



# David's Dispatch

1ST LT. DAVID RICHARD REYNOLDS  
HEADQUARTERS CHAPTER #1  
SOCIETY OF CONFEDERATE DESCENDANTS



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## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Larry "Joe" Reynolds



Greetings Compatriots,

With the 4<sup>th</sup> of July fast approaching, the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the signing of the Declaration, let us remember all those who have fought and given so much for this great country. Let us also remember all those who have worked behind the scenes, those who by their courage and commitment have also helped to make this the greatest country on earth.

Let us also work to make this Society one of the greatest societies to serve in.

Joe Reynolds  
President General

## Our Mission

*To fulfill the Charged handed down to us and to perpetuate the legacy of our ancestors by proudly preserving our heritage and faithfully promoting goodwill In our community.*

## Our Vision

*We dare to envision a culture that values its history and honors those who helped make it.*

## UPCOMING EVENTS NEXT MEETING

Monday, July 13<sup>h</sup>, 7:00 p.m.  
Zoom Meeting

Civil War Symposium  
Saturday, August 8<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 a.m.  
305 East Austin Street  
Jefferson, TX

## BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES & OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

Jul 17 – Sam & Laura Bennett

Jul 21 – Bill & Linda Wilcoxson

July 13<sup>th</sup> – This day in 1821 General Nathan Bedford Forrest was born.

July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025 – First David's Dispatch Newsletter Published.

## BATTLES FOUGHT DURING THE MONTH OF JULY



### **Battle of Malvern Hill - Malvern Hill Virginia**

1 July 1862 - General Robert E. Lee verses General George B. McClellan. Casualties: 5355 Confederate, 3214 Union!

### **Battle of Gettysburg - Gettysburg Pennsylvania**

1-3 July 1863 - General Robert E. Lee verses General George G. Meade. Casualties: 28,063 Confederate, 23,049 Union!

### **Siege of Vicksburg Ends - Vicksburg Surrenders - Vicksburg Mississippi**

4 July 1863 - General John C. Pemberton surrenders his Confederate Army and thereby the City of Vicksburg Mississippi to Union General Ulysses S. Grant. Casualties: 39,941 Confederates and 8873 for the Union!

### **Siege of Port Hudson Ends - Port Hudson Surrenders - Port Hudson Louisiana**

26 May - 9 July 1863 - General Franklin Gardner surrenders to General Nathaniel P. Bank

### **Battle of Monocacy River - Monocacy River Maryland**

9 July 1864 - General Jubal A. Early verses General Lew Wallace. Casualties: 700 Confederate, 1880 Union!

### **Battle of Rich Mountain - Rich Mountain Western Virginia**

11 July 1861 - Colonel John Pegram verses General William S. Rescans. Casualties: 600 Confederate, 46 Union!

### **Battle of Tupelo - Tupelo Mississippi**

13-15 July 1864 - General Stephen D. Lee verses General Andrew J. Smith. Casualties: 1376 Confederate, 674 Union!

### **Battle of Peach Tree Creek - Peach Tree Creek Georgia**

20 July 1864 - General John Bell Hood verses General George H. Thomas. Casualties: 2500 Confederates, 1600 Union!

### **First Battle of Manassas - Manassas Virginia**

21 July 1861 - General Joseph E. Johnston, General P.G.T. Beauregard verses General Irvin McDowell. Casualties: 1981 Confederate, 2645 Union!

### **Battle of Atlanta - Atlanta Georgia**

22 July 1864 - General John Bell Hood verses General William T. Sherman. Casualties: 8500 Confederates, 3722 Union!

### **Second Battle of Atlanta or Ezra Church - Ezra Church Georgia**

28 July 1864 - General John Bell Hood verses General William T. Sherman. Casualties: 4300 Confederate, 632 Union!

### **Battle of "The Mine" - Petersburg Virginia**

30 July 1864 - General Robert E. Lee verses General Ulysses S. Grant. Casualties: 1200 Confederate, 3798 Union!

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“The flags of the Confederate States of America were very important and a matter of great pride to those citizens living in the Confederacy. They are also a matter of great pride for their descendants as part of their heritage and history.”

*Winston Churchill*

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## INFLUENCED BY ROCKS

A century and a half ago, the Civil War rocked America. But as it turns out, the war itself — in particular, the pivotal battle of Gettysburg in July 1863 — was influenced by rocks.



