the troops around it! The Flag is THE rallying point for the troops engaged in battle? The Flying of our Flag, especially in the face of our enemies and while under fire emboldens our fellow soldiers and nerves them for the fight. Fly the Flag all you can and when you can and let our enemies gnash their teeth and curse us all they want. Such gnashing of teeth, hatred, and disdain are all indications that they indeed fear what that Flag stands for.

There are many legitimate ways to seek to fulfill our Charge but every way and any way should be led by our Colors! Indeed the simple flying of our Colors is a good way in itself to fulfill our Charge. On the other hand any and every time we are in some way intimidated by insults and accusations and public or private disdain to not fly our Flag is an indication to our enemies that we are on the run and it emboldens them to make further assaults upon us. General Lee stated that the enemy never saw the backs of his Texans. May such be said of our Texas Troops today. Deo Vindice!

"I won't be reconstructed and I do not give a damn!" Rudy Ray



Above is the Memorial at Gettysburg for Pickett's Charge.

Prayer List

- Adjutant Dan Dyer
- Former Chaplain Ed Furman
- Past Cmdr. Ronnie Hatfield
- Former Chaplain Rod Skelton
- Compatriot Tom James
- Quartermaster Frank Moore

Prayer List

- Compatriot John Brent Barnhart
- 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

"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-

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mar 22: Camp Ford Living History Event 10am-4pm

Mar 22: Dogwood Parade in Palestine

April: Confederate History Month

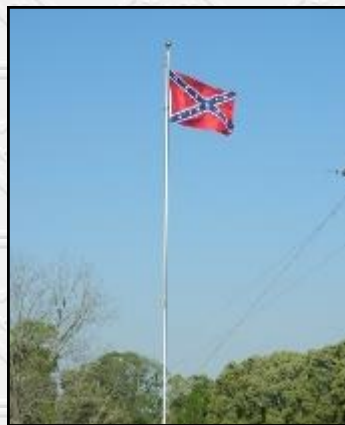
April 1: Reagan Guard Practice 6pm at Rudy's house

April 12: Workday at the Reagan Homeplace

April 13: **Stone Fort Camp #1944**, Nacogdoches, Texas, invites you and your family to its upcoming annual "Rally Round the Flag" at 1 pm. Location is midway between Nacogdoches and Garrison, Texas, on Highway 59. Free BBQ. Bring a covered dish if you can. Donations accepted. Lot's of Rifle and Cannon salutes. Bring a chair. Look for the HUGE Third National. Questions ? Call (936) 347-5223.

June 6-8: State Convention in Houston

July 16-19: National Reunion in Charleston



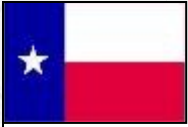
This flag flies in honor and memory of over 1,000 Confederate veterans from Anderson County who marched off to war, one third of whom never returned, and the over 500 Confederate veterans from all across the South who are buried in this county. They fought for liberty and independence from a tyrannical 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-

The Reagan Guards will be having Drill Practice at 5:30pm, at the First Christian Church Parking lot, prior to the monthly meeting which is held on the third Tuesday of each month. We would love to have you participate. You can contact Rudy at 903-731-7045 or 903-724-3905 if you have questions.

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 CADET MEMEBERSHIP OFFER



I believe that the future of the Sons of Confederate Veterans lies with our young men. I am hoping to add 100 new Cadet members by the time we meet in Charleston in July.

As you may already know, a Cadet membership is for those young boys and men who have not reached 12 years of age. Their application for membership is basically the same as for a full membership, i.e., application, family lineage and documentation of their ancestor's Confederate service.

I strongly believe in this program. As my way of getting more young men involved, I am offering to assist them by paying their first years dues of \$10.00. I am also willing to assist in preparing their applications and family lineage.

Your assistance in helping me grow the Cadet program would be greatly appreciated.

If you have any questions, or comments, please contact me.

"For the Cause"

Bob Rubel

1st Lt. Commander

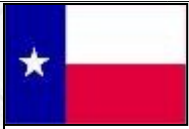
Terry's Texas Rangers Camp 1937

Sons of Confederate Veterans

(817) 483-6288 - shop

(817) 929-5576 - cell





JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP

PICTURES FROM MARCH 18TH MEETING



The Reagan Camp had 24 people in attendance for the March meeting. We had a great meal and a very interesting historical program presented by Joe Walker.





JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP HISTORICAL PROGRAM BY JOE WALKER THE BATTLE OF JENKINS' FERRY

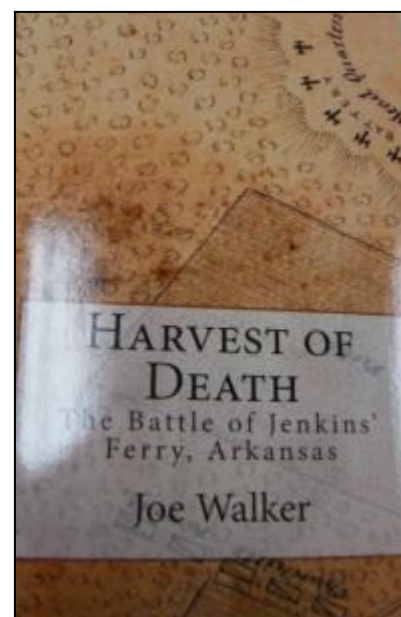


The Reagan Camp Historical Program was presented by historian and author Joe Walker. Mr. Walker is a native of Arkansas, growing up just a few miles north of the Jenkins' Ferry Battlefield. He is a founding member of the Friends of Jenkins' Ferry Battlefield and the Jenkins' Ferry Chapter of the Military Order of Stars and Bars. He is a member of the Seven Generals Camp of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. Mr. Walker authored the first major work on the battle of Jenkins' Ferry in fifty years titled, "Harvest of Death: Battle of Jenkins' Ferry".



At Left: Joe shows the audience a death hook that he found at Jenkins' Ferry Battlefield.

At Right: A picture of Joe's book "Harvest of Death: The Battle of Jenkins' Ferry, Arkansas".



All of the artifacts above were found at the Jenkins' Ferry Battlefield by Joe Walker with the exception of the saw. Joe had a wonderful display of memorabilia that the Reagan Camp was able to examine. We appreciate Joe for his willingness to share his time and knowledge with us at our meeting. Everyone in attendance really enjoyed his presentation.



JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP STATUE OF STONEWALL JACKSON

PICTURE BELOW IS FROM THE ROBERT E. LEE CALENDAR



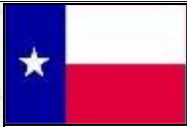
“Stonewall” Jackson Statue—Virginia Military Institute, Lexington, Va

Generals Jackson & Lee were an unequalled military team in the annals of warfare.

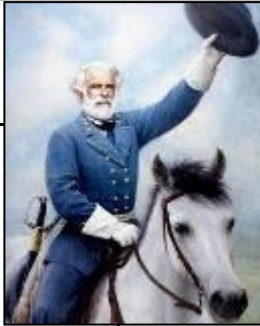
Virginia Military Institute— Born in January 1824 in what was then Clarksburg, Va, from humble beginnings and being poorly prepared for the academic demands he graduated from the U. S. Military Academy at West Point in 1846. He taught physics and artillery tactics at the Virginia Military Institute from August 1851 until the outbreak of the Civil War. It was from the Virginia Military Institute that Maj. Thomas J. Jackson led the corps of cadets to war and on July 21, 1861 at the Battle of First Manassas, near Bull Run he earned one of the most famous nicknames in American military history—“Stonewall” Jackson.

Robert E. Lee, after learning of the amputation of Jackson’s left arm from wounds received by Jackson at Chancellorsville, stated, “he has lost his left arm, but I have lost my right arm.” Jackson died from those wounds on May 10, 1863 and his body was escorted to his grave in Lexington, Virginia on May 15, 1863 by the VMI Corps of Cadets.



Virginia Military Institute can be found online at www.vmi.edu



JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP ROBERT E. LEE CALENDAR



MARCH

							1 March 1866—to E.S. Quirk No servant, soldier, or citizen that was ever employed by me can with truth charge me with bad treatment.
2 March 2, 1864—to Annie I think of you all, separately & collectively, in the busy hours of the day & the silent hours of the night.	3 March 3, 1864—to wife Departures grow harder to bear with years. Still they must be borne & ought not to be made worse by useless repining. We must hope in time they will end.	4 March 4, 1868—Death in its silent, sure march is fast gathering those whom I have longest loved, so that when he shall knock at my door I will more willingly follow.	5 undated— [The teacher] should look upon the children under his care not only as the future parents of another generation but also as heirs of immortality.	6 March 6, 1864—to Sec of War Seddon I thin it better to do right, even if we suffer in so doing.	7 undated—to wife. Instill into him industry & frugality & teach him to be prudent before he is liberal & to be just before he is generous.	8 March 8, 1867—With regret I inform you it has become necessary for your son to leave College. I hope this severe lesson will teach him the self-command he so much needs.	
9 March 9, 1863—Old age & sorrow is wearing me away, & constant anxiety & labour, day & night, leaves me but little repose.	10 March 10, 1868 to a daughter. I hope that you are becoming more & more interested in making those around you happy. That is the true way to secure your own happiness.	11 undated—to Carter. I am willing to do anything I can do to help the noble cause we are engaged in, & to take any position; but the lower & more humble the more agreeable to me.	12 March 12, 1868—to Robert. A farmer's motto should be toil and trust	13 March 13, 1860 to Custis. You must make friends while you are young, that you may enjoy them when old.	14 March 14, 1862 to wife. I do not see either advantage or pleasure in my duties. But I will not complain, but do my best.	15 March 15, 1866 to J. A. Early. It will be difficult to get the world to understand the odds against which we fought.	
16 March 16, 1866 to son R.E.Lee You know my objection to incurring debt. I cannot overcome it.	17 March 17, 1868 to Custis I wish you to save all your money, & invest it in some safe & lucrative way.	18 March 18, 1864 I pray that you may be preserved & relieved from all your troubles, & that we may all be again united here on earth & forever in heaven.	19 March 19, 1868 to a grieving father. When one, in the pureness of youth, before contaminated by sin, is called to his Creator, it must be solely for his good.	20 March 20, 1866. I consider the proper education of [the south's] youth one of the most important objects now to be attained & one from which the greatest benefits may be expected.	21 undated to wife. As I have done all in the matter that seems proper & right, I must now leave the rest in the hands of our merciful God.	22 March 22, 1869 to G.W. Jones. We failed, we failed, but in the good providence of god apparent failure often proves a blessing.	
23 undated— I hope our son will do his duty, & make a good soldier.	24 undated—to wife. How good God is to us! Oh that I could praise Him & thank Him as I ought.	25 March 25, 1860 to Annie. Youth is so fleeting & life in short.	26 undated. As an American citizen, I take great pride in my country, her prosperity & institutions, & would defend any State if her rights were invaded.	27 March 27, 1857 to Mildred. It has been said that our letters are good representatives of our minds. They certainly present a good criterion for judging of the character of the	28 March 28, 1852 to Custis. When a thing is done we ought always make the best of it.	29 March 29, 1867 to Robert Ould. The interests of all are inseparable connected.	
30 undated. I can anticipate no greater calamity for the country than a dissolution of the Union.	31 March 31, 1846 to his sons. Be true, kind & generous, & pray earnestly to God to enable you to 'keep his commandments & walk in the same all the days of your life.'						



THE ARTICLE BELOW WAS CONTRIBUTED
BY CAMP HISTORIAN GARY WILLIAMS. IT CONTAINS EXCERPTS
FROM THE BOOK



“LEE THE LAST YEARS” BY CHARLES BRACELEN FLOOD

General Robert E. Lee stood on a hilltop, studying the fog-covered woods ahead. Listening to the artillery fire and musketry, he tried to judge the progress of the crucial attack that his men were making. It was shortly after eight o'clock in the morning on Palm Sunday, April 9, 1865, and the shattered remnants of Lee's Army of Northern Virginia were in a column strung along four miles of road near the village of Appomattox Court House.

After four years of war, the northern front of the Confederate States of America had collapsed. A week before, unable to hold their overextended lines against the massive Union forces being thrown at them by General Ulysses S. Grant, Lee's battered, worn-out army had evacuated both Petersburg and the Confederate capital, Richmond. Since then they had slogged westward across Virginia through a hundred miles of spring mud, marching and fighting in an effort to break away from pursuing Federal columns. Lee's plan was to move west parallel to the railroad lines, and pick up food that was to await his army at supply depots. Then they would turn sought to join the Confederate army under Joseph E. Johnston that was opposing Sherman's march north through the Carolinas from Savannah.

That turn to the south had never come. The march west became a nightmare retreat under incessant attacks that produced terrible losses—three days before this Palm Sunday, in the rout at Sayler's Creek, eight thousand of Lee's men were captured at one stroke. The food had not materialized. Starving horses collapsed and died in the mud. Reeling from hunger, soldiers who had won amazing victories in the past threw away their muskets and lay down in the fields, waiting to be picked up as prisoners. At its peak, this once-fearsome army had numbered seventy thousand men. On this misty morning, the Army of Northern Virginia was reduced to eleven thousand gaunt, tenacious veterans. During the night, Federal troops had thrown themselves in strength across the Confederate line of march, and Lee's army was at last surrounded. At five this morning, Lee had launched this final drive to break out to the west and continue the retreat.

Standing on this hillside, Lee knew the consequences of the choice he must soon make. In the past forty-eight hours Ulysses S. Grant had opened a correspondence with him, sending messages under flags of truce, urging him to surrender his army. If he surrendered these men now, the other armies of the Confederacy might stagger on briefly, but his action would mean the end of the war.

All the hopes were crashing now, in a way that affected his flesh and blood. Rooney was up there in the fighting in those misty trees; so was another Major General Fitzhugh Lee, his nephew. His oldest son Major General Custis Lee, a West Pointer like himself, had been missing since Sayler's Creek; there were rumors that he was dead. His youngest son, Captain Robert E. Lee, Jr., had been missing in action for a week.

Those were the bonds of family, but this entire army was filled with love for Lee. They were proud of his appearance, proud of his brilliant leadership, but their hearts went out to him because he shared their risks and hardships, constantly showing them how much he admired them and appreciated their sacrifices. His soldiers saw their cause embodied in him; one of his generals told him, "You are the country to these men." In the horrendous confusion of the defeat at Sayler's Creek, Lee had cantered into the midst of his scattered troops. Facing the enemy, he grabbed up a red Confederate battle flag and held it high in the dusk, the banner waving against the flames of destroyed supplies. A staff officer told what happened next.The sight of him aroused a tumult. Fierce cries resounded on all sides and, with hands clinched violently and raised aloft, the men called on him to lead them against the enemy. "It's General Lee!" "Uncle Robert!" "Where's the man who won't follow Uncle Robert?" I heard on all sides—the swarthy faces full of dirt and courage, lit up every instant by the glare of the burning wagons.



**THE ARTICLE BELOW CONTAINS EXCERPTS
FROM THE BOOK
“LEE THE LAST YEARS” BY CHARLES BRACELEN FLOOD
PG 2**



Lt Colonel Venable emerged from the misty woods and rode up the slope to Lee. He had an oral message from Major General Gordon on the front line: “I have fought my corps to a frazzle, and I fear I can do nothing unless I am heavily supported by Longstreet’s corps.” Longstreet’s corps. Lee knew that Gordon could not have the reinforcements he said he needed to break through; they were committed and fighting as the army’s rear guard, holding off twice their numbers. There were no reserves left, and no hope of breaking out.

Lee said in his deep voice, addressing no one, “Then there is nothing left me but to go and see General Grant, and I would rather die a thousand deaths.” His words broke the respectful silence and dignified bearing of the officers near him. Years of dedication, of comrades killed, had come to naught in an instant. “Convulsed with passionate grief,” an artilleryman said, “Many were the wild words we spoke as we stood around him.”

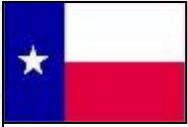
Amidst arrangements for a temporary cease-fire while he went to confer with Grant, Lee was presented with a dramatic last-ditch suggestion. It came from Brigadier General E. Porter Alexander. Instead of surrendering, Alexander replied, let these loyal thousands of excellent soldiers slip away through the woods, singly or in small groups. Most of them could sneak through the Union lines today or tonight. Then they could make their way to their home states—the Army of Northern Virginia had units from places as distant as Florida and Texas—and continue the war as guerrillas.

Lee crushed this idea in a few words. “If I took your advice, the men would be without rations and under no control of officers. They would be compelled to rob and steal in order to live. They would become mere bands of marauders, and the enemy’s cavalry would pursue them and overrun many sections they may never have occasion to visit. We would bring on a state of affairs it would take the country years to recover from.”

