Volume 8, Issue 1 PAGE 1



### SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS. TEXAS DIVISION

## The John H. Reagan Camp News

www.reaganscvcamp.org

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 1

#### **JANUARY 2016**

#### **COMMANDER'S DISPATCH**

Compatriots,

I would like to start off was a time when many this monthly message by saying how humble and | Southern traditions were honored I am to have still been elected by members of the John H. school was started off Reagan Camp as your with the pledge to the new Commander. This is American flag followed indeed one ofhighlights of my life and concluding I know that I have big singing of Dixie. How I shoes to fill following in long for that time again the shadow of our last | but time and political commander, David Franklin, but I pledge to you to do my best. As I dimmed the memory of was writing these words a time in the land of it was the day of our famed Commander Chief's birthday. Robert sadden beyond words E. Lee was a man of character, honor, truthfulness and above all else man who worshiped God and took care of the men who he to my heart, the one of commanded. How I wish we had a man such as General Lee in the White House today.

I grew up in New Orleans, Louisiana and was proud to call it home from 1952 to 1964. It

cherished of our honored the adhered to. Each day in the by a vocal prayer and with correctness has eroded our old values and cotton. Being from in New Orleans I was when a liberal mayor on his own decided to remove some of our confederate monuments, especially near and dear Robert E. Lee on a 60 foot tall pedestal in the middle of Lee Circle. This statue has stood proudly since 1884 and is a historic landmark in New Orleans. Every Sunday night after church, my dad would



### 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

drive us home and we always enjoved driving around Lee Circle on our way to the house.

Texas State Historical Association

Fortunately a court action has delayed the removal with a single judge to decide if this and the other monuments will be removed. Why is it that one man gets to make such a important decision? - Continued on 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.

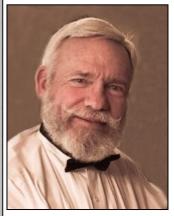
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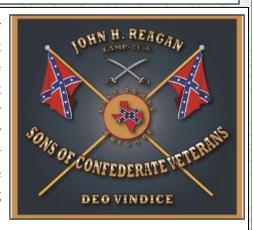


# JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP COMMANDER'S DISPATCH CONTINUED FROM THE COMMANDER





Why not let the people decided and if they vote for removal, well all I can say, is that they can just ship Robert E. Lee to Palestine and we will honor him by erecting him at our Confederate Veterans Plaza. Actually that brings me to another point of my message. Over the Christmas holidays, my fiancée Betty and I visited Marshall to see the wonderful lights. As I was marveling over the beauty of the lighted courthouse,



suddenly I became aware of the statue of the Confederate veteran located on the east side. How I wished we had such a statue in Palestine on our courthouse square. Sixty years ago such a statue could have been erected but now that would be a near impossibility. How sad that some folks seek to deny others the right of honoring all our veterans.

I have heard talk of how we ought to erect a confederate soldier statue in our plaza. I believe that Dollye Jeffus has done some looking into this and opened up an awareness of this project. While I suspect that such a statue might be expensive, still it has merit and so I will appoint three compatriots to a committee to study the feasibility of proceeding forward with the goal of obtaining such a statue. It is always better to have people on a committee who want that responsibility as they will bring more dedication and fervor to the project. thinking if you would like to serve and let me know before the February meeting. Even if it takes us a few years to accumulate the funds to buy a statue, still we must start somewhere. The committee will also be empowered to explore ways to raise the money for this project.

Again, I would like to express my thanks to my compatriots and their trust in my ability to lead the Camp this year. I will try to not let you down.



Charles Steen

#### **Prayer List**

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



### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Feb 5-6 - Stephen Dill Lee Institute (for more info go to www.StephenDLeeInstitute.com

Feb 6 - Antebellum Tea & Social 2016 in Conroe, Tx (for more info, contact Renee Kernan 713-557-0144)

Feb 16th - February Reagan Camp Meeting

March 15th - March Reagan Camp Meeting

April 19th - April Reagan Camp Meeting



This flag flies in honor and memory of over 1,000 Confederate veterans from Anderson County who marched offto war, one third of whom never returned, and the over 500 Confederate veterans from all across the South who are huried 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

-President Jefferson Davis-

WOULD DO IT ALL OVER AGAIN."

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-

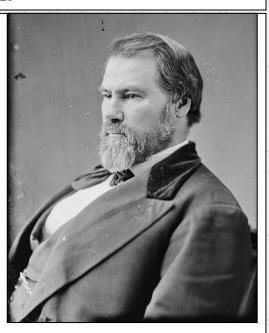


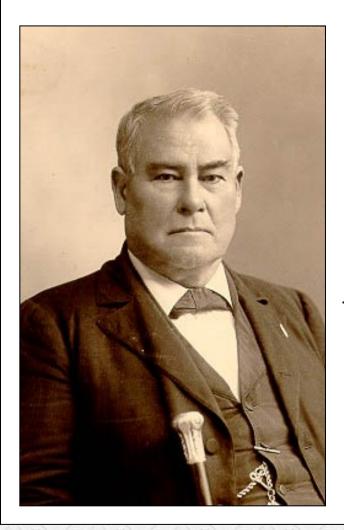
# JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP #2156 "JOHN H. REAGAN" BY GARY WILLIAMS



In regards to looking back at American History, we should be warned against judging historical figures outside the context of their times and also of retro actively applying "Our Understanding of morality and ethics, of rightness and wrongness, back into another century."

Ben Procter, Historian and Reagan's Biographer included Reagan in his list of the "four greatest Texans of the 19th century", along with Sam Houston, Stephen F. Austin, and James Stephen Hogg. Reagan County, Texas was named in his honor.





In the Southern Poverty Legal Center's campaign for hate, they even encourage people to report to them (with pictures), any Confederate names or symbols on public property. Their mission is to remove or change the names of anything Confederate. Upon hearing this, my mind took me back to a quote I remembered in high school and it sends chills up and down my spine.

"Every record has been destroyed or falsified, every book rewritten, every picture has been repainted, every statue and street building has been renamed, and every date has been altered. And the process is continuing day by day and minute by minute. History has stopped. Nothing exists except an endless present in which the Party is always right." — George Orwell, 1984



## JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP 2016 DIVISION REGISTRATION



Compatriots,

For those of you who have already registered early for the 2016 Texas Division Reunion events and/or made your reservations at the host YO Ranch Resort Hotel in Kerrville, thank you.

If you haven't yet done so, we would appreciate you reserving your hotel room at your earliest opportunity, since the end of January is the hotel's cut-off date to adjust our guaranteed block of rooms if it appears there will not be sufficient interest to match our initial estimate. (We understand that some Compatriots can only afford to attend either the Division or the National Reunion and may prefer to attend the National since it is in Texas this year.)

You may register at the Hotel on line at: www.yoranchhotel.com then use group code SCV2016. Phone reservation numbers are: 830-257-4440, Toll Free 1-877-967-3767. A discounted rate of \$109 will be given when asking as a member of "Sons of Confederate Veterans-TX Division". Be sure they register you with the SCV block of rooms so that we meet our obligations for the minimum number of rooms reserved and get the discounts on the rooms associated with the business meetings and other events. The hotel does not have elevators, so if you wish to have a 1st floor room, or have other accessibility requirements, please indicate that when you make your reservation.

We encourage everyone to register early for the Reunion events, using the forms at our website link: http://hillcountrycamp.org/2016-texas-reunion. Those who plan to attend the business meetings, but not the paid events, are still encouraged to submit their name and other information, using the registration form, so we can speed up the check-in process by having name tags pre-printed.

Since late registrations and unregistered walk-ins traditionally make it difficult to assure meeting room seating, as well as medals and programs for everyone, we would like to have an early estimate of those who realistically plan to attend. Therefore we are asking each camp commander or adjutant to poll your camp members and send me an e-mail regarding the number who plan to register at a later date for the paid events, as well as those who plan to attend only the business meetings on a walk-in basis. We don't need individual names at this point, just the numbers of those who seriously plan to attend. That information would be appreciated by mid-February.

We look forward to hosting the best Reunion ever and appreciate your cooperation to help us make it happen. Thanks.

Best regards in honor of our Confederate and Southern heritage,

Don Taylor

dont@beecreek.net (careful your computer doesn't auto correct it to "don't".)

SCV Hill Country Camp #1938 – Adjutant

West Texas (2nd) Brigade – 1st Lt. Commander



## JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP JANUARY MEETING





We had 23 in attendance at the January meeting. It started off with a covered dish meal which consisted of Mexican casserole, cheesy scalloped potatoes, borracho beans and rice, pizza, garlic bread, chicken & shrimp gumbo, chocolate/pecan pie, lemon chess pie, Blue Bell Ice Cream and a Duck Commander Cake! Following the meal, Deborah Robinson (president of the Davis/Reagan UDC) gave a brief talk in honor of Robert E. Lee's 209th birthday. After that, Dr. Ed Domingue of Lufkin presented a historical presentation on the Red River Campaign. It was another good meeting with good people and good food. Our next meeting will be on Feb 16th. Hope to see you there!











## JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP NEW MEMBER MELVIN L. JOHN, III





The John H. Reagan Camp #2156 welcomes Melvin L. John, III to the Sons of Confederate Veterans as our newest member. Melvin lives in Freestone County and is the son-in-law of compatriot J.B. Mason.

Melvin was sworn in on January 19, 2016 at the January Reagan Camp meeting by Chaplain Dwight Franklin.





The Reagan Camp was honored to have guests Thomas Anderson and Dr. Ed Domingue from Lufkin.

Ed came to speak to the camp on the Red River Campaign, and Thomas came with him so he didn't have to make the trip alone.

Thomas is Commander of the Lone Star Defenders Camp 2234 in Lufkin, Texas where Dr. Domingue is a member.



## IN HONOR OF CONFEDERATE HEROES DAY AND ROBERT E. LEE'S 209TH BIRTHDAY PRESENTATION BY DEBORAH ROBINSON



The Davis-Reagan Chapter 2292 of the United Daughters of the Confederacy met together with the John H. Reagan Sons of Confederate Veterans at the January Meeting.

The meeting was held on January 19th, which happened to be Robert E. Lee's 209th birthday and Confederate Heroes Day in Texas.

In honor of his birthday, local Davis-Reagan United Daughter of the Confederacy President, Deborah Robinson, spent a few minutes reminding those in attendance of what a great man Robert E. Lee really was.



Mrs. Robinson discussed how terrible it is that we are living in a time when many of our government officials are trying to destroy the true Confederate History of our nation. Many are going with the crowd of "political correctness" instead of sticking with the truth.

Before the political correctness movement, Robert E. Lee had been well thought of by those from the North as well as the South. President Theodore Roosevelt described General Robert E. Lee as "the very greatest of all the captains that the English speaking peoples have brought forth." President Franklin D. Roosevelt stated at the 1936 unveiling of the statue of Lee in Dallas that, "all over the United States we recognize him, as a great general. But also, all over the United States, I believe we recognize him as something much more that that. We recognize Robert E. Lee as one of our greatest American Christians and one of our greatest American gentlemen." President Dwight D. Eisenhower proudly displayed a portrait of Lee in the presidential office. President Eisenhower even went so far as to state in a letter that, "A nation of men of Lee's caliber would be unconquerable in spirit and soul. Indeed to the degree that present day American youth will strive to emulate his rare qualities, we in our own time of danger in a divided world will be strengthened and our love of freedom sustained." Winston Churchill once remarked, "Lee was the noblest American who had ever lived and one of the greatest commanders known to the annals of war."

Lee was a man of honor and was proud of his name & his heritage. After the War Between the States, he was once offered \$50,000 for the use of his name. This came at a time when he had very little. His response was, "Sirs, my name is the heritage of my parents. It is all I have and it is not for sale."

In 1975, Lee's full rights of citizenship were posthumously restored by a joint congressional resolution effective June 13, 1875. And at the August 5, 1975 signing ceremony, President Gerald R. Ford remarked that "General Lee's character has been an example to succeeding generations, making the restoration of his citizenship an event in which every American can take pride."

The Reagan Camp would like to say "Thank You" to Mrs. Robinson for the presentation.



# JANUARY HISTORICAL PROGRAM THE RED RIVER CAMPAIGN BY DR. ED DOMINGUE (PG 1)

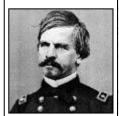




The January historical program was a very educational program on the Battle of Mansfield and the Red River Campaign of 1864. It was presented by **Dr. Ed Domingue**, M.D. of Lufkin. Ed informed the crowd about the commanders on both side as well as their backgrounds and their military decisions that influenced pivotal battles.

Below are some excerpts of Dr. Domingue's presentation.

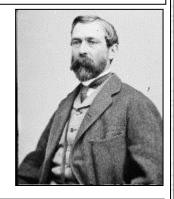
Yankee General Nathaniel Banks grew up in Massachusetts. He was the oldest of 8 children and was nicknamed "The Bobbin Boy." He was wishy-washy on whether he wanted to be a democrat or a republican, as he changed parties from democrat to republican to democrat to republican. Before the War Between the States, Banks was elected to Congress in 1854. In 1858, he became the Speaker of the House. He ran for president against Abraham Lincoln but lost. He was appointed as a general in the Union Army by Lincoln. He did not turn out to be a very good general. Stonewall Jackson got hundreds of wagons and supplies from him which helped supply the Confederate Army. This earned him the nickname "Commissary Banks" from the Confederate Soldiers.





General Edmund Kirby Smith was a Confederate General who had previously been a commander of Camp Colorado. Smith was in Texas with the 2nd Cavalry when war broke out in 1861. At first Smith refused to surrender to Texas militia, but his loyalties changed once Florida seceded. Smith resigned from the United States Army, and entered the Confederate army with the rank of lieutenant colonel. He was wounded in action at the Battle of Bull Run. In early 1863, he was transferred to the Trans-Mississippi Department as Commanding General and tasked with helping halt the Union's advance on the Mississippi River.

Richard Taylor was a brother-in-law of Jefferson Davis and also a son of President Zachary Taylor. He was a graduate from Yale University and worked well under Stonewall Jackson. Some say he was a Civil War parallel to Gen. George Patton of WW2. Both never lost a major battle, and both had bad tempers. But unlike General Patton, General Richard Taylor was outnumbered and had inferior fire-power in most of his battles. In October 1861, he was appointed Brigadier General of the Eighth Brigade (Louisiana soldiers). When he took over, he only had about 4,000 poorly trained troops with very little ammunition. He had to build an army, and he was successful at doing it. He won the battle of Mansfield and chased the Union Army out of Texas. He liked to engage the enemy in battle. This caused strife between him and his superior, General Edmund Kirby Smith, because he felt that Smith was too quick to turn and run. He published a memoir entitled *Destruction and Reconstruction* in 1879, shortly before his death in New York City. Taylor was buried in New Orleans.





General Jean Alfred Mouton served under General Richard Harris. He was a big man, for his time, who stood over 6 feet tall and weighed over 200 pounds. Before the war, he had been a sheriff in Louisiana and had broken up the "Lafayette Outlaws", which was a gang of about 100 outlaws who were a menace to the area. It was said he bullwhipped the leaders and said he would hang them if he caught them again. On the outbreak of the Civil War, he commanded the 18th Louisiana Infantry, where he proved a strict disciplinarian who was also notably friendly and sociable with the rank and file. Wounded at Shiloh, he was made a brigade commander under General Richard Taylor, with whom he successfully obstructed Union efforts to secure the Bayou Teche region of southern Louisiana. In the Red River Campaign, Mouton was killed at the Battle of Mansfield, while leading his men in a cavalry charge.



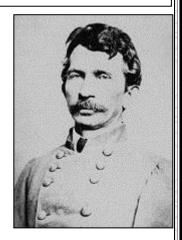
# JANUARY HISTORICAL PROGRAM THE RED RIVER CAMPAIGN BY DR. ED DOMINGUE (PG 2)





Tom Green was an assistant to Sam Houston in the Texas War of Independence. He was awarded 2,000 acres of land for his participation in that war. Although he was known to "drink too much", he was a commander of a cavalry unit in the Red River Campaign. He was involved in winning several victories for the Confederacy which included the Battle of Valverde and also the recapture of Galveston. He was promoted brigadier and assigned command of the cavalry division of the Trans-Mississippi. He was mortally wounded while charging a fleet of Federal gunboats during the Red River Campaign. It is said that he rode his horse down into the river while charging a boat that fired a canon which took his head off. The commander of the Union Navy, David Dixon Porter, said Tom Green's death was a serious loss to the Confederacy.

Henry Watkins Allen was a General for the Confederacy and served as the 17th Governor of Louisiana. He served as Governor from 1864 until the collapse of the Confederacy in 1865. He was known for his brilliant mind and established many things that helped the Confederacy. He realized there was a lack of much needed medical supplies during the war, and he devoted extensive time and resources toward establishing a large intelligence and covert action service which could secretly procure vital supplies (especially medicine such as quinine) behind Union line in New Orleans. He was able to secure legislative passage of a law that prevented illegal impressment by Confederate agents. Another law allowed him to purchase medicine and distribute it to the needy. He was able to get disabled soldiers \$11 per month for assistance and also procured the establishment of new hospitals both with public funds and private contributions. He realized that Louisiana need more manufacturing industries, and he established a system of foundries and factories so civilians would be able to be productive after the end of the war.



General Edmund Kirby Smith and General Richard Taylor are both known as being instrumental in the victories by the Confederacy during the Red River Campaign. But they had a difference of opinion of when to fight and when to run. General Smith, knowing that Banks had about 30,000 Union Soldiers and being the superior, kept ordering that the troops evacuate and move north. But General Taylor did not like to retreat. He did so, as ordered by General Smith, for much of the time, but he resented retreating too much. He knew you could not win a war unless you engaged the enemy. General Taylor was being pressure by Union General Banks up the Red River towards Shreveport. General Taylor was able to capture the plans from Yankee signal officers and had the advantage of knowing what the Union was planning. He continuously sought a place where he could have the advantage to engage the enemy. He found this place at Mansfield, Texas where the road was narrow and cover was good. He requested permission to engage the enemy, but the Union forces arrived before he could get that permission from General Smith. The Yankees had a caravan that was about 20 miles long that was marching with cavalry, then wagons, then infantry, then cavalry, then wagons, then infantry, etc. General Taylor made the decision to fight! The Union troops were so boxed in on the narrow road that they couldn't even turn their wagons around. Taylor's troops overwhelmed the Union forces at the Battle of Mansfield as he forced them to retreat back to Pleasant Hill. He captured about 20 pieces of artillery and over 200 wagons. Sensing that a victory was in reach, General Taylor struck this position the next day, but he couldn't break through the enemies lines. But he did compel Banks to abandon his advancement toward Shreveport and to instead retreat downstream. General Taylor requested more man power from General Smith, but was denied. This prevented him from being able to take advantage of Union forces who were temporarily trapped in Alexandria, La. But he did accomplish three things: (1) The Union didn't get the cotton they wanted from Shreveport. (2) Texas was spared. (3) The Yankees never came back to invade Texas. It was a great victory for the South.

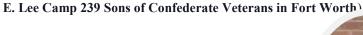
General Taylor was unwilling to serve under Kirby Smith any longer, and he attempted to resign. The attempt to resign was denied, but on July 18, 1864, President Davis promoted Taylor to Lieutenant General.



# FT WORTH STOCKYARD PARADE "FLAGS STILL FLY AT STOCK SHOW PARADE" BY MARC ROBINSON



The Fort Worth Stock Show has banned anything with the Confederate battle flag (Cross of Saint Andrews) on it from being in their parade or being at the Stock Show this year. The old Confederate veterans began marching with their Confederate battle flag in the early 1900's and the Sons of Confederate Veterans have continued that tradition all these years. It was a huge slap in the face to the honor of Confederate veterans for banning their battle flag that so many loved and fought, bled, and died for while defending Texas and the South. The Texas Division SCV responded by adhering to the new rules in the parade and using Confederate battle flags other than the most popular St. Andrews Cross variants and some flying black ribbons from their flag poles instead of a flag (in protest). The Texas Division SCV also purchased about 1400 small stick Confederate battle flags to pass out to the public since the sidewalks were still protected by the 1st Amendment. (All pictures are courtesy of the Robert











As I rode my horse in the Texas Cavalry Division SCV entry with black ribbon on my flag pole, I was extremely moved by the hundreds of small stick Confederate battleflags I saw waving along the entire parade route. One lady yelled at me and asked why the black ribbons, I responded to her that "the Confederate battleflag of my ancestor's unit that I normally carry is banned." She nodded her head with a disgusted look on her face.

This was an example of Texans standing up against political correctness at its best, imo. Hurrah for Texas! Hurrah for true Texans! Marc Robinson, member John H. Reagan Camp 2156



# JANUARY 19TH BIRTHDAY OF ROBERT E. LEE (PG 1)



FOUND ONLINE AT HTTP://WWW.HUNTINGTONNEWS.NET/104354

Sir Winston Churchill called General Robert E. Lee, quote 'one of the noblest Americans who ever lived.'

Please let me call to your attention that Monday, January 19, 2009, is the 202nd birthday of Robert E. Lee, whose memory is still dear in the hearts of many Southerners. Why is this man so honored in the South and respected in the North? Lee was even respected by the soldiers of Union blue who fought against him during the War Between the States.

What is your community doing to commemorate the birthday of this great American?

During Robert E. Lee's 100th birthday in 1907, Charles Francis Adams, Jr., a former Union Commander and grandson of US President John Quincy Adams, spoke in tribute to Robert E. Lee at Washington and Lee College's Lee Chapel in Lexington, Virginia. His speech was printed in both Northern and Southern newspapers and is said to had lifted Lee to a renewed respect among the American people.

Read about the upcoming January 2009 events for Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson in Lexington, Va. at: <a href="http://www.geocities.com/lexington\_lee\_jackson/">http://www.geocities.com/lexington\_lee\_jackson/</a>

Dr. Edward C. Smith, respected African-American Professor of History at American University in Washington, D.C., told the audience in Atlanta, Ga. during a 1995 Robert E. Lee birthday event, quote 'Dr. Martin Luther King and Robert E. Lee were individuals worthy of emulation because they understood history.' Unquote

Lee's birthday, sadly, is not included on many calendars but the Georgia Division Sons of Confederate Veterans have not forgotten and will sponsor their annual Robert E. Lee Birthday Celebration in Milledgeville, Georgia at 10:00AM on January 24th, 2009, at the Old Capitol Building.

Children will get a school holiday for Dr. King's birthday but do young people know that January is also the birthday month for General Lee?

Booker T. Washington, America's great African-American Educator, wrote in 1910, quote 'The first white people in America, certainly the first in the South to exhibit their interest in the reaching of the Negro and saving his soul through the medium of the Sunday-school were Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson.' unquote

American President's who have paid tribute to Lee include: Franklin D. Roosevelt, who spoke during the 1930s at a Lee statue dedication in Dallas, Texas, Theodore 'Teddy' Roosevelt and Dwight D. Eisenhower who proudly displayed a portrait of Lee in his presidential office.

During a tour through the South in 1905, President Theodore Roosevelt told the aged Confederate Veterans in Richmond, Virginia, quote, 'Here I greet you in the shadow of the statue of your Commander, General Robert E. Lee. You and he left us memories which are part of the memories bequeathed to the entire nation by all the Americans who fought in the War Between the States.' Unquote

Georgia's famous Stone Mountain carving of Jefferson Davis, Stonewall Jackson and Robert E. Lee was dedicated on May 9, 1970. William Holmes Borders, a noted African-American theologian and pastor of the Wheat Avenue Baptist Church, was asked to give the invocation. The many dignitaries attending this historic event included United States Vice President Spiro Agnew. Thousands of people bring their families each year to see this memorial to these three great Americans.

Who was Robert E. Lee that has been praised by both Black and White Americans and people from around the world?

Robert E. Lee, a man whose military tactics have been studied worldwide, was an American soldier, Educator, Christian gentlemen, husband and father. Lee said quote, 'All the South has ever desired was that the Union, as established by our forefathers, should be preserved, and that the government, as originally organized, should be administered in purity and truth.' Unquote

Robert E. Lee was born on Jan. 19, 1807, at 'Stratford 'in Westmoreland County, Virginia. The winter was cold and the fireplaces were little help for Robert's mother, Ann Hill (Carter) Lee, who suffered from a severe cold.



# JANUARY 19TH BIRTHDAY OF ROBERT E. LEE (PG 2)



FOUND ONLINE AT HTTP://www.huntingtonnews.net/104354

Ann Lee named her son 'Robert Edward' after two of her brothers.

Robert E. Lee undoubtedly acquired his love of country from those who lived during the American Revolution. His Father, 'Light Horse' Harry was a hero of the revolution and served three terms as governor of Virginia and as a member of the United States House of Representatives. Two members of his family also signed the Declaration of Independence.

Lee was educated at the schools of Alexandria, Va., and he received an appointment to West Point Military Academy in 1825. He graduated in 1829, second in his class and without a single demerit.

Robert E. Lee's first assignment was to Cockspur Island, Georgia, to supervise the construction of Fort Pulaski.

While serving as 2nd Lieutenant of Engineers at Fort Monroe, Va., Lee wed Mary Ann Randolph Custis. Robert and Mary had grown up together, Mary was the daughter of George Washington Parke Custis, the Grandson of Martha Washington and adopted son of George Washington.

Mary was an only child; therefore, she inherited Arlington House, across the Potomac River from Washington, D.C., where she and Robert E. Lee raised seven children, three boys and four girls.

Army promotions were slow. In 1836, Lee was appointed to first Lieutenant. In 1838, with the rank of Captain, Robert E. Lee fought in the War with Mexico and was sounded at the Battle of Chapultepec.

Lee was appointed Superintendent of West Point in 1852 and is considered one of the best superintendents in that institution's history.

President to-be Abraham Lincoln offered command of the Union army to Lee in 1861, but he refused. He said, 'I cannot raise my hand against my birthplace, my home, my children.'

The Custis-Lee Mansion 'Arlington House would be occupied by Federals, who would turn the estate into war cemetery. Today Arlington House is preserved by the National Park Service as a Memorial to Robert E. Lee. <a href="http://www.nps.gov/arho/">http://www.nps.gov/arho/</a> arho/

Lee served as adviser to President Jefferson Davis, and then on June 1, 1862, commanded the legendary Army of Northern Virginia.

After four terrible years of death and destruction, Gen. Robert E. Lee met Gen. Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox Courthouse in Virginia and ended their battles.

Lee was called Marse Robert, Uncle Robert and Marble Man.

Lee was a man of honor, proud of his name and heritage. After the War Between the States, he was offered \$50,000 for the use of his name. His reply was: 'Sirs, my name is the heritage of my parents. It is all I have and it is not for sale.' His refusal came at a time when he had nothing.

In the fall of 1865, Lee was offered and accepted the presidency of troubled Washington College in Lexington, Virginia. The school was later renamed Washington and Lee College in his honor.

Robert E. Lee died of a heart attack at 9:30 AM on the morning of October 12, 1870, at Washington College. His last words were 'Strik the tent.' He was 63 years of age.

He is buried at Lee Chapel on the school grounds with his family and near his favorite horse, Traveller.

On this is 208th birthday let us ponder the words he wrote to Annette Carter in 1868: 'I grieve for posterity, for American Principles and American liberty.'

Robert E. Lee was a great American who should not be forgotten.

Johnson is a speaker, writer of short stories, author of book "When America stood for God, Family and Country" and Chairman of the National and Georgia Division Sons of Confederate Veterans Confederate History and Heritage Month committee. <a href="http://www.facebook.com/ConfederateHeritageMonth">http://www.facebook.com/ConfederateHeritageMonth</a>

The article above was found online at http://www.huntingtonnews.net/104354



# JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP TEXAS CIVIL WAR HISTORY IN JANUARY



From the Texas State Historical Association

January 1st, 1863: Confederates attack Union forces in Galveston. On this day in 1863, Confederate forces under Gen. J.B. Magruder began their assault on Union forces that had held Galveston since October. Magruder placed artillery and dismounted cavalry aboard two river steamers, the *Bayou City* and the *Neptune*. He also gathered infantry and cavalry, supported by artillery, to cross the railroad bridge onto the island. The Confederates entered Galveston on New Year's night, January 1, 1863, and opened fire before dawn. The Union ship *Harriet Lane* sank the *Neptune* but the *Bayou City*'s crew seized the Federal vessel. Union commander William B. Renshaw's flagship, the *Westfield*, ran aground, and the commander died trying to blow it up rather than surrender it. The other Union ships sailed out to sea, ignoring Confederate surrender demands, while their infantry comrades in town surrendered. Magruder had retaken Galveston with a moderate loss. Although the port remained under Confederate control for the rest of the war, only a week elapsed before it was again blockaded.

January 8th, 1865: Kickapoos rout Confederates in battle of Dove Creek. On this day in 1865, about 160 Confederates and 325 state militiamen lost a battle against the Kickapoo Indians about twenty miles southwest of present San Angelo. A month earlier a scouting party had discovered an abandoned Indian camp and assuming the group was hostile, dispatched forces to pursue them. A militia force under Capt. S.S. Totten and state Confederate troops under Capt. Henry Fossett set out, but the two forces lacked a unified command and full communication. When the troops and militiamen finally rendezvoused near the timbered encampment of the Kickapoos along Dove Creek, the forced concocted a hasty battle plan. The militia waded the creek to launch a frontal attack from the north, while Confederate troops circled southwestward to capture the Indian's horses and prevent a retreat. A well-armed Indian fighting force, possibly several hundred strong, easily defended their higher, heavily— wooded position as the militiamen slogged through the creek. The Confederate force was splintered into three groups caught in a heavy crossfire. Three days later the battered Texans retreated eastward, while the embittered Kickapoos, once peaceful, escaped to the Mexican border. Thus began a violent period of border raids on settlers along the Rio Grande.

**January 8th, 1864, seventeen-year-old David Owen Dodd was hanged.** The Texas native was captured as he tried to cross Federal lines near Little Rock, with notes in Morse code hidden in his show. After a military court found him guilty, he confessed that he had been sent to gather information about Union troops. Dodd may have been the youngest person hanged as a spy in the Civil War.

January 11th, 1863: Texas troops captured at Arkansas Post. On this day in 1863, the remnants of the Fourth Brigade of Walker's Texas Division were captured intact at Arkansas Post. The division, organized in Arkansas in October 1862, was the only division in Confederate service composed throughout its existence of troops from a single state. It took its name from Maj. Gen. John George Walker, who took command from its organizer, Brig. Gen. Henry Eustace McCullouch, on January 1, 1863. During its existence it was commonly called the "Greyhound Division," or "Walker's Greyhounds," in tribute to its special capability to make long, forced marches from one threatened point to another in the Trans-Mississippi Department. Initially, the division was mad up of four brigades. The Fourth Brigade, under the command of Col. James Deshler, was detached from the division shortly after its organization and sent to Arkansas Post. Deshler was captured there, then exchanged and promoted to brigadier general in July 1863. He was killed during the battle of Chickamauga later that year.

**January 11, 1863:** Confederate Navy sinks U.S. Ship. On this date, in 1863, the USS *Hatteras* was sunk by the *CSS Alabama*. The *Hatteras*, a converted merchant ship formerly named the *St. Mary*, was commissioned in October 1861 and first saw duty in the South Atlantic. After assignment to the blockading squadron in the Gulf of Mexico, she was raiding along the Confederate coast when she was sunk by Confederate captain Raphael Semmes. She lies in 60 feet of water twenty miles south of Galveston. The federal government has been able to preserve the wreck for scientific and historical research.



# JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP TEXAS CIVIL WAR HISTORY IN JANUARY



From the Texas State Historical Association

January 14, 1865: Governor urges Texans to make sacrifices. On this day in 1865, during the final months of the Civil War, Governor Pendleton Murrah urged Texans to put aside personal ambitions and make sacrifices in defense of their liberty. Murrah, a native of either Alabama or South Carolina, had moved to Texas in 1850. After serving in the state legislature, Murrah was elected governor of Texas in 1963. As governor, he became involved in a series of controversies over control of the state's manpower and economy with Gen. John B. Magruder, the Confederate military commander of the Texas district, and his superior, Gen. Edmund Kirby Smith, commander of the Trans-Mississippi Department. In spite of these quarrels, Murrah supported Kirby Smith in his determination to carry on the war in the face of military reversals. Even after Lee's surrender, Murrah continued to urge resistance. When it was obvious that Union forces would occupy the state, he vacated his office, leaving Lieutenant Governor Fletcher Stockdale in charge, and joined other Confederate leaders fleeing to Mexico. The long trip was too much for Murrah, who suffered from tuberculosis. He was confined to bed upon reaching Monterrey and died on August 4, 1865.

January 15, 1867: Confederate veterans create orphanage. On this day in 1867, Bayland Orphans' Home for Boys, a county home for dependent and delinquent boys, was organized in Houston by Texas Confederate veterans. The institution was first located at Bayland on the west side of Galveston Bay near Morgan's Point. The nonsectarian home, planned to care for and educate up to 250 orphans of deceased Confederate soldiers, opened in August 1867. Henry F. Gillette was superintendent from 1867 to 1882, and Col. Ashbel Smith served as staff doctor. In 1887, when Houston-Galveston packet travel ceased and Bayland became inaccessible, a decision was made to move the home to Houston. Mrs. Kezia Payne DePelchin, later connected with the DePelchin Faith Home, was elected matron in 1888. The institution moved a number of times around the Harris County area over the years, with its final location near Webster. The orphanage ceased to function strictly as the Bayland Orphans' Home after World War II. Boys attended public school at Webster, and efforts were made to place children in foster homes.

January 23, 1863: Confederates hang former Texas senator as traitor. On this day, Confederate soldiers hanged Martin Hart in Fort Smith, Arkansas. This attorney from Hunt County had served in the Texas legislature, where he spoke out against secession. After secession, he resigned his government post and organized the Greenville Guards, pledging the company's services "in defense of Texas" against invasion. Under color of a Confederate commission, however, he spied against the Confederacy. In Arkansas he led a series of rear-guard actions against Confederate forces, and is alleged to have murdered at least two prominent secessionists. He was captured on January 18, 1863, by Confederate forces.

**January 29th, 1861: Texas votes to secede.** On this day, the Secession Convention of the state of Texas voted overwhelmingly to secede from the United States. South Carolina had seceded in December 1860. The election of Republican Abraham Lincoln precipitated the fall of the Southern dominoes. Fearful of Northern encroachment on traditional freedoms, and acutely aware of the South's economic dependence upon slavery, the Southern states voted one by one to withdraw from the union. A Texas referendum to settle the legality of the move was held on February 23, 1861. The results for the state as a whole were 46,153 for secession and 14,747 against. The stage was set for Texans to fight and lose a bloody civil war.

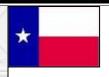
January 30th, 1862: United States consul arrives in Matamoros. On this day, Maine native Leonard Pierce arrived in Matamoros, Mexico, to take up his post as United States consul. As the Civil War raged to the north, Matamoros became a center of Confederate commerce. Texans shipped cotton from the unblockaded port, while Unionist refugees fleeing Texas collected in the town. Pierce's principal responsibilities were the care of refugees from Confederate territory & the military enlistment of Union sympathizers. During his service he relocated about 700 refugees and sent about 300 men to enlist in the Union army. These men served in the First and Second Texas cavalry regiments, which were eventually merged into the First Texas Volunteer Cavalry. After the war Pierce settled in Brownsville, Texas, where he died in 1872.



## JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP CIVIL WAR CALENDAR JANUARY



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					1, 1863 Temps fall below zero as far south as Memphis, Tn	2, 1863 Battle of stones River resumes with horrific carnage near Murfreesboro, Tn
3, 1864 In two-plus years of war, prices have soared to 28 times higher in the Confederacy	4, 1864 President Davis authorizes Lee to commandeer food stores in Virginia to feed army.	5, 1861 U.S. merchant ship Star of the West leaves New York with supplies for Fort Sumter.	6, 1865 The 13th Amendment abolishing slavery fails to pass 38th Congress.	7, 1863 Confederates speed up efforts to build naval vessels in Europe.	8, 1821 CSA Gen. James Longstreet is born	9, 1861 Mississippi's legislature votes 84-15 to secede.
10, 1864 U.S. Gov floods Confederacy with fake currency to cripple its economy	11, 1862 Simon Cameron, a corrupt Pennsylvania Politician, resigns from Lincoln's cabinet	12, 1865 Pres Davis sends a letter to Pres Lincoln hoping to negotiate a peace	13	14	15, 1865 Union forces assault Fort Fisher along outer banks of North Carolina. Lee Jackson Day	16, 1864 Europe is on the brink of war as Prussia threatens Denmark's monarch.
17, 1862 U.S. Gen. Smith leads expedition down the Tennessee River to capture Fort Henry.	18, 1864 Conf. Gov extends conscription to include 17 yr olds	19, 1807 CSA Gen. Robert E. Lee is born.	20, 1862 Demoralized Confederates retreat south after losing at Mills Springs, Ky	21, 1824 CSA Gen. Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson is born.	22, 1864 Disgraced U.S. Gen. Rosecrans is appointed to command of Missouri Dept.	23, 1863 Famous "Mud March": ends in total failure for Union forces in Virginia.
24,1862 U.S. Gen. Halleck declares martial law in St. Louis.	25, 1863 U.S. Gen. Burnside is fired by Lincoln because of Fredericksburg debacle.	26, 1861 Louisiana votes 113-117 to secede from Union.	27, 1862 President Lincoln issues War Order #1 ordering all forces to advance.	28, 1825 CSA Ge. George Pickett is born	29, 1861 Kansas is admitted to the Union as the 34th state.	30, 1861 President Elect Lincoln visits stepmother Sarah Bush before leaving for Washington.
31, 1865 Gen. Robert E. Lee is appointed General in Chief of all Confederate Armies.						



# A MINORITY VIEW WHY THE CIVIL WAR?

BY WALTER E. WILLIAMS RELEASED NOVEMBER 1998



The problems that led to the Civil War are the same problems today - big intrusive government. The reason why we don't face the specter of another Civil War is because today's Americans don't have yesteryear's spirit of liberty and constitutional respect and political statesmanship is in short supply.

Actually, the war of 1861 was not a civil war. A civil war is a conflict between two or more factions trying to take over a government. In 1861, Confederate President Jefferson Davis was no more interested in taking over Washington than George Washington was interested in taking over England in 1776. Like Washington, Davis was seeking independence. Therefore, the war of 1861



should be called "The War Between The States" or the "War for Southern Independence." The more bitter southerner might call it the "War of Northern Aggression."

History books have misled today's Americans to believe the war was fought to free slaves. Statements from the times suggests otherwise. In President Lincoln's first inaugural address, he said, "I have no purpose, directly or indirectly, to interfere with the institution of slavery in the States where it exists. I believe I have no lawful right to do so." During the war, in an 1862 letter to the <a href="New York Daily Tribune">New York Daily Tribune</a> editor Horace Greeley, Lincoln said, "My paramount object in this struggle is to save the Union, and it is not either to save or destroy slavery." A recent article by Baltimore's Loyola College Professor Thomas DiLorenzo titled "The Great Centralizer," in <a href="The Independent Review">The Independent Review</a> (Fall 1998), cites quotation after quotation of similar northern sentiment about slavery.

Lincoln's intentions, as well as that of many northern politicians, were summarized by Stephen Douglas during the presidential debates. Douglas accused Lincoln of wanting to "impose on the nation a uniformity of local laws and institutions and a moral homogeneity dictated by the central government" which "place at defiance the intentions of the republic's founders." Douglas was right and Lincoln's vision for our nation has now been accomplished beyond anything he could have possibly dreamed.

A precursor for a War Between the States came in 1832 when South Carolina called a convention to nullify tariff acts of 1828 and 1832, referred to as the "Tariffs of Abominations." A compromise lowering the tariff was reached averting secession and possibly war. The North favored protective tariffs for their manufacturing industry. The South, who exported agricultural products to and imported manufactured goods from Europe, favored free trade and was hurt by the tariffs. Plus, a northern-dominated Congress enacted laws similar to Britain's Navigation Acts to protect northern shipping interests.

Shortly after Lincoln's election, Congress passed the highly protectionist Morrill tariffs. That's when the South seceded setting up a new government. Their constitution was nearly identical to the U.S. Constitution except that it outlawed protectionist tariffs, business handouts, and mandated a two-thirds majority vote for all spending measures. The only good coming from the War Between The States was the abolition of slavery. The great principle enunciated in the Declaration of Independence that "Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed" was overturned by force of arms. By destroying the states' right to secession, Abraham Lincoln opened the door to the kind of unconstrained, despotic, arrogant government we have today, something the Framers of the Constitution could not have possibly imagined.

States should again challenge Washington's unconstitutional acts through nullification. But you tell me where we can find leaders with the love, courage and respect for our Constitution like Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, or John C. Calhoun.

Walter E. Williams November 18, 1998

Walter E. Williams is a professor of economics at George Mason University. To find out more about Walter E. Williams, go online to http://econfaculty.gmu.edu/wew



# TEXAS DIVISION CHAPLAIN'S ARTICLE A MESSAGE FROM REV. DON MAJORS



"Remove not the ancient landmarks, which thy fathers have set." - Proverbs 22:28

Sunday, January 3, 2016, I took Proverbs 22:28 "Remove not the ancient landmarks, which thy fathers have set" as my text.

As we enter into the new year (2016), I believe this passage should carry us throughout the year.

What inspired me to take Proverbs 22:28 as my passage for my sermon is a picture that hangs on the wall in my study. It is a picture of my Mom's Great-Grandfather, John Ellis Mooring, M.D., C.S.A. One picture shows him young in uniform holding his saber, and the other picture is later in life with white hair and white beard. I love these keepsakes.



One day I was visiting my 92-year-old second cousin, Ella Mae (Mooring) in her home at Point, Texas. As I was preparing to leave, she tells me to follow her to her bedroom. She lays out several priceless family items on the bed. She told me, "Don, I want you to have a couple of things." So, she hands me these pictures, and then with her tiny quivering hand she hands me one of my Great-Great Grandfather's items. It was his pocket fob (watch). One side had his initials, and the other side had his lodge number. What caught my eye was a very faded blue-checkered ribbon that was tied through the hole in the pocket fob. Ella Mae told me that she figured that pocket fob and old ribbon had to be from way back in the 1860's. She said it was the original ribbon on the pocket fob. She said it had never been removed. I have it behind glass.

As I looked at that ancient blue-checkered ribbon, I thought of a story....

Once upon a time, there was a boy who played about the house, running by his mother's side; and as he was very little, his mother tied him to the string of her apron so that when he stumbled he could pull himself up by the apron string and not fall. The boy did that and all went well, the mother singing at her work. By and by the boy grew so tall that his head came above the window sill. He saw the green fields, the rivers, and the mountains. "Oh, Mother, he cried, "Untie the apron strings and let me go!" "Not yet, child. Wait until you are stronger." So the boy waited, and the mother sang. But one day in the spring, the boy found the door of the house open. as he stood on the threshold and looked out, he started forward, and the string broke. "Oh, how weak my mother's apron string is!" as he ran out into the world with the piece of broken string hanging beside him. The mother gathered up the other end of the string and put it to her bosom and went about her work as usual, but she sang no more.



### TEXAS DIVISION CHAPLAIN'S ARTICLE A MESSAGE FROM REV. DON MAJORS PG 2



By and by the boy came to the brink of a precipice over which the river dashed a huge cataract, foaming and splashing and sending up clouds of spray. The spray filled his eyes so that he could not see his footing clearly. He grew dizzy, stumbled and fell. But as he fell, something about him caught on the point of the rock at the precipice edge and held him so that he hung dangling over the abyss. He put up his hand to see what held him. It was the apron string! He drew himself up by it and stood firm on his feet. He then tenderly said, "Oh, how strong my mother's apron string is!"

It was his mother's apron string that held him to that rock.

It is the faith and foundations given to me by my God-fearing parents that have held me to that "Rock." I know that that old tattered and worn blue-checkered piece of cloth that is tied to Grandpa's pocket fob is tied to me.

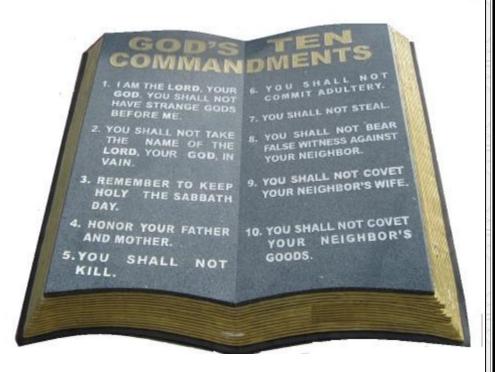
We are tied to those "Ancient Landmarks" that have held us through the years. For me, those "Ancient Landmarks" are my Judeo-Christian faith, the Ten Commandments, the Word of God, and my faith in my Savior Jesus Christ. There are also god-fearing principles that have held us and kept us from falling. Our ancestors "apron strings" have held us, and they will continue to hold us.

As I look at that worn and tattered piece of blue thread behind that glass with my Grandpa Mooring's picture, I realize that for life, I will ever be tied to his apron string.

"Remove not those ancient landmarks."

Southern Blessings,

Reverend Don Majors, Chaplain Texas Division Sons of Confederate Veterans





### 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

JACOB L. SHERIDAN	JOHN H. SHERIDAN	COL. A.T. RAINEY
CAPT CO I IST REGT	PYT. CO I IST REGI	CO. H 1 TEX. INF.
TEXAS INFANTRY	TEXAS INFANTRY	HOOD'S TEX. BRIG
L E SHERIDAN	PVT WM. N SHERIDAN	STEPHEN O. RAINEY
PVT CO I IST REGI	CO C 6 BATTALION	CAPTAIN
TEXAS INFANTRY	TEXAS CALVARY	IST BATT. TEX CAV

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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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 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)