*Civil War re-enactors are shown here at the site of the battle of Stones River, one of the many battles where geology played a role in the outcome*

A just-published article in *Geosphere*, the journal of the Geological Society of America, details how rock formations helped to determine the outcome at Gettysburg, where Union forces stopped a desperate Southern effort to invade the North, and ultimately sealed the Confederacy's fate.

Scott P. Hippensteel, an associate professor of earth sciences at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, analyzed the geology of Gettysburg. He found that a mixture of harder diabase and softer sedimentary rocks produced features such as Cemetery Hill and Little Round Top, which provided strong defensive positions for the Union Army.



Photographer Matthew Brady and his contemporaries were the world's first true war photographers, taking advantage of a relatively new technology, tools of mass production and the bloodiest conflict in U.S. history, one in which more than 620,000 lost their lives. This photograph of a scene in Antietam, Md. shows bodies, possibly moved in order to keep the church in the background. The photograph was taken by Alexander Gardner, who worked for a time as an assistant to Matthew Brady. American Heroes Channel: America's Civil War

But rock formations didn't always necessarily benefit the Union side. Carbonates, limestone's and dolostones shaped the terrain of battlefields such as Antietam, the spot in Maryland where Confederate forces repulsed a Union attack in September 1862.



While there were images taken during the Mexican War of 1847 and the Crimean War in 1854, the Civil War saw an explosion of both techniques and photographers. In fact, both armies used photography to document their own soldiers as well as to collect information about enemy forces. This photograph, also by Gardner, documents a dead Confederate sniper in Gettysburg

*“On many battlefields, outcropping limestone proved beneficial for attacking troops,” Hippensteel writes. “Differential weathering within carbonate formations produced rolling terrain that limited the range and effectiveness of both artillery and small arms.”*



New techniques and commercialization led to the flowering of photography just before the Civil War started. The invention of the tintype, which was a metal image, and the ambrotype, printed on glass, allowed for mass production of small photographs usually kept by families in wooden or glass cases. Here, John E. Cummins of the 50th, 99th and 185th Ohio Infantry regiments poses in Union uniform next to a horse

One example of the latter was the infamous “*Sunken Road*” at Antietam, where 2,600 Confederate troops managed to hold off a Union force of 5,500 for three-and-a-half hours, thanks in part to the terrain. The Union ultimately prevailed, but took heavy casualties.



The second kind of photo was the carte de visite. The carte de visite, or cdv, was also primarily a portrait photograph, except it was made with a glass, wet-plate negative. The negative meant unlimited copies could be created. Prints were made on albumen paper, according to the center. These portraits of generals, statesmen, actors and other celebrities were mass produced and given out like trading cards in an effort to keep up morale. Sergeant Cornelius V. Moore of Company B, 100th New York Volunteers,

a sergeant of 39th Illinois Regiment, a corporal of 106th New York Volunteers, and a private of the 11th Vermont Regiment pose in camp scene

Other battlefields with such features included Stones River, Chickamauga, Franklin, Nashville and Monocacy, a July 1864 battle in which Union troops thwarted a Confederate assault on Washington, D.C.

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## CHAPTER MINUTES 06-08-2025

The meeting was called to order by President General Joe Reynolds at 7:06 pm.

Invocation was given by Chaplain General Eve Holder.

Pledges to the United States, Headquarters Chapter and Confederate Flag were led by President General Joe Reynolds.

President General Joe Reynolds presented the SCD’s Mission and Vision Statement.

Present for the meeting were:

### Members

Larry Joe Reynolds, President General Pittsburg, TX  
 William Thomas Wilcoxson, Historian General Pueblo, CO  
 Dave Adcox Morton, MS  
 Sam Bennett Bastrop, TX  
 Hal Cardwell Glendora, CA  
 Glenn Carroll Fort Worth, TX  
 David Routh, Rockwall, TX  
 Sara Sams Columbia, SC  
 Jola West Dumfries, VA

### Guests

Denise Lane  
 Danny Ozbirn

The minutes of the May meeting were emailed to all members one week prior to the meeting.

There being no additions or corrections, they were

approved as received.

The Treasurer Report was read with the following noted: For the month of May 2026, we started the month with a balance of \$1036.86, we had \$40.00 income, which was one Membership dues.

The expenses for the month were \$5.87 for postage. This left a balance of \$851.29.

There was no Old Business to Discuss.

