



David's Dispatch

1st Lt. David Richard Reynolds Camp #2270
Sons of Confederate Veterans
Mount Pleasant, Texas



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WINNER OF THE TEXAS DIVISION BEST NEWSLETTER AWARD, 2017, 2018 & 2020

WINNER OF THE SCV NATIONAL BEST NEWSLETTER AWARD, 2016, 2017 & 2018

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We are going to resume holding our monthly meeting in our actual meeting room this month. We will of course, eat in the large room and then retire to our room for our actual meeting. The weather should be cool enough that the air conditioner in the smaller room should be enough to keep it cool.

UPCOMING EVENTS

NEXT

Monday, September 21st, 7:00 p.m.
Refreshments at 6:30 p.m.
Old Union Community Center
Hwy 67E, Mount Pleasant, Texas

2021 Texas Division Reunion

May 28 – 30, 2021
Lee Lockwood Library and Museum
2801 West Waco Drive
Waco, Texas

2021 National Reunion

July 21-24, 2021
Copeland Tower & Conference Center
2601 Severn Avenue
Metairie, Louisiana 70002

COMMANDER'S CORNER

by Larry "Joe" Reynolds



We are at that time of the year when we need to renew our annual dues. I'm sorry to say that it appears that we have lost 8 members this year due to nonpayment of dues. This newsletter is going to be sent to each of these members as their last issue. If any of you would like to renew your membership, please get with me so that we can get your dues paid. We can work something out if you want to remain a member.

Hopefully in the upcoming days we can resume our Memorial Graveside Dedications. I know of at least three that had to be postponed due to this Pandemic that we are experiencing. I truly hope to all of you will consider attending these dedications, once they are announced.

DAVIDRREYNOLDS.ORG

This month the following changes have been made to our web site: <http://www.davidrreynolds.org>

- I've updated our Calendar of Events.
- I've updated our Events page to include all known events by the Camp and its members.

Please let me know when you do anything for the SCV, this includes attending other camp meeting, public speaking, or even putting flags on graves.

I'm still looking for biographies of your Confederate Ancestor. Please try to come up with a short bio that we can put on-line.

If you have any suggestions, recommendations or comments you can send me an email to: Joe.Reynolds@davidrreynolds.org and I promise to give it my full consideration.



OUR CHARGE...

"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." Remember, it is your duty to see that the true history of the South is presented to future generations!

*Lt. General Stephen Dill Lee, Commander General,
United Confederate Veterans,
New Orleans, Louisiana April 25, 1906*



A BLAST FROM THE PAST

*(Taken from the September 1920 Edition of the
Confederate Veteran - 100 Years Ago)*

HARD SERVICE WITH ROSS'S BRIGADE.

BY W. A. CALLAWAY, ATLANTA, GA.

It is getting late in the day for us old Confederates to be writing about the incidents of the War between the States, which started nearly sixty years ago; but the two intervening wars have not obliterated or dimmed our memory of the experiences of the few of us who are left, and, as Bill Arp used to say, we love to "ruminate" about those days of the sixties when we were fighting for what we believed then, and still believe, were the rights guaranteed to us by the Constitution of our fathers. Our ranks are very thin, but we have outlived the time allotted to us by the builders of the Soldiers' Home in Atlanta, who when they built it took a lease on the ground to expire in 1921. There are one hundred of the boys still occupying the Home, and the present legislature has renewed the lease for another ten years, thus setting a new time limit for the old Confederates. This will doubtless tell the tale, and after that we will only be a memory—a blessed memory—to our descendants who love the South and the cause for which so many suffered and died.

I started this article to tell about an expedition of Ross's Texas Brigade of Cavalry, with two pieces of Young's Battery, of Columbus, Ga., which was attached to that brigade. We were doing service in Mississippi at the time of which I write, and in January, 1864, we were ordered to take a wagon train with five thousand muskets and put them over to the Trans-Mississippi Department, as they were short of arms, at a point near Greenville. It was said that this was the coldest and wettest month ever recorded in that country — raining, sleeting, or snowing for several weeks. In order to get to the river we had to pass some forty or fifty miles through the Mississippi swamp, and, being perfectly level, water and ice averaged about knee-deep to the horses, with numerous bayous to cross, which were almost of swimming depth. There were also two small rivers in the route, the Sunflower and Bogue Folio, which were both out of their banks.

Of course, it was not possible to get the wagons far into this marsh before they had to be abandoned, stuck in the mud, but by prizing and pushing we managed to get one piece of the artillery through. It

seemed for a while that the expedition would have to be abandoned, but General Ross was not made of that kind of stuff, so he ordered each cavalryman to take six guns across his horse ; and as our brigade numbered around seven hundred or eight hundred men, this would take the five thousand muskets. We could make only a few miles each day, so we were in this predicament for about a week—every man as wet as water could make him. On arriving at the two rivers we found only one flat boat at each, so we put our one piece of artillery and such baggage as we had on these boats, while horses and many of the men swam ashore. It was a great sight to see horses following one another across the stream. In taking the boat across it was only necessary to lead one horse behind the boat, then all the other horses followed directly in line with him. The men who swam were either holding to the horses' necks or to their tails. It is a mystery why all did not freeze; but huge log fires were started as quickly as possible, and this partially dried their clothing. We did lots of hard service, but this surpassed anything I ever experienced.

Finally arriving at the Father of Waters, which was guarded by Yankee gunboats, we went into camp not far from the banks, and, hidden from view by thick undergrowth of cane and trees, we searched the banks of the river for a mile or two and found a few small boats. In these we put the guns across the river at night, taking three nights to finish the job. The river was nearly a mile wide, and the biting wind froze the hands and feet of many of our men who did the work. I failed to get to the river myself, being stuck in the mud with my piece of artillery several miles away, only one piece getting through. We started with two pieces.

Just as the command was ready to start back on the morning after getting all the guns across a gunboat was seen coming slowly down the river on the opposite side, and it was so tempting that General Ross ordered the artillery to open fire with solid shot. After the third round the vessel, being only of wood, began to sink, and our men retraced their steps and were not afraid of being followed through the dense

swamps. The piece of artillery which did the work above narrated was the same gun which later on saved the day for General Forrest in the battle of Murfreesboro in December, 1864, when by a sudden flank movement the Yankees charged our left wing and completely stampeded the command. I will state, however, that the troops which gave way under this charge were not of General Forrest's regular command but had been sent to him as reinforcements. This stampede on our left was about to cause the command to be cut in two and many of us captured; but General Forrest, ever equal to emergencies, rode up and down the line, wildly ordering his men to rally, "For God's sake, men, rally !" at the same time ordering our piece of artillery to "halt and give 'em double charges of grape and canister," which we did at the crucial moment and with the deadly aim of our gunner, John Latimer, the coolest man I ever saw in battle. We struck their vulnerable point, causing a slow-up in their charge and aiding Forrest to rally his men. The situation was soon reversed, and in a few moments our men counter-charged, driving the enemy completely from the field and into their breastworks.

In this *mcec* Forrest attempted to halt a color bearer who ' was "beating it" to the rear. I was within a few feet of him and plainly heard the third command from General Forrest to "halt with those colors." to which no attention was paid, and then I saw the shot from Forrest's pistol which broke the arm of the fleeing man. The colors were handed to General Forrest, who was on his horse, and he galloped up and down the line, waving them frantically, with the beseeching appeal to his men to rally. This they soon heeded, as the artillery was getting in deadly work. The cannoneers who manned this gun were all from Lagrange, Ga. They were J. M. Latimer, J. P. Thornton, Horace Pease. George Latimer, James Screven, and the writer. Captain Young was also present, urging the boys to "shoot to kill." Strange not a man of my company was hit; but since then these comrades have "crossed over," and "I, only I am left." and my seventy-fifth birthday will have passed ere this is published.

The above occurred while Hood's army was at Nashville, I after the slaughter at Franklin. History records the repulse I at Nashville and the falling back out of Tennessee across the river. My brigade, Ross's Cavalry, was Hood's advance guard going into Tennessee and the rear guard coming out, SC we were fighting more or less for about forty-five days.

In some way Dr. John A. Wyeth, when writing his "Life I of Forrest," learned that I was an eyewitness to the shooting of the color bearer, and he asked me for a detailed account of the incident, which I furnished, and he published it in his book.

SALUTING THE FLAG:

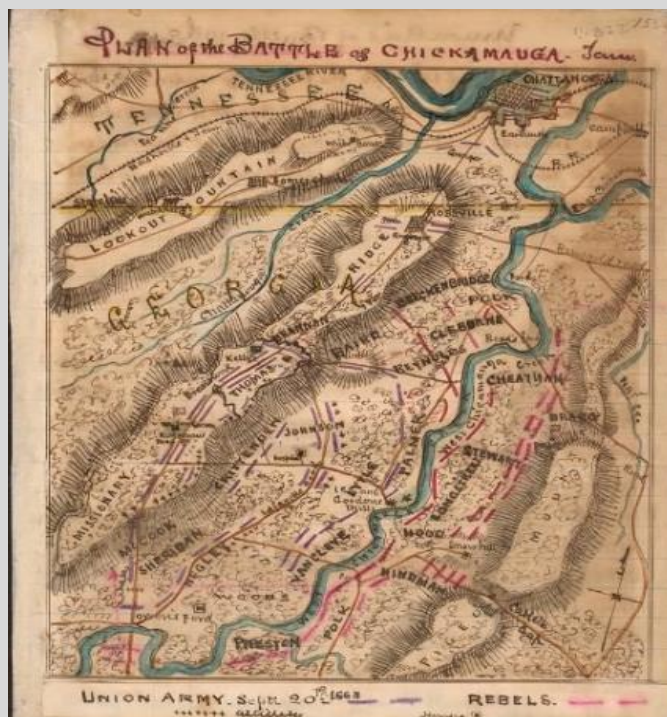


A provision of the 2009 Defense Authorization Act changed federal law to allow U.S. Veterans and military personnel not in uniform to render the military hand-salute when the national anthem is played. This change adds to a provision which was passed in the 2008 Defense Bill and signed by President George W. Bush, 43rd President of the United States, which authorized veterans and military personnel in civilian clothes to render the military salute during the raising, lowering or passing of the flag. All Active Duty Military should comply with the directives of the Commanding Officer for their Branch of Military Service. The US Flag Code directs all attending civilians to stand if possible and place right hand over their heart, all

non-citizens will stand and remain still and quiet.

The Battle of Chickamauga September 18-20, 1863

On September 18-20, 1863, Union and Confederate forces engaged in the Battle of Chickamauga, a bloody Civil War battle fought near the Chickamauga Creek in Georgia. The battle ended in a victory for Confederate forces and resulted in 34,000 casualties. It marked the end of a Union offensive in southeastern Tennessee and northwestern Georgia known as the Chickamauga Campaign. It is widely considered to be the second deadliest battle of the Civil War, following the Battle of Gettysburg.



In the summer of 1863, Maj. Gen. William Rosecrans led his Union Army of the Cumberland from Murfreesboro, Tennessee, towards Chattanooga, 140 miles to the south. Chattanooga was an important rail junction for the South. The goal was to use the Federal army of about 60,000 to surround the city and cut off escape for Gen. Braxton Bragg and his Army of Tennessee numbering about 40,000.

As the Union Army approached Chattanooga in early September, Bragg and his army abandoned the city and retreated to Chickamauga Creek, just 12 miles away. There they awaited reinforcements. More than 30,000 Confederate troops poured in, boosting morale. Now on the offensive, the Confederates set out on the morning of September 18, 1863, to cross two bridges on the Chickamauga Creek. They encountered Union infantry and cavalymen armed with Spencer repeating rifles blocking the way. Skirmishes ensued but Bragg's army eventually made it across the creek.

As evening approached, the Confederates encountered Union troops north of Lee and Gordon's Mills. Rosecrans huddled with George Thomas, a Union general, to strategize and hold open a path of retreat back to Chattanooga for Union forces. Thomas gathered troops and marched through the night to extend Union lines northward and guarantee safe passage. After marching all night, the weary and thirsty soldiers stopped to prepare breakfast near a farm owned by Elijah Kelly. Thomas soon learned that an isolated enemy force was nearby in the woods. He sent a division of his men eastward to contend with them. Fighting broke out in earnest and intensified as it spread across an area covering four miles.



The battle raged throughout September 19th. Confederate forces pounded away at the Union line but were not able to break it, leaving both sides exhausted. As night fell, temperatures dropped, and soldiers endured a night of freezing temperatures. The dead and wounded littered the fields including Merritt J. Simonds of the 42nd Illinois, Company K.

He lay wounded on the battlefield for nearly a week before being attended to. On October 8th, he wrote his father a letter saying he had been severely wounded but was optimistic for recovery. He wrote a second letter on October 27th saying, "My leg is now mortifying above the knee and doctors say I cannot live more than two days at the longest. You must not take this to heart but look to a higher source for God's comfort, for it is God's will and I feel resigned to my fate...I would like to have my body taken home and buried beside my mother." Simonds died shortly after and his remains lie in Chattanooga National Cemetery.

The morning of September 20th, Bragg planned a dawn attack against Union forces but a breakdown in communication delayed the first engagement until 9:30 a.m. This allowed Federal soldiers time to organize and set up a defense. In the late morning, incorrect information was transmitted to Rosecrans stating that a gap had developed in the Union line. While attempting to shore up the gap, he inadvertently moved units and created an actual gap. Confederates quickly exploited the weakness and surged through and pushed 1/3 of the Union army, including Rosecrans, off the field. Union soldiers began to retreat. Some of them, however, created a defensive line on Horseshoe Ridge near the farm of George Snodgrass. They held the ridge until evening allowing more Union soldiers to retreat, but the Confederates earned the victory.



LAST CAMP MEETING

We had one of our best meetings ever in August, it could have been because it was our first meeting in 6 months and it would have been that we had everything from swearing in a new member, presenting awards, to having a Memorial Service for our departed Compatriot Tim Fletcher.

We want to welcome our latest member, Compatriot Dennis Mack Beckham! Dennis joins the SCV under

his Great Grandfather Private John Shelton Watts who served with Company I, Chisum's Regiment, Texas Cavalry, 2nd Partisan Rangers, Stone's Regiment. Dennis lives in Atlanta with his wife, Stacey Lynette.

After we welcomed Compatriot Beckham, we presented awards from the Camp, Division, and National. The following individual awards were presented:

- Dennis BeckhamConfederate Purple Hearts
- O.M. Adams..... 5 Year Service Award
- Rodney Love..... Guardian Certificate
- Dave Davey..... Silver Cross
- Kid Tillery.....Gold Cross
- Rodney Love..... SCV Commendation Medal
- Rex McGeeSCV Leadership Award
- Joe ReynoldsSuperior Achievement

We still have five (5) awards left over that we will present at our next meeting.

The 1st Lt. David Richard Reynolds Camp #2270 also won the following Texas Division award this year:

- Best Newsletter Award, 2nd Place
- Best Website Award, 1st Place
- 100% Camp Retention Award
- Four Star Camp Award
- Superior Camp of the Texas Division

Although, due to COVID-19, we were not able to get the entire Northeast Texas 5th Brigade Memorial Service Unit, we did complete a modified Memorial Service for Compatriot Timothy Ray Fletcher, who crossed the river to rest under the big oak tree on May 9th, 2020. The Resolution of Death was presented to his Brother, Compatriot Hal Fletcher and Niece Sharell Jackson.

I look forward to seeing all of you at our next meeting on September 21st.

BATTLES FOUGHT DURING THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER



Battle of Chantilly - Chantilly Virginia

1 September 1862 - General Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson verses Generals Stevens and Kearny. Casualties: 800 Confederate, 1300 Union!

Battle of Cheat Mountain - Cheat Mountain Western Virginia

10-15 September 1861 - General Robert E. Lee verses General Joseph J. Reynolds. Casualties: 120 Confederate, 81 Union!

Harper's Ferry Western Virginia - Harper's Ferry Western Virginia

12-15 September 1862 - General Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson verses D.S. Miles. Casualties: 500 Confederate, 11,783 Union!

Battle of South Mountain - South Mountain South Carolina

14 September 1862 - General Robert E. Lee verses General George B. McClellan. Casualties: 2685 Confederate, 1813 Union!

Battle of Turner's Gap and Crampton's Gap - Turner's Gap and Crampton's Gap Maryland

14 September 1862 - General Robert E. Lee verses - 19Generals Burnside and Franklin. Casualties: 4343 Confederate, 2325 Union!

Battle of Munfordville - Munfordville Kentucky



14-17 September 1862 - General Braxton Bragg verses General J.T. Wilder. Casualties: 288 Confederate, 4133 Union!

Battle of Luka - Luka Mississippi

19 September 1862 - General Sterling Price verses General William S. Rosecrans. Casualties: 1516 Confederate, 782 Union!

Battle of Chickamauga - Chickamauga Georgia

19-21 September 1863 - General Braxton Bragg verses Generals Thomas and Rosecrans. Casualties: 18,454 Confederate, 16,170 Union!

Third Battle of Winchester or Opequon - Winchester Virginia

19 September 1864 - General Jubal A. Early verses General Philip H. Sheridan. Casualties: 3921 Confederate, 5018 Union!

Battle Fisher Hill - Fisher Hill Virginia

22 September 1864 - General Jubal A. Early verses General Philip H. Sheridan. Casualties: 1235 Confederate, 528 Union!

Battle of Athens - Athens Georgia

23-24 September 1864 - General Nathan B. Forrest verses General George H. Thomas. Casualties: 30 Confederate, 950 Union!

Battle of Poplar Springs or Peeble's Farm - Poplar Springs Virginia

30 September 1864 - General Robert E. Lee verses General Ulysses S. Grant. Casualties: 900 Confederate, 2889 Union!

selling them to slave traders in the African harbors. None of these slave traders were American ships. People of color selling other people of color who eventually ended up in the American colonies. White skinned people from Ireland and Oriental people were also sold as slaves.

Today, Southern history and the symbols of the Southern States are being destroyed and banned by ignorance. They accuse it as not history and heritage, but signs of hate. The South is blamed as the origin of the slave trade and negative treatment of other human beings of color. The Confederate Flag is being accused of being a symbol of hate, and it is being banned from public display. The memorial statues of Confederate Soldiers are being destroyed and removed and the graves of Confederate Soldiers are being desecrated.

Ignorance is a very scary thing. Here are some true facts that anyone with an eighth-grade education could simply research.

The first African slaves arrived in the American Colonies in 1619. Therefore, in 246 years of slavery in America, the Confederate flag only flew for 4 of those years, the rest were under the US and the British flag... Think about that when you want to start banning flags. In 1776 there were twice as many slaves in New York as in Georgia.

The Civil War was never about slavery. President Lincoln said this on several occasions himself. Lincoln said the war was the result of taxes. YES MONEY. The tax he was talking about was on cotton. Lincoln wanted to raise tax on export cotton by forty percent. The cotton producing states felt the government was going way to far on taxation, so they decided to leave the union. Lincoln wasn't going to allow the secession of the South. The Emancipation Proclamation was a presidential proclamation and executive order issued by United States President Abraham Lincoln on January 1, 1863. It changed the federal legal status of more than 3.5 million enslaved African Americans in the designated areas of the South from slave to free. Fact show that slaves were not free in the north for four years after the south

WHAT WE ALL KNOW

By Jack Gish

The slave trade began in Africa, with warring African tribes capturing other tribal people and

under you guessed it the American flag. Please read a little bit of history, before disrespecting the history and heritage of the south. Southern states, who respect their heritage are really getting pissed off again.



CONFEDERATE STATUE TO REMAIN AT GREGG COUNTY COURTHOUSE

news-journal.com Aug 17, 2020



The Confederate monument will remain on Gregg County Courthouse lawn. After about an hour of public comments during this morning's special-called Gregg County Commissioners Court meeting, Pct. 4 Commissioner Shannon Brown — the court's lone black commissioner — made a motion that the monument be removed from the courthouse grounds. Gregg County Judge Bill Stoudt asked for a second. He was met with silence. Stoudt again asked if there

was a second, and none of the other commissioners spoke. Stoudt said at that point without a second, the motion failed. "I feel like the lack of a second answered the question with regard to the court," Pct. 3 Commissioner Gary Boyd said. Following the meeting a group of men gathered on the lawn, not far from the monument, carrying an unfurled Confederate flag.



As members of descendants of the Confederate States Army, we will be celebrating Confederate Memorial Day. Even amidst Twenty-First Century political correctness, Confederate Memorial Day is still a holiday in Alabama, Mississippi and Texas.

In his famous "I Have a Dream" speech, Dr. Martin Luther King declared for a dream "when men shall be judged, not by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character." During the commemoration of Confederate Memorial Day, I pray that you consider the character of our leader, the man who represented our Cause to the world, President Jefferson Finis Davis.

Jefferson Davis was raised in a Christian home. His father was Samuel Davis, a veteran of the Revolutionary War and a staunch Baptist. Late in life, Jefferson Davis donated the property for Bethel Baptist in Fairview, Ky— the church of Samuel Davis. Speaking at the dedication, President Davis declared that while he was not a Baptist, his father was a Baptist and a better man than he.

When President Davis lived in Richmond, he had intense conversations with Dr. Charles Minnigerode, Pastor Emeritus of St Paul's Church in Richmond. In discussing the War, President Davis said to his Pastor

“If our enemies do or should do wrong, that is no reason or excuse that we should do so, too.”

Minnigerode further testified of Davis’ faith “He spoke very earnestly and humbly of needing the cleansing blood of Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit; but in consciousness of his insufficiency felt some doubt whether he had the right to come.” In later conversation, the Pastor stated “I loved that lowly, patient, Godfearing soul. It was in these private interviews that I learned to appreciate his noble Christian character; ‘pure in heart’, unselfish, without guile, and loyal unto death to his conscience and convictions.” When the Northern radicals sought to spew hatred upon the South, the representative who took the brunt of the vileness was President Jefferson Davis. Let the critics pour out their venom, but may we stand forth honoring the leader of our Cause who knew Christ for the forgiveness of sins and stood unashamedly for the Southland and her principles.

*Dr. John H. Killian, Sr.
MOS&B Chaplain General*

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES & OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

September 8th – Bill Guy

September 9th – Shawn Tully

“Our poor country has fallen a prey to the conqueror. The noblest cause ever defended by the sword is lost. The noble dead that sleep in their shallow though honored graves are far more fortunate than their survivors. I thought I had sounded the profoundest depth of human feeling, but this is the bitterest hour of my life.”

*Colonel John Singleton Mosby
The Gray Ghost*

MONUMENT TO REMAIN AT HARRISON COUNTY COURTHOUSE

Marshall News Messenger August 19, 2020

The Confederate monument in downtown Marshall will remain on the grounds of the historical Harrison County Courthouse. Harrison County commissioners this morning took no action on the possible relocation of the monument after Pct. 2 Commissioner Zephaniah Timmins made and then rescinded a motion to approve action that would have set the county on course to get approval from the Texas Historical Commission to relocate the statue. Timmins stated after the meeting that he withdrew his motion so it would not fail and could be considered in the future.



*Confederate Monument standing guard in front of
the Harrison County Courthouse.*

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Opinions expressed by individual writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect official positions of the 1st Lt. David Richard Reynolds Camp #2270. Letters and articles may be submitted to: Joe.Reynolds@davidrreynolds.org (Cutoff for articles is 20th of the month)