The shooting stopped all around the defensive positions into which Lee’s men had moved and along the Union lines encircling them. Some of the Confederates knew what was happening, others guessed, and thousands expected to go on fighting later in the day. They had seen flags of truce before. Among the mounted messengers cantering around the wooded countryside carrying white flags, one came to Lee’s headquarters with an entirely personal message. His son Major General Custis Lee was safe and unharmed, a prisoner in Union hands.

The Federal officer who sent this news through the lines was Brigadier General Lawrence Williams; his mother and Lee’s wife were first cousins. His name summoned memories of the way this war had ripped the fabric of relationships.





JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP

Article below is from newspaper clipping found at
http://www.newspapers.com/clip/400777/hoods_birgade/

Transcribed by Mrs. Bunny Freeman, Henderson County Texas



The article below was **written by a confederate soldier**. It was in the Galveston Daily News on May 9, 1865.

The Galveston Daily News

May 9, 1865

Hood's Campaign into Tennessee.

The following private letter, though long delayed, will be interesting to many:

FENNER'S BATTERY, LEE'S CORPS, ARMY OF TENNESSEE, NEAR COLUMBUS, Miss, January 18, 1865.

My Dear Mother and Sister:

I am enabled once more to write you a few lines, which I hope in the course of time will reach you. Since last writing to you, I have been through an ordeal of fire and death, but have fortunately escaped untouched. I rejoined my company at Jacksonville, Ala. in October last, and we soon after started out for the redemption of Tennessee. After much severe marching, we reached Florence, Alabama, where we were enthusiastically welcomed by the citizens. We remained there about two weeks, and commenced an advanced movement into Tennessee. We drove the small garrisons of the enemy before us without any trouble, captured Johnsonville with an immense quantity of stores and finally reached Columbus, Tennessee. There the Federals had concentrated from the different outpost about 26,000 men. They made but a feeble resistance and evacuated the place. We pursued them vigorously to Spring Hill, where an opportunity was lost of gaining a decisive victory. One corps of our army was on each applying of the enemy and one in the front. A faint attack having been made on the center of the enemy's lines, they gave way and fled precipitately. If we had pushed them at that time, the whole army would have been routed. However we failed, to take advantage of their panic, and the confusion was soon remedied. They retreated rapidly and we kept up a hot pursuit, had several hours the start of us, but having such a large wagon trying, we soon gained on them. Having arrived at Franklin, they immediately commenced throwing up works, with the intention of keeping us at bay until their trains could be removed to a safe distance. It is astonishing to see what powerful works they can throw up in a few hours. When our whole army was drawn up in line of battle, they had completed two lines of very good works with abattus for artillery, and were quietly awaiting us. The attack was soon commenced. Stewart's corps on the right Cheatham's on the left, and ours in the center. They met our first onset bravely, and it was only after the most desperate fighting that they were compelled to fall back to their second and strongest line. Then commenced in succession of the most gallant charges that have ever been made in this war. Our brave men would charge right up to the ditches while they were pouring on a perfect hail-storm of bullets. They would place their muskets over the enemy's parapets, discharge and reload them. The battle commenced at 3 o'clock and lasted until 10 o'clock, without intermission. Our battery was in position on a high hill overlooking the whole field, and it was, without doubt, the grandest, most sublime, and most awful scene I have ever witnessed. After the firing ceased, orders were issued to each battery to open the next morning and fire 100 rounds, but the Yankees were not to be found next morning. They made good their retreat that night and we were in possession of the city. I went over the battlefield very early the next morning before anything had been removed. It was before daylight, and the clear cold moon shone peacefully and calmly down on the pale, ghastly faces lying thick on the ground. Some were stretched with composed limbs and redesigned features, as if they slept in peace with God; others with distorted mien and limbs, grasping the turf in the agonizing death struggle. On our return, we passed over the signed field. Nothing was to be seen save the little boards running the resting place of each a row that perished there. Cattle were gently grazing around their graves, where, but a short time before, the storm of the battle had raged and the earth shook with that mighty shock. God; grant that the blood that has been spilt will not be in vain—that we may soon conquer an honorable independence, and all live to forget the horrid scene we have passed through. We pressed the Federals rapidly to Nashville and invested the place, through up three lines of breastworks around in and commenced skirmishing. In the meantime, the federals were heavily reinforced and became the assaulting party.

Our men again fought gallantly, but were overpowered by numbers, and one division having given away, they came in on our flank and the whole army was soon on the retreat, we fell back a short distance and threw up a line of works during the night. The Yankees attacked with four lines of battle the next morning. We then slaughtered them like sheep, but they closed up there scattered lines and charged again and again. Flesh and blood stand no longer, and the whole army gave away in irremediable confusion. Then commenced my suffering; I had been barefooted for a week before that while in camp, suffered but little, as I could toast my feet by the fire. But now we had to retreat rapidly all night with a cold drizzling rain beating upon me, and not a thing to wrap around me on a rocky flinty road; every step I made the blood spurted from both feet, and my teeth chattered with cold. I cannot conceive how I ever got through that night. However, I rested next morning in an old barn and soon felt strong enough to pursue my rough road, a good Samaritan lady gave me a pair of old shoes and socks, the fourth day and I fared somewhat better. My feet are nearly well now and I am getting very good rations, and am consequently better satisfied, and hope we may soon be led against the merciless foe. We lost our guns at Nashville and are here awaiting new pieces.

If you see a chance to send me any clothing, do so if you please, I have barely sufficient to protect me from the cold and bleak winds. Nothing but patriotism keeps our army together, and thank Heaven, there is a strong patriotic spirit still active and serving our little band of heroes. Our country needs services now more than ever. She is in a perilous condition and should be supported. I, for one, just standby her to the last and advise all my fellow soldiers to do the same. I will push on the best I can, miserably and poorly sometimes, but sure fully always.

Affectionately your son and brother, Thomas.



JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP #2156
MARCH IN THE LIFE OF JOHN H. REAGAN
CONTRIBUTED BY DAN DYER



March 6, 1861 Texas admitted to Confederacy, John H. Reagan accepted post of Postmaster General for C.S.A.



March 19, 1858 John H. Reagan delivered speech in US Congress on Kansas state Adm. And Slavery.

March 20, 1862 John H. Reagan officially appointed Postmaster General of Confederate States of America.



March 22, 23, 27, 29, 1872 John H. Reagan delivered address on Houston & GN RR building through Anderson Co. In Fosterville, Kickapoo, Washington Mills and Pilgrim.



March 6, 1905 Death of John H. Reagan in Palestine, Texas.

March 8, 1905 Funeral of John H. Reagan; State Leg. Attended in mass; Arrived by special train. Buried in East Hill Cemetery.





TEXAS DIVISION CHAPLAIN'S ARTICLE BY REVEREND DON MAJORS



"SOCIETY FORGETS, BUT CAN WE AFFORD TO FORGET?"

Society forgets, but can we afford to forget?

Those of us who are of the Judeo-Christian faith choose to never forget what our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ did for us on Calvary's Cross. His gift of love. His sacrifice. His atonement for our sins. We recognize that a deep prize was paid. We choose to never forget. This is why at Holy Communion we always remember Christ's words, "This do ye in remembrance of Me."

Society forgets.

It is dangerous to forget.

"Remember the Alamo." (March is Texas History Month)

After Joseph's death, another Pharaoh came on the scene who amazingly did not know of the sacrifices of Joseph. Joseph should have been a national hero. I mean, he did save Egypt from destruction. But, society forgets.

When society forgets, it loses knowledge, and when it loses knowledge, it loses appreciation.

In the Book of Exodus, we are told of the 400 years of Hebrew slavery. No one remembered the famine. No one remembered Joseph. It was ancient history. It was forgotten history. The leaders of Iran have conveniently forgotten Hitler's death camps in World War Two. It is dangerous to forget.

It appears that America has forgotten as well. We have forgotten the morals and the Judeo-Christian principles that were established by our ancestors. We are in a spiritual and moral collapse because our society has forgotten the foundations that made us strong. Progressives have re-written American history. Many have forgotten that our ancestors spilled their blood that we might live free. Society forgets.

As Southern folks, may we never forget the beautiful Allegheny and Blue Ridge mountains. May we never forget the Shenandoah. It is the heart of the South. It is a sacred place. It was the land of General Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson.

General Phil Sheridan came through the beautiful Shenandoah Valley, and he burned the land with cruelty and barbarity. He stripped the land. He slaughtered thousands of sheep, cattle, and hogs. He left the land in ashes. The beautiful Shenandoah Valley. Sheridan burned over 2,000 barns full of hay and wheat. It took a devastating toll upon the civilian population. Society forgets.

We choose to remember what great sacrifices that our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ did for us on Calvary's cross. Although I remember those that severely tortured Him, I choose to forgive them. How can I forget that it was my sins as well that hung Him on the cross.

We choose to remember the sacrifices of our Southern ancestors. We choose to remember their sufferings and hardships. We remember the acts of genocide and the horrible atrocities that were committed upon their homeland, but I also choose to forgive. I have no other choice.

Society forgets.

True Southerners will never forget.

Deo Vindice,

Reverend Don Majors

Texas Division Chaplain

Sons of Confederate Veterans



MONUMENT TO BE ADDED TO THE CONFEDERATE VETERANS MEMORIAL PLAZA PALESTINE, TEXAS



CofC President's Project 2013-2014

This project means a lot to the Texas Division CofC because it gives us the opportunity to honor our Confederate ancestors in a beautiful monument that testifies to the validity and integrity of those who served the Confederate cause from the State of Texas. We feel it is important to make a statement about their courage and beliefs in an effort to resist the current social and political environment that misrepresents the courageous actions of our ancestors.

The monument is made of black Texas granite (approximately 4'x5'). The proposed text reads:

Front of monument: *This memorial is dedicated to the Confederate States of America veterans from Texas who so bravely served and so valiantly defended their homeland and their states rights. It is a testament to the brave Texas women who supported those heroic efforts and to all the courageous citizens of Texas who fearlessly supported their beliefs and determination in a popular vote to secede. It is a tribute to the fierce independence of the "Texas Spirit."*

Back of monument: *A list of sponsors who give a minimum \$300 donation will appear on the back of the monument along with this quote,*

"The enemy never sees the backs of my Texans!" - General Robert E. Lee, CSA. The John H Reagan Camp will have approval of the final wording and the placement of the monument.

Project Goal: \$5,000 (cost of monument, inscriptions, delivery and installation).

Additional funds raised will be used to cover costs of foundation and dedication event.

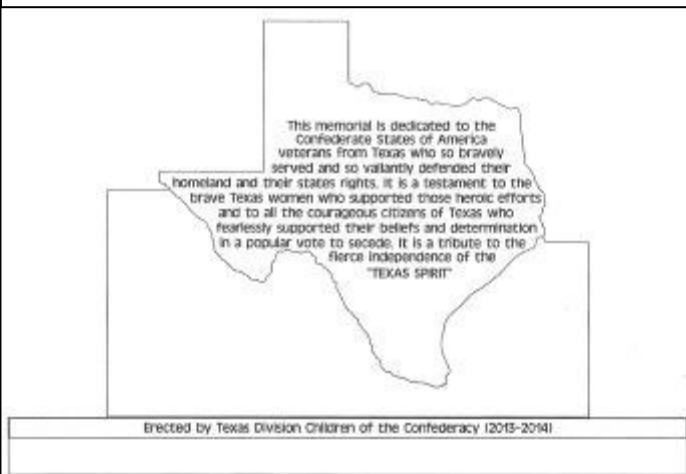
Donations: Please make checks payable to Treasurer, Texas Division CofC and send to Gabby Vasek, 16003 Drifting Rose Circle, Cypress, Texas 77429.

Contact Gabby at 281-373-3936 or evasek@sbcglobal.net.

We are honored that the John H Reagan Camp 2156 in Palestine will add the marker to the Confederate Veterans Memorial Plaza. This is a beautiful and impressive site for our marker.

Thanks to the generous support of members and chapters of the Texas Division UDC, the SCV Texas Division, and members and camps of the SCV Texas Division, we are making great progress in turning our project into reality.

Miss Gabby Vasek, CofC President



Front of Monument



Back of Monument



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: danielyder497@yahoo.com or Phone: (903) 391-2224

JOHN H. REAGAN SCV CAMP #2156 PALESTINE, TEXAS	PVT WM. H. FOSTER CO. H 1ST TEX INF DIED AS POW OCT 63	PVT WM. H. NIX CO. K 22ND TEXAS INF
GEORGE KNOX GIBSON PVT. CO. B 12TH TEXAS CAVLRY, CSA	WILLIAM H. CRIST COMPANY I 7 TX CAV C S A	PVT JOHN FOSTER CO. H 1ST TEX INF KIA GAINES MILL

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

c/o Dan Dyer, Adjutant/Treasurer
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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 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)