Under New Business we discussed the following:

- Initiation and Obligation given to New Member William Douglas Coleman.
- We discussed the status of our Society, the need to recruit new members and to elect officers for our vacant positions.
- Due to technical difficulties with Glenn Carroll sharing screen, we did not have a program

The Benediction was given by Chaplain General Eve Holder.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:00.

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***Editor's Note:** Due to recent events over our Battle Flag, I thought we might look at the actual reason that Texas seceded from the Union.*

## AN ORDINANCE

To dissolve the union between the State of Texas and the other States, united under the compact styled "The Constitution of the United States of America."

Adopted in Convention, at Austin City, the first day of February, A.D. 1861.

**Whereas,** The Federal Government has failed to accomplish the purposes of the compact of union between these States, in giving protection either to the persons of our people upon an exposed frontier, or to the property of our citizens, and

**Whereas,** the action of the Northern States of the Union is violative of the compact between the States and the guarantees of the Constitution; and,

**Whereas,** The recent developments in Federal affairs make it evident that the power of the Federal Government is sought to be made a weapon with which to strike down the interests and property of the people of Texas, and her sister slave-holding States, instead of permitting it to be, as was intended, our shield against outrage and aggression;

**Therefore,**

**Section 1.--** We, the people of the State of Texas, by delegates in convention assembled, do declare and ordain that the ordinance adopted by our convention of delegates on the 4th day of July, A.D. 1845, and afterwards ratified by us, under which the Republic of Texas was admitted into the Union with other States, and became a party to the compact styled "The Constitution of the United States of America," be, and is hereby, repealed and annulled; that all the powers which, by the said compact, were delegated by Texas to the Federal Government are revoked and resumed; that Texas is of right absolved from all restraints and obligations incurred by said compact, and is a separate sovereign State, and that her citizens and people are absolved from all allegiance to the United States or the government thereof.

**Section 2.** This ordinance shall be submitted to the people of Texas for their ratification or rejection, by the qualified voters, on the 23rd day of February, 1861, and unless rejected by a majority of the votes cast, shall take effect and be in force on and after the 2d day of March, A.D. 1861. Provided, that in the Representative District of El Paso said election may be held on the 18th day of February, 1861.

Done by the people of the State of Texas, in convention assembled, at Austin, this 1st day of February, A.D. 1861.

[Ratified Feb. 23, 1861 by a vote of 46,153 for and 14,747 against]

*(Next month we will look at the declaration of the causes which impel the State of Texas to secede from the Federal Union. - Editor)*

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## The War Between the States WAS NOT about Slavery By Al Mccray



I am responding to an article I recently read by Leonard Pitts Jr., a noted Black Columnist in South Florida. His article was entitled, „The Civil War was about slavery... Nothing more“. I found this article to be very misleading and riddled grossly with distortions of the real causes of the War Between the States. I find it it’s so amusing that such an educated person, Mr. Pitts, would not know the facts.

I am a proud native of South Carolina. I have spent my entire life in what was once, The Confederate States of America. I am currently associated with Southern Heritage causes, including the Sons of Confederate Veterans in Tampa.

It’s been one hundred and fifty years since brave patriotic Southerners drove the Imperialist Yankee army from Fort Sumter South Carolina.

The Confederate canon fire to evict the aggressor Army of The Potomac from the Fort was the first official military action to assert and defend States“ Rights of all of the States in the Union.

It also marked the beginning of the Confederates fight to expel this foreign Army from all of the Southern home land.

After all these years, there still exists national historical ignorance and lies about this war of Yankee aggression and atrocities. The War Between the States was about State’s Rights and not about slavery.

Remember that the original colonies voluntarily joined the Union and never gave up their individual States“ sovereignty.

These independent States always retained their right to manage their domestic affairs and to leave this voluntary association at any time.

This voluntary union was for limited reasons such as; National defense from the foreign powers, one language, interstate commerce, disputes between the sovereign States, and matters of Foreign affairs.

When the Southern States tried to leave this Union, the Northerners had to put a stop to this. The Slavery issue was masterly inserted into the movement of Yankee aggression.

There is a reason why the name of our territory in North America is called, The United States of America. Did you notice the word „States“ and NOT State? The word „States“ forever proclaims and recognizes the legitimacy of States Rights and sovereignty.

We are a union of independent and sovereign States free to determine our own destiny. This sovereignty is meant to be free of Yankee Federal domination and control. This should still be in principle and practice today as it was before the first canon shots at Fort Sumter.

