



David's Dispatch

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



Vol. 5 No. 5

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May 2019

WINNER OF THE BEST NEWSLETTER AWARD, NATIONAL, SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS, 2016 & 2017

WINNER OF THE BEST NEWSLETTER AWARD, TEXAS DIVISION, SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS, 2017

COMMANDER'S CORNER

by Alvin "Rex" McGee



This month we will attend the Texas Division Reunion in Temple, Texas on May 31 and June 01, 2019. One of the most important issues of business in many years is the voting on a new Texas Division Constitution. I am concerned about voting for a new Constitution as it has some changes that I feel will be detrimental for the local Camp or Brigade to manage its own affairs. It appears to be an all or nothing proposition which I see as a tyrannical approach to govern any organization. If I had not sit in the fiasco that was called a Texas Division meeting last year and saw the childish gamesmanship and bullying by some of the group I might have a somewhat more positive impression of the proposed document. I am questioning whether or not we have had the wolves put on sheep's clothing to attempt to fool the Sheppard's. Working in the field of security and protection of the flock nearly all my adult life I fear leaving the gate open to the chicken house with wolves freely running in the neighborhood.

On Saturday April 27, 2019 the ILT David R. Reynolds Sons of Confederate Camp # 2270 and members of 5th Brigade Honor Guard performed a memorial service for three Civil War Soldiers at the Masonic Cemetery in Mt. Pleasant. All three Confederate Soldiers and their descendants had a big part to play in the development and growth of Titus County and the City of Mt. Pleasant.

It was a beautiful day for this activity and we had a good crowd to turn out for the event Fifth

Brigade ILT Commander Joe Reynolds had made plans for a lunch at Dellwood Park and his wife had gone at 7:00 a.m. in the morning to save us a place under the pavilion for our meal. Unknown to any of us the park had an estimated 3000 children show up for a pre-Cinco De Mayo Celebration. We had plenty of table space to eat, but there wasn't any place to park by the time the Masonic Cemetery Dedication was concluded. The roads were completely blocked and there was not any way to enter or leave until some of the traffic cleared. Most of the SCV party decided to forego the dinner and return home.

We continue facing an uncertain future regarding our Southern heritage by forces unfriendly to the Southern cause. The majority of our Higher Educational Institutions are a quagmire of Liberal Socialist that is bent on destroying anything Southern. Our Politicians on both sides of Congress show their cowardice every day as these corrupt & evil revisionists continue to march forward to destroy our history and monuments.

Hope to see you all at the meeting this month.

UPCOMING EVENTS

NEXT MEETING

Monday, May 20th, 7:00 p.m.

Refreshments at 6:30 p.m.

Old Union Community Center

Hwy 67E, Mount Pleasant, Texas

Civil War Weekend

May 3-5, 2019

Jefferson, Texas

Check their web site for full details
www.jefferson-texas.com/civil-war-reenactment-events

2019 TEXAS DIVISION REUNION

May 31st – June 2nd, 2019
 Hilton Garden Inn
 1749 Scott Blvd.
 Temple, TX 76504

2019 NATIONAL REUNION

July 10th – 13th, 2019
 Renaissance Riverview Plaza Hotel
 64 South Water Street
 Mobile, Alabama 36602
 See scvsemmes.org for details



DAVIDRREYNOLDS.ORG

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

- 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've updated our Calendar of Events.

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.



President Barack Obama was in the Oval Office when his telephone rang. "Hello, President Obama" a heavily accented southern voice said. "This is Archie, down here at Joe's Catfish Shack, in Mobile, and I am callin' to tell ya'll that we are officially declaring war on y'all!"

"Well Archie," Barack replied, "This is indeed important news! How big is your army?"

"Right now," said Archie, after a moment's calculation "there is myself, my cousin Harold, my next-door-neighbor Randy, and the whole dart team from Hooters. That makes eight!"

Barack paused. "I must tell you Archie that I have one million men in my army waiting to move on my command."

"Wow," said Archie. "I'll have to call ya back!"

Sure enough, the next day, Archie called again. "Mr. Obama, the war is still on! We have managed to acquire some infantry equipment!"

"And what equipment would that be Archie?" Barack asked.

"Well sir, we have two combines, a bulldozer, and Harry's farm tractor."

President Obama sighed. "I must tell you Archie, that I have 16,000 tanks and 14,000 armored personnel carriers. Also I've increased my army to one and a half million since we last spoke."

"Lord above", said Archie, "I'll be getting back to ya."

Sure enough, Archie called again the next day. "President Obama! I am sorry to have to tell you that we have had to call off this here war."

"I'm sorry to hear that" said Barack. "Why the sudden change of heart?"

Well, sir," said Archie, "we've all sat ourselves down and had a long chat over sweet tea, and come to realize that there's just no way we can feed that many prisoners of war."

**SOUTHERN CONFIDENCE CANNOT BE
SHAKEN**

GOD BLESS DIXIE



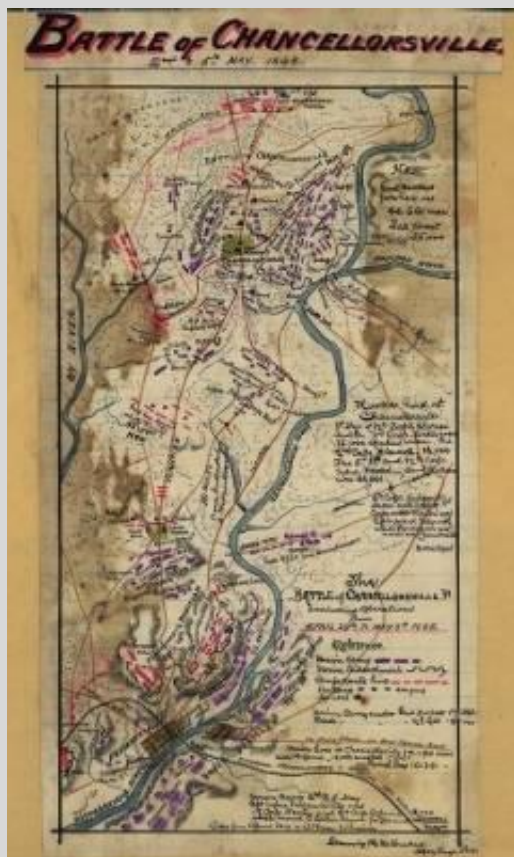
Our Charge...

"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*



Battle of Chancellorsville Ends May 6, 1863



May 6, 1863, was the final day of the Battle of Chancellorsville, which ended in a Confederate victory that is often considered General Robert E. Lee's "perfect battle," as he successfully defeated an army more than twice the size of his own.

In April, Union general Joseph Hooker—the new commander of the Army of the Potomac—decided to move against Lee, whose Army of Northern Virginia was situated at Fredericksburg, Virginia. Hooker wanted to avoid attacking Fredericksburg head on, as that had proved a disaster in the past, so he planned to send a third of his army to Fredericksburg to hold Lee there, while his cavalry would cut Lee's communication lines and the majority of his army would sweep around to outflank Lee from the rear and left.

Hooker's movement to Chancellorsville, a crossroads not far from Lee's left flank, was well-executed, but Lee—although outnumbered more than two to one (roughly 130,000 to 60,000)—left only a small part of his troops at Fredericksburg and moved the rest under Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson to face Hooker rather than retreat. When Jackson began to push back against Hooker's vanguard, Hooker lost his nerve and had his troops take up defensive positions in a brushy, difficult area known as the Wilderness.



Defying conventional military wisdom, Lee and Jackson decided to split the army once again, leaving

a portion of troops under Lee to distract Hooker's front, while Jackson would take the bulk of the troops on a 12-mile march to hit the Union's exposed right flank. The gamble paid off, and on the evening of May 2, Jackson's troops caught the Union right by surprise and it crumbled.

The fighting continued for a few more days, with the most intense occurring on May 3. Besides fighting around Chancellorsville, there was also fighting at Fredericksburg and Salem Church. Eventually, Hooker retreated across the Rappahannock River, giving the Confederates the victory, despite heavy casualties on both sides.

However, although the battle was a Confederate triumph, the Lee sustained a major loss in the death of Jackson, one of the best Confederate generals. On the night of the 2nd, Jackson and some others had been returning from scouting Union positions when they were fired on by their own pickets. Jackson was wounded, and his left arm had to be amputated. Complications arose following the surgery, and on May 10, Jackson died of pneumonia.

Lee's victory at the Battle of Chancellorsville would give him the necessary momentum for his campaign into the North, where he would face the Union on its home soil at the Battle of Gettysburg that July.

LAST CAMP MEETING

The last camp meeting, held on April 15th was a very nice event. The highlight of the night was a Memorial Service conducted for Compatriot Burnis Lloyd Covington by the Northeast Texas 5th Brigade Memorial Service Unit. Members included Joe Reynolds, Rex McGee, and Jerry Lester from our camp along with George Linton from the Upshur County Patriots and James Murphy from the Red Diamond Camp. We had a nice meal and some great fellowship.



Camp Commander Rex McGee presents the Resolution of Death to Compatriot Covington's Daughter, Patricia Guy

A BLAST FROM THE PAST

(Taken from the May 1919 Edition of the Confederate Veteran 100 Years Ago)

SOUTHERN IDEALISM

In the history of the United States one fact stands out conspicuously, the superiority of Southern idealism as exemplified in the characters of its great men. This is not said idly or boastfully. It is true. In physical, intellectual, and moral qualities the Southern leaders have had no superiors in the history of the world. Washington, Henry. Jefferson, Madison, Marshall, Calhoun, Davis, Stonewall Jackson, and Lee were men not only of high intellectual power, great moral force, and cleanliness of living, but of attractive and commanding physical appearance. Slander assailed them, but no trustworthy evidence against the private life of any of them has ever been produced, and Washington, Jefferson, and Lee were especially noble specimens of manly beauty.

On the other hand, it is hard to pick out any Northern man who had not some fatal physical or moral defect Benjamin Franklin, astute, patriotic, and original,

was morally impure, and there was a streak of cunning about him that prevents him from being an ideal; Alexander Hamilton was a man of great genius, but his relations with women cannot bear examination; Daniel Webster was a man of great ability.

imposing physically, and lovable in disposition, but he was so careless in many matters, especially money matters, that he can never be an ideal; Lincoln was a man of ability and shrewdness but he was extremely ugly in appearance and loved vulgarity. The two finest specimens of Northern society were undoubtedly John Adams and John Quincy Adams. They were able, honest, laborious, chaste of life, and pure of speech; but idealism in the one was destroyed by his excessive vanity, and idealism in the other by his suspicious nature and bitter tongue. As a master of invective John Quincy Adams had few, if any, superiors.

It has been reserved to a small State, Virginia, to present to the world the three most rounded historical characters Washington, Jefferson, and Lee—in each mens sana in sano corpore. All the long history of England or France cannot present anything like their equals. Pass in review the heroes of England—Cromwell, Marlborough the elder, William Pitt, Wellington, etc.—and in each some littleness will appear which, in spite of the greatness, sinks him to a disinter lower level and mars the idealism he represents. Cromwell fanatic; Marlborough was purchasable; Pitt, the great orator and organizer, was vain and bombastic; Wellington, though a great soldier, was narrow and reactionary in his politics.

Napoleon and Talleyrand were among the greatest Frenchmen, the first was a dangerous egotist, and the second was a diplomatic trickster.

Bismarck, Frederick the Great, and now William II. possessed great ability, but the unholy spirit of Prussianism made them all three a curse rather than a blessing to the world —William and Mary Quarterly, January, 1919.



THE CONFEDERATE ORIGINS OF MEMORIAL DAY

By Brion McClanahan

Many Americans took pause on Monday to honor the men and women who have given their lives in the United States armed forces. What most probably don't know is that this holiday originated in the South after the War for Southern Independence. It was originally called "Decoration Day."

Don't tell the social justice warriors.

The monuments that these modern day Leninists believe represent "white supremacy" were a byproduct of a movement that began one year after the conclusion of hostilities to remember the over two hundred thousand men who died defending the Southern fight for independence.

It took decades to collect enough pennies to build the monuments that are now being toppled in hours.

Not even the Yankees who faced cannon and rifle fire from these Confederate soldiers were so bold to deny Southerners their memorials. Some, in fact, joined hands at dedication ceremonies across the South. If anyone should have hated Confederate soldiers, it was these men. But they didn't.

Thousands of Union soldiers saluted their Confederate counterparts as they surrendered at Appomattox and wept with them when these Southern patriots gave up their flags. Not one Union soldier burned a Confederate flag or dragged it through the mud when the War was over. The immediate aftermath was magnanimous on both sides.

Reconstruction created tension, but in subsequent decades as the South sought to be once again an integral part of the Union, and as the vigor of youth gave way to the reflection of old age, these grey headed veterans saluted both sides and honored their dead.

If anyone wants to understand why these monuments were erected, simply read the inscriptions. Not one is dedicated to "white supremacy," but all honor the Confederate soldier and many the Southern women who supported the cause. Several are dedicated to the "Principles of 1776" and the "Sovereignty of the States," the same cause Southerners wrote about as they headed off to war in 1861. This is no "Lost Cause" revisionism. That comes from those who disingenuously write that the War began as a moral crusade to end slavery.

The women who held the first "Decoration Day" in Columbus, Georgia in 1866 did so to honor the dozens of Confederate soldiers buried in Linwood Cemetery. This was soon replicated across the South. The Grand Army of the Republic copied the event in 1868, causing another Southern innovation to be coopted by Yankee do-gooders.

Americans soon honored Confederate dead as part of "Memorial Day" events, including those like President William McKinley who wore the blue.



Southerners eventually decided to hold separate "memorial day" remembrances in April as part of "Confederate Memorial Day." They wanted as a people to reflect on the cost of war. Their newly gained poverty was a daily reminder, but these wives, brothers, sisters, mothers, fathers, cousins, aunts, uncles, sons, and daughters of fallen heroes still burned with the flame of defiance. They put down their swords but did not concede that their men were "traitors."

By the 1870s no one north of the Mason Dixon called them that anymore. They were as American as Lincoln. It was not unfashionable well into the late twentieth century-even for the Left-to honor Confederate soldiers as valiant and courageous men. That list includes every American president from Teddy Roosevelt to Bill Clinton.

Taking down monuments or removing Confederate flags would have been as un-American as rooting for the Soviet Union to win the Cold War.

But as Bernie Sanders demonstrated in 2016, being a Soviet stooge makes you a rock star in modern America. Perhaps that is why adopting the Soviet playbook is so easy for both the uneducated and university indoctrinated masses.

Confederate memorials represent a roadblock in their crusade to eliminate Western Civilization and rewrite American history.

When all of the Confederate monuments are gone or "contextualized," where will the Leninists turn next?

If the cultural Marxists want to divest themselves of "Confederate" imagery, then "Memorial Day" would eventually have to go, too.

After all, long after the War for Southern Independence, the Confederate Battle Flag showed up on battle fields from Europe to Asia to the Middle East.

It would be the only "fair" and "equal" thing to do.

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES & OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

May 5th – Patricia Guy

May 19th – Alvin Rex McGee

May 6th – This day in 1861 Arkansas secedes from the union.

May 10th – This day in 1863 General Thomas J. Jackson died and is buried in Lexington,

May 10th – Virginia. Confederate Memorial Day in North and South Carolina.

May 20th – This day in 1861 North Carolina secedes from the union.

May 23rd – This day in 1861 Virginia secedes from the union.



“If they (the North) prevail, the whole character of the Government will be changed, and instead of a federal republic, the common agent of sovereign and independent States, we shall have a central despotism, with the notion of States forever abolished, deriving its powers from the will, and shaping its policy according to the wishes, of a numerical majority of the people; we shall have, in other words, a supreme, irresponsible democracy. The Government does not now recognize itself as an ordinance of God, and when all the checks and balances of the Constitution are gone, we may easily figure to ourselves the career and the destiny of this godless monster of democratic absolutism. The progress of regulated liberty on this continent will be arrested, anarchy will soon succeed, and the end will be a military despotism, which preserves order by the sacrifice of the last vestige of liberty.

They are now fighting the battle of despotism. They have put their Constitution under their feet; they have annulled its most sacred provisions; The future fortunes of our children, and of this continent, would then be determined by a tyranny which has no parallel in history.”

Dr. James Henly Thornwell of South Carolina, in *Our Danger and our Duty*, 1862



BATTLES FOUGHT DURING THE MONTH OF MAY

Battle of Fort Gibson - Fort Gibson Mississippi

1 May 1863 - General John C. Pemberton verses General Ulysses S. Grant. Casualties: 1650 Confederate, 1863 Union!

Battle of Chancellorsville - Chancellorsville Virginia

1-5 May 1863 - General Robert E. Lee verses General Joseph Hooker. Casualties: 12,754 Confederate, 16,792 Union!

Battle of Williamsburg - Williamsburg Virginia

5 May 1862 - General Joseph E. Johnston verses General George B. McClellan. Casualties: 1603 Confederate, 2239 Union!

Battle of The Wilderness - The Wildereness Virginia

5-7 May 1864 - General Robert E. Lee verses General Ulysses S. Grant, General George G. Meade. Casualties: 7750 Confederate, 17,666 Union!

Battle of McDowell - McDowell Virginia

May 1862 - General Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson verses General Robert C. Schenck. Casualties: 498 Confederate, 256 Union!

Battle of Spotsylvania Court House - Spotsylvania Court House Virginia

8-20 May 1864 - General Robert E. Lee verses General Ulysses S. Grant. Casualties: 9500 Confederate, 18,399 Union!

Battle of Drewry's Bluff - Drewry's Bluff Virginia

12-16 May 1864 - General P.G.T. Beauregard verses General Benjamin F. Butler. Casualties: 2506 Confederate, 4160 Union!

Battle of Resaca - Resaca Georgia

13-15 May 1864 - General Joseph E. Johnston verses General William T. Sherman. Casualties: 3800 Confederate, 2747 Union!

Battle of Jackson - Jackson Mississippi

14 May 1863 - General Joseph E. Johnston verses General William T. Sherman. Casualties: 1339 Confederate, 1000 Union!

Battle of New Market - New Market Virginia

15 May 1864 - General John C. Breckinridge verses General Franz Sigel. Casualties: 577 Confederate, 831 Union!

Battle of Chamberlin Hill - Edward's Station Mississippi

16-17 May 1863 - General John C. Pemberton verses General Ulysses S. Grant. Casualties: 3851 Confederate, 2441 Union!

Siege of Vicksburg - Vicksburg Mississippi

18 May - 4 July 1863 - General John C. Pemberton verses General Ulysses S. Grant. Casualties: 39,491 Confederate, 8,873 Union!

Battle of Front Royal - Front Royal Virginia

23 May 1862 - General Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson verses Colonel J. R. Kenly. Casualties: 50 Confederate, 904 Union!

First Battle of Winchester - Winchester Virginia

23-25 May 1862 - General Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson verses General Nathaniel P. Banks. Casualties: 400 Confederate, 2769 Union!

Battle of North Anna River - North Anna River Virginia

23-26 May 1864 - General Robert E. Lee verses General Ulysses S. Grant. Casualties: 2000 Confederate, 1973 Union!

Battle of New Hope Church - New Hope Church Georgia

25-29 May 1864 - General Joseph E. Johnston verses General William T. Sherman. Casualties: 3000 Confederate, 2400 Union!

Siege of Port Hudson - Port Hudson Louisiana

26 May - 9 July 1863 - General Franklin Gardner verses General Nathaniel P. Banks. Casualties: 7200 Confederate, 3600 Union!

Battle of Seven Pines - Seven Pines Virginia

31 May - 1 June 1862 - General Joseph E. Johnston verses General George B. McClellan. Casualties: 6134 Confederate, 5031 Union!



Our Honored Ancestors

**John Gregg
Brigadier General
Confederate States of America**



John Gregg, a native of Lawrence County, Alabama, was born September 28, 1828. He moved to La Grange, Alabama as a boy where he received his education at La Grange College, after which he studied law at Tusculum. After emigrating to Fairfield, Texas, in 1852, he was elected district judge in 1856. Gregg was a member of the secession convention in 1861, and to the Provisional Confederate Congress the same year.

Gregg resigned his seat after First Manassas, he returned to Texas and recruited the 7th Texas Infantry of which he was elected colonel. He and his regiment were surrendered and exchanged at Fort Donelson. The following February he was promoted brigadier general to rank from August 29, 1862. He was assigned to the division of John Bell Hood, Longstreet's corps, and his brigade was a part of the very successful "wedge" driven into the Federal line at Chickamauga. Gregg was severely wounded in

this engagement. After his recovery and the return of his unit to the Army of Northern Virginia, he was assigned to command of the Texas brigade which he led with conspicuous bravery at the Wilderness and during the ensuing Overland campaign of 1864. He was killed in action on the Charles City Road below Richmond on the morning of October 7, 1864. He is buried in the Odd Fellows Cemetery, Aberdeen, Mississippi.



“Nothing fills me with deeper sadness than to see a Southern man apologizing for the defense we made of our inheritance. Our cause was so just, so sacred, that had I known all that has come to pass, had I known what was to be inflicted upon me, all that my country was to suffer, all that our posterity was to endure, I would do it all over again.”
President Jefferson Davis, C.S.A.



GUARDIAN NEWS

By Commander Rex McGee



The rural South has a long-standing tradition of “Decoration Day”. At this time of the year families gathered at the local cemeteries to clean up the graves and freshen up the cemetery as a whole. Decoration Day occurred in the rural South's calendar after spring planting, but before long

summer day's required extensive maintenance of the crops and livestock. Decoration Day has its origin in the South prior to the Civil War and is continued in many communities until this day. Tradition has it that the inspiration for “Memorial Day”, a day of remembrance of fallen American Heroes and a National holiday came from the tradition in the South of “Decoration Day”. The literal definition of Decoration Day or "Decoration," as it is sometimes called, taken from the Dictionary of Smoky Mountain English, is: "An occasion on which a family or a church congregation gathers to place flowers on the graves of loved ones and to hold a memorial service for them. Traditionally, this day, involved singing, dinner on the ground as well as a religious service." In our area “Decoration Day” is the month of May or a week or two on either side of this month. This is a wonderful time to visit your Confederate Heