



David's Dispatch

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



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UPCOMING EVENTS

NEXT MEETING

Monday, December 16th, 7:00 p.m.
Refreshments at 6:30 p.m.
Old Union Community Center
Hwy 67E, Mount Pleasant, Texas

Christmas Parade

December 7th – 5:00 p.m.
Gilmer, Texas

Line up on Titus St. behind Gilmer National Bank.
Trailer will be provided for those that can't march.



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.

COMMANDER'S CORNER

by Larry "Joe" Reynolds



At this time of year, I would like to go ahead and wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. May you find Peace and Happiness by sharing the blessings of this Holiday Season with family and friends.

Let us also remember our ancestors that may have been absent from their love ones during this same time years ago during the war of Northern Aggression. Think about the hardships that they suffered, and also the hardships their families suffered having them gone. They and their families were true Heroes!



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 December 1919 Edition of the
Confederate Veteran - 100 Years Ago)*

THE DIXIE COWORKERS

BY ELIZABETH DENTY ABERNETHY, PULASKI, TENN.

For the benefit of the uninitiated let me say that the Dixie Coworkers are an unorganized band of Southern community builders who, loyal to truth and homeland, one in spirit and in purpose, work together while they work apart, each serving his own community. This is our creed:

"We believe in the reconstruction of the South by the South, because we know that development by self-activity is the law of life and growth.

"We believe that love is a constructive force of infinite possibilities, the power that makes and moves worlds, the power that can reconstruct a world that has been wrecked.

"We believe that the future of the South and the safety of the nation depend upon America's ability to create and maintain a contented, intelligent, self-respecting, God-worshipping, law-abiding, home-loving citizenship in our rural districts.

"We believe that each civil district should be a miniature republic, with machinery for local self-government.

"We believe that the South is the nation's greatest asset, and that the greatest asset of our Dixie Land is what is called the spirit of the Old South.

"We believe that the spirit of the Old South is a spirit of moral and civic righteousness, a spirit of love and loyalty to one's own, a spirit of freedom, the spirit of democracy.

"We believe that true democracy is Christianity, and that, no institution that is not founded upon the rock of eternal truth and righteousness can stand the test of time.

"We believe that it is the duty and the privilege of loyal sons and daughters of the Old South to take the initiative in reconstruction work, to interpret Southern ideals and point out the sources of Southern weakness and Southern strength while we work with and for the youth of our land, the Southerners of the future.

"We believe that the Southern cause is and has always been the cause of Christian democracy and that Americanism in its essentials is a national expression of Southern ideals.

"We believe in our ability to build a greater nation through a greater South, and a greatest South through royalty to our standard and by the intelligent, sympathetic cooperation of district, county, State, and national forces.

"We believe that a new day has dawned for the South, for America, and for all the nations of the earth—the day of love and service—and we choose for our emblem of cooperative endeavor, in the spirit

of faith, hope, and love, a single star in a field of blue, our Savior's own sign.

"We believe that the need of the South of to-day is a getting together of home, school, and Church forces in every State, in every county, and in every district to work out community problems, and, in order that we may be unified in plans as well as in spirit and purpose, we believe we should establish and support a connectional organ.

"We believe that the South needs community songs expressing present-day purposes, songs that will fan into flame every spark of our smoldering patriotism, and until some member of our band puts into song our aims and ideals we will use what we have, believing that it is no desecration of a Confederate war song to adapt it to present needs. Are you with us?"



"I loved the old government in 1861. I loved the old Constitution yet. I think it is the best government in the world, if administered as it was before the war. I do not hate it; I am opposing now only the radical revolutionists who are trying to destroy it. I believe that party to be composed, as I know it is in Tennessee, of the worst men on Gods earth – men who would not hesitate at no crime, and who have only one object in view – to enrich themselves."

Nathan Bedford Forrest, in an interview shortly after the war



LAST CAMP MEETING

We held our Holiday Dinner at our last Camp Meeting on November 18, 2019. There was Turkey, Ham, Dressing and all the Holiday side dishes. We had a good turnout and it would seem that everyone enjoyed themselves.