Slavery of any people is wicked and morally wrong. Domination of one people over another is just as evil and morally wrong.

The facts are that throughout history; just about every race of people has been slaves to another people. Slavery has always been a failed institution and a dark mark in history. One hundred years before the first slave made it to the action blocks in state of Virginia, African Kings were running a booming enterprise of selling their own people into slavery. It was also customary that defeated people became slaves.

Without the complicity and entrepreneurship of African Kings, I have a serious reservation about

how many slaves would have come to the New World.

Slavery as an institution worldwide was coming to an end before the War Between the States. Slavery in America would probably have come to an end within 50 years.

The great eternal lie; that the war was to “free the slaves” is still being propagandized today by modern slick Yankee spin makers, the schools and even by scholars. But the facts are plain and quite evident if you were to take off your Yankee sun glasses.

The Army of the Potomac invaded the South to capture, control and to plunder the prosperity of Southern economic resources and its industries.

This Army also wanted to put a final nail in the coffin of States“ Rights.

If, and I say with a big if that the War Between the States was to free the slaves, please answer these simple questions;

1. Why did not President Lincoln issue a proclamation day 1 of his presidency to free the slaves?

2. Why President wait so many years later to issue his proclamation?

3. Why was slavery still legal in the Northern States?

4. Why did President Lincoln say something like,

“I will not free a single slave if it kept the Union together?”

5. Before 1864, how many elected members of the Imperialist Yankee Congress introduce legislation to outlaw slavery anywhere in America?

Here are some useful facts that could cause you to learn the truth. The Slaves were freed because, and only in territories in Rebellion against the North, because The Army of the Potomac was not winning the war and Lincoln was fearful of Foreign Nations recognizing the Confederacy as a Sovereign States.

Other reasons were, the Northern States needed a war to fuel their economy and stop the pending recession, the North need a rebellion in the South to cause havoc in the Confederate States, and the North wanted the hard foreign currency being generated by Southern trade.

Over six hundred thousand people died because of Yankee aggression and hidden agendas. From a perspective of trying to attain a moral legitimacy and high ground, the lie and cry of freeing the Slaves offered a “cheap rational” for Northern Aggression and the economic raping of the Southern States.

Even in 2011 The Sovereign States of today are still under the yoke of ever encroaching Yankee and Northern domination, laws and control. Just look around. Try to go one single day with seeing, feeling the stragglng influences of The Federal government.

I hope that this year marks not only the celebration of the brave actions of Southerners to evict the Northern Army at Fort Sumter; it should also lead to the truthful revision of history about the war. Future generations should at least know the truth.

I guess you are asking yourself, How can a Black man say that the Civil War was not about slavery? Well once skin color is not a handicap or prohibition from knowing and writing the truth.

Al McCray  
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“Every man should endeavor to understand the meaning of subjugation before it is too late... It means the history of this heroic struggle will be written by the enemy; that our youth will be trained by Northern schoolteachers; will learn from Northern school books their version of the war; will be impressed by the influences of history and education to regard our gallant dead as traitors, and our maimed veterans as fit objects for derision... It is said slavery is all we are fighting for, and if we give it up we give up all. Even if this were true, which

we deny, slavery is not all our enemies are fighting for. It is merely the pretense to establish sectional superiority and a more centralized form of government, and to deprive us of our rights and liberties.”

*Maj. General Patrick R. Cleburne, CSA, Jan, 1864*



**WILLIAM (BILL) ASA MEADOR  
PRIVATE**

**Captain J. F. Smith's Company I, Col. R.  
T. P. Alle's 17th Texas Volunteer Infantry**

Bill Meador, (b. July 10, 1830, d. Jan. 13, 1915) was born in Green County, Alabama, the son of Hugh and Elizabeth Hendrick Meador. When he was 11 years old, his father died and he lived with his mother until he was 19. In 1849, at the age of 19, he moved to Navarro County, in east Texas where he farmed.

In 1854 William Meador moved to Bell County in central Texas where he was first employed as a farm hand. He later traded stock until the Civil War. On December 25, 1855, he married Emily Marshall (b. Apr. 3, 1839, d. May 17, 1911), the daughter of Samuel and Mary Wingfield Marshall. The Marshalls moved to Grimes County, Texas in 1828. The 1860 census of Bell County, Texas listed William and Emily Meador, occupation as "farmer".

Both William's grandfathers, Jason Meador and Samuel Marshall, served in the American Revolution. William Meador was a 9th generation Meador descended from the Jamestown, Virginia colonist, Ambrose Meador.

In 1862 William Meador enlisted in Company I, Allen's 17th Texas Volunteer Infantry. The 17th Texas Volunteer Infantry Regiment was one of 22 infantry regiments from Texas. It was organized around January, 1862. The 17th was part of the 3rd brigade of the famous Walker Texas Ranger division,

also know as 'Walker's Greyhounds'. They were ultimately surrendered by General E. Kirby Smith of the Trans-Mississippi Department on May 26, 1865.

The officers in Company I included Captain John Smith, 1st Lieut. R.H. Taylor and 2nd Lieut. Jno. W. Houston. From February to May, 1862, the 17th Texas was assigned to the eastern district of Texas. In February, 1863, the division moved to Camp Wright and was attached to the district of Arkansas, Trans-Mississippi Department. In April, they marched to Louisiana. There they had brief skirmishes at Perkins Landing and encountered Union forces along the Red River, and in November, 1863 they destroyed a Union transport. Other destinations of the 17th Texas included Atchafalaya Bayou, Camp Bayou Boeut, Camp Bayou De Glaize and Plaquemine, Louisiana.

While in camp near Austin, Arkansas, Meador was mistakenly given a dose of strychnine instead of morphine. (It should be noted that strychnine was also kept in the camp to control the rats that followed a field hospital.) He survived but remained ill for almost two years. He was given a medical discharge at Camp Bayou De Glaize on March 3, 1864. (See transcript of medical discharge.)

William Meador returned home to Bell County, Texas. In 1872 he built and operated a saw mill on the Leon River, but the venture did not prove successful, and in 1874 he purchased a 200-acre farm where he built a two-story home and six tenant houses. The farm was located in northern Bell County. He added to his acreage until he owned 1,200 acres. The area is know as 'Meador Grove' today.

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Confederate States of America

Certificate of Disability or Dishcharge

W.A. Meador of Capt. J.F. Smith's Company "I" 17th Tex. Vol. Inf. C.S.A. was enlisted by Col. R.T.P. Allen, at Camp Terry Travis County Texas on the 9th day of May 1862 to serve for three yrs. in the war.

He was borne in Greene County in the State of Alabama, is 34 years of age, is 5 feet 10 inches high. Eyes Blue, hair brown, complexion dark and by occupation when Enlisted a Farmer. During the last two months said Soldier has been unfit for duty Sixty two days. Said Soldier has been absent on Surgeons Certificate for ten months and is apparently entirely unfit for military service.

Camp Bayou De Glaize J.F. Smith

February 11th 1864 Capt. Company I

17th T.V. Infr.

Approved - Geo. W. Jones - Lt. Col. Comdr.

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I certify that I Have carefully examined W. A. Meador of Capt. Smith's Comp. and find him incapable of performing the duties of a soldier because of hypertrophy of the Liver and Stomache attended with constant distrubance of the Digestive Function. There is also intense muscular

rigidity of the Spine rendering it totally impracticable for him to bend the body in the slightest degree. He had a long and very severe attack of Pneumonia at Camp Nelson, Ark. in Nov. 1862 since which time he never done any duty being in hospital or on sick Furlough. Since his attack he has been in Hospital under the most needs course of treatment - without the slightest benefit. I therefore recommend his Discharge from the Service.

D. Port Smithe

Surgeon P.&C.S.

Discharged at Bayou Del Glaize, La. this the 3rd day of March, 1864.

Geo. W. Jones

Let. Col. Comdr.

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CREDITS

Confederate documents on file at Harold B. Simpson History Complex, Hill College, Hillsboro, Texas.

Bell County, Texas data on file at Bell County Museum, and history taken from The Story of Bell County, v.2, ppg 743-744. c.1988 Bell County Historical Commission, ed by E.A. Limmer, Jr.

Original 'tin-type' photograph of W.A. Meador was restored and colorized by his grandson, William Madison Meador of Alpine, Texas, a photographer by profession.

Information compiled and presented by Samuel C. Bennett, M.D., great, great grandson of William A. Meador.



In honor of America 250 Anniversary, I'm asking all members to show your support in your community and the organizations that you help represent.



July 4, 1846, the 28<sup>th</sup> star, representing Texas, was added to the United States flag. Notice how the stars are arranged to honor the Lone Star State. This was the US flag for one year until Iowa was added.



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