Adjutant and Past Commander Rex McGee was awarded his Five (5) Year Service Certificate and

Judge Advocate Bill Guy was awarded the Vietnam Era Service Pin by Camp Commander Joe Reynolds.



Adjutant and Past Commander Rex McGee receives his Five (5) Year Service Certificate.



Judge Advocate Bill Guy receives his Vietnam Era Service Pin.



Civil War History is Mis-taught in order to support Identity Politics: It was never about Slavery

Here is a "civil war" lesson for the uneducated. In response to my short essay on [November 9](#), a reader sent me a link to secession documents that implicated slavery, not the tariff, as the reason for Southern secession.

It is typical for the uneducated to come across a document of which they have no understanding and to send it off with a rude “got you” note to one who does understand the document, writes Dr. Paul Craig Roberts on The Herland Report.

I have explained [the Southern](#) states [secession](#) from the union [in long essays](#). Also read [here](#) and [here](#).

Once again: When the Southern states seceded, they were concerned to do so legally or constitutionally under the Constitution so that the North could not legally claim that it was an act of rebellion and invade the Southern states. To make this case, the South needed to make a case that the North had broken the Constitutional contract and that the South was seceding because the North had not kept to the Constitution.

This presented a legal challenge for the South, because the reason for which the Southern states were seceding was the tariff, but the Constitution gave the federal government the right to levy a tariff. Therefore, the Southern states could not cite the tariff as a breach of the Constitutional fabric.

Slavery was the only issue that the South could use to make a legal case that it was not in rebellion.

Article 4 of the US Constitution reads: “No person held to service or labor in one State, under the laws thereof, escaping into another, shall, in consequence of any law or regulation therein, be discharged from such service or labor, but shall be delivered up, on claim of the party to whom such service or labor may be due.”

In defiance of Article 4, some Northern states had passed laws that nullified the Fugitive Slave Act and other laws that upheld this article of the Constitution. The South used these nullification laws to make its case that Northern states had broken the Constitutional contract, thus justifying the Southern states secession.

Lincoln understood that he had no authority under the Constitution to abolish slavery. In his 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, and I have no inclination to do so.”

Wells Warrior

The North had no intention of going to war over slavery. The same day that the Republican Congress passed the tariff, Congress passed the Corwin Amendment that added more constitutional protection to slavery.

Lincoln said that the South could have all the slavery that it wanted as long as the Southern states paid the tariff. The North would not go to war over slavery, but it would to collect the tariff. Lincoln said that “there needs to be no bloodshed or violence” over collecting the tariff, but that he will use the government’s power “to collect the duties and imposts.” The tariff was important to the North, because it financed Northern industrialization at the economic expense of the South.

During the decades prior to Southern Secession, the conflict between North and South was over the tariff, not over slavery. Slavery played a role only in the South’s effort to keep a balance in the voting power of “free states” and “slave states” in the attempt to prevent the passage of a tariff.

The South’s effort to exit the union legally and constitutionally was to no avail. Secession was declared a rebellion, and the South was invaded.

The mis portrayal of the War of Northern Aggression as Lincoln’s war to free slaves is also impossible to reconcile with Lincoln’s view of blacks. Here is “the Great Emancipator” in his own words:

“I have said that the separation of the races is the only perfect preventive of amalgamation [of the white and black races] . . . Such separation . . . must be affected by colonization” [sending blacks to Liberia or Central America]. (Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln vol. II, p. 409).

“Let us be brought to believe it is morally right, and . . . favorable to . . . our interest, to transfer the

African to his native clime.” (Collected Works, vol. II, p. 409).

“I am not nor ever have been in favor of bringing about in any way the social and political equality of the white and black races. I am not nor ever have been in favor of making voters or jurors of negroes, nor qualifying them to hold office, nor to intermarry with white people” (Collected Works, vol. III, pp. 145-146).

About the author: Dr. Paul Craig Roberts is the chairman of [The Institute for Political Economy](#), former associate editor of the Wall Street Journal, and a well-known author of many books. He is also a regular contributor to the Herland Report news site as well as [The Herland Report TV Show](#). He has had careers in scholarship and academia, journalism, public service, and business. He has been awarded the Treasury Department’s Meritorious Service Award for “his outstanding contributions to the formulation of United States economic policy.” [See Here](#).



BATTLES FOUGHT DURING THE MONTH OF DECEMBER



Battle of Prairie Grove - Prairie Arkansas

7 December 1862 - General Thomas C. Hindman verses General James G. Blunt. Casualties: 1317 Confederate, 1251 Union!

Battle of Fredericksburg - Fredericksburg Virginia

13 December 1862 - General Robert E. Lee verses General Ambrose E. Burnside. Casualties: 5309 Confederate, 12,653 Union!

Battle of Nashville - Nashville Tennessee

15-16 December 1864 - General John Bell Hood verses General George H. Thomas. Casualties: 5962 Confederate, 3061 Union!

Battle of Holly Springs - Holly Springs Mississippi

20 December 1862 - General Earl Van Dorn verses General Ulysses S. Grant. Casualties: {Unknown} Confederate, 1,000 Union!

Battle of Chickasaw Bluffs - Bayou Mississippi

28-29 December 1862 - General Joseph E. Johnston verses General William T. Sherman. Casualties: 207 Confederate, 1776 Union!

Battle of Stone River - Murfreesboro Tennessee

31 December 1862 - 2 January 1863 - General Braxton Bragg verses General William S. Rosecrans. Casualties: 11,739 Confederate, 12,906 Union!



JOIN THE CONFEDERATE LEGION



Membership in the Legion supports the Southern Victory Campaign. Although our camp, 1st Lt. David Richard Reynolds Camp #2270 is a member of Make Dixie Great Again, I invite each of our member to join individually.

To join the Confederate Legion electronically, [click here](#). To join the Confederate Legion by mail, [click here](#). Dues and donations are used almost exclusively

for a two-prong counterattack that we call the Southern Victory Campaign. It's led by the Heritage operations Committee of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. Objectives include:

- Rebuilding public support for the same principles of liberty that America's founding fathers believed in.
- Rebuilding respect for the Confederate States of America that preferred to leave the Union rather than abandon the principles of liberty as the Northern states were doing under Leftist influences of the day.

Products, tools and services supporting the Southern Victory Campaign are being deployed on this website. Direct action by the SCV is one prong of the offensive. The second prong includes you and your organization. It's not necessary to be a member or camp of the SCV to participate in the campaign. We depend on God and you for the victory we seek.



BATTLE OF STONES RIVER

copied from Wikipedia



The Battle of Stones River (also known as the Second Battle of Murfreesboro) was a battle fought from December 31, 1862, to January 2, 1863, in Middle Tennessee, as the culmination of the Stones River Campaign in the Western Theater of the

American Civil War. Of the major battles of the war, Stones River had the highest percentage of casualties on both sides. Although the battle itself was inconclusive, the Union Army's repulse of two Confederate attacks and the subsequent Confederate withdrawal were a much-needed boost to Union morale after the defeat at the Battle of Fredericksburg, and it dashed Confederate aspirations for control of Middle Tennessee.

Union Maj. Gen. William S. Rosecrans's Army of the Cumberland marched from Nashville, Tennessee, on December 26, 1862, to challenge General Braxton Bragg's Army of Tennessee at Murfreesboro. On December 31, each army commander planned to attack his opponent's right flank, but Bragg struck first. A massive assault by the corps of Maj. Gen. William J. Hardee, followed by that of Leonidas Polk, overran the wing commanded by Maj. Gen. Alexander M. McCook. A stout defense by the division of Brig. Gen. Philip Sheridan in the right center of the line prevented a total collapse, and the Union assumed a tight defensive position backing up to the Nashville Turnpike. Repeated Confederate attacks were repulsed from this concentrated line, most notably in the cedar "Round Forest" salient against the brigade of Col. William B. Hazen. Bragg attempted to continue the assault with the division of Maj. Gen. John C. Breckinridge, but the troops were slow in arriving and their multiple piecemeal attacks failed.

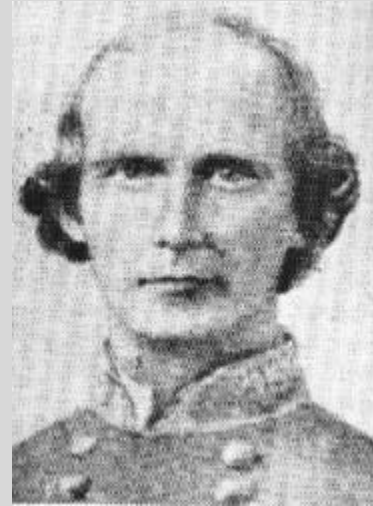
Fighting resumed on January 2, 1863, when Bragg ordered Breckinridge to assault the well-fortified Union position on a hill to the east of the Stones River. Faced with overwhelming artillery, the Confederates were repulsed with heavy losses. Falsely believing that Rosecrans was receiving reinforcements, Bragg chose to withdraw his army on January 3 to Tullahoma, Tennessee. This caused Bragg to lose the confidence of the Army of Tennessee.



BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES & OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

December 11th – Timothy Fay Fletcher
December 19th – John Michael Mars
December 10th – Michael & Tara Simpson
December 21st – Randy and Mary Ann Brock

Our Honored Ancestors HAMILTON PRIOLEAU BEE 1822 – 1897



Tallassee Armory Guards, Camp #1921

As monuments are coming down all across our Nation, the Sons of Confederate Veterans continue to erect new ones. A new Confederate Memorial has been erected in Tallassee, Alabama. Its Dedication Ceremony will be on Sunday Dec. 8th, 2 pm.



Hamilton P. Bee was born in Charleston, SC on July 22, 1822, and is the older brother of Barnard Elliott Bee who served the CSA after graduating from West Point. Bee removed to Texas when he was a youth. He was secretary of the commission for establishing the boundary between the U S and the Republic of Texas in 1839 and then the secretary of the Texas senate in 1846. After service in the Mexican War as a 2nd lieutenant of the Texas Rangers, he was a member of the Texas legislature, and speaker of the house for one term.

Elected brigadier general of the Provisional Army of Texas commanding state troop on the Texas coast in 1861, Bee was appointed brigadier general in the Confederate Army to rank from March 4, 1862. He was placed in command at Brownsville, Texas, where he handled importation of munitions from overseas through Mexico and the return exportation of cotton in payment. In this capacity he functioned largely in an administrative position until he took the field with Texas troops facing N P Banks in the Red River campaign of 1864. This was his initial field

Make Plans to Attend!!!!

command and he was subject to some criticism. In February 1865 he was assigned to command a division of cavalry under Gen. John A Wharton and was later given a brigade of infantry in Gen. S B Maxey's division.

At the close of the war he went to Mexico for a time but returned to San Antonio in 1876 where he lived until his death, Oct. 3, 1897. He is buried in the Confederate Cemetery in San Antonio.

UNIT SPOTLIGHT

1ST TEXAS INF. REGT.



The 1st Texas Infantry Regiment, nicknamed the "Ragged Old First," was an infantry regiment raised in Texas for service in the Confederate States Army during the American Civil War. It fought mostly with the Army of Northern Virginia.

The 1st Texas Infantry Regiment was assembled at Richmond, Virginia, in August, 1861, with ten companies from Marion, Cass, Polk, Houston, Harrison, Tyler, Anderson, Cherokee, Sabine, San Augustine, Newton, and Nacogdoches counties. Later two companies from Galveston and Trinity County were added to the command. Part of Hood's Texas Brigade, it served under Generals Hood, J.B. Robertson, and John Gregg. The regiment fought with the Army of Northern Virginia from Seven Pines to Cold Harbor except when it was detached

with Longstreet at Suffolk, Chickamauga, and Knoxville. It was involved in the Petersburg siege north and south of the James River and later the Appomattox Campaign. This unit had 477 effectives in April, 1862 and lost 186 of the 226 engaged at Sharpsburg, a casualty rate of 82.3% percent. This staggering casualty rate was the highest suffered by any regiment, North or South, on a single day, during the entire war.[dead link][1] In incurring these losses during ferocious fighting in Miller's cornfield the regiment lost a battle flag which was picked up by federal troops when they re-occupied the cornfield (the First Texas having previously withdrawn without noticing the loss of their flag).

The highest number of casualties, on the other hand, was suffered by the 26th North Carolina Infantry at the battle of Gettysburg. They suffered 72% casualties out of the 820 engaged. The 1st Texas suffered more than twenty percent of the 426 during the same engagement. It surrendered with 16 officers and 133 men. The field officers were Colonels Frederick S. Bass, Hugh McLeod, Alexis T. Rainey, and Louis T. Wigfall; Lieutenant Colonels Harvey H. Black, Albert G. Clopton, R.J. Harding, and P.A. Work; and Majors Matt. Dale and John R. Woodward.

The 1st Texas also lost a battle flag on April 8, 1865, at Appomattox Court House when it was captured by 1st Lt. Morton A. Read of the 8th New York Cavalry. Read earned the Medal of Honor for this deed.

"There are things in the old Book which I may not be able to explain, but I fully accept it as the infallible word of God, and receive its teachings as inspired by the Holy Spirit."

Robert E. Lee



It can be difficult to relate to the men and women of the Civil War era. Despite the extraordinarily different circumstances in which they found themselves, however, we can connect with our forebears in traditions such as the celebration of Christmas. By the mid-19th century, most of today's familiar Christmas trappings — Christmas carols, gift giving and tree decoration — were already in place. Charles Dickens had published “A Christmas Carol” in 1843 and indeed, the Civil War saw the first introductions to the modern image of a jolly and portly Santa Claus through the drawings of Thomas Nast, a German-speaking immigrant.

Civil War soldiers in camp and their families at home drew comfort from the same sorts of traditions that characterize Christmas today.

For many, the holiday was a reminder of the profound melancholy that had settled over the entire nation. Southern parents warned their children that Santa might not make it through the blockade, and soldiers in bleak winter quarters were reminded, more acutely than ever, of the domestic bliss they had left behind. On the Confederate home front, Sallie Brock Putnam of Richmond echoed the following: “Never before had so sad a Christmas dawned upon us... We had neither the heart nor inclination to make the week merry with joyousness when such a sad calamity hovered over us.” For the people of Fredericksburg, Virginia, which had been battered only a matter of days before Christmas, or Savannah, Georgia, which General Sherman had presented to

President Lincoln as a gift, the holiday season brought the war to their very doorsteps.

But to the soldier war is still war and the day meant contact with the enemy in many places. For example, In 1862, there were several skirmishes, and Confederate general John Hunt Morgan engaged in his famous Christmas Raid in Kentucky; on that single day, Morgan's men destroyed everything he possibly could of the improvements that the Louisville & Nashville Railroad had made along 35 miles of track from Bacon Creek to Lebanon Junction. There was also a military execution for desertion that the soldiers were forced to witness. In 1863, Union forces destroyed Confederate salt works at Bear Inlet, North Carolina; there were also several skirmishes between Confederate artillery and the Union navy on the Stone River and near Charleston in South Carolina. In 1864, the Confederates fiercely repelled the Federal assault of sixty warships on Fort Fisher, while in the western theater of the war there were several skirmishes fought.

Christmas during the Civil War served both as an escape from and a reminder of the awful conflict rending the country in two. Soldiers looked forward to a day of rest and relative relaxation, but had their moods tempered by the thought of separation from their loved ones. At home, families did their best to celebrate the holiday, but wondered when the vacant chair would again be filled.

1st Lt. David R. Reynolds SCV Guardian Report as of 11/30/2019

249 graves, 13 Compatriot Guardians, & 31 Cemeteries in 4 counties.

As usual, I'll leave you with the question that Phil Davis, Upshur Patriots CDR and Chairman of both the National and Texas Division Guardian Program always asks,

“Are you a Guardian?”

If not, why not?”



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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.

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(Cutoff for articles is 20th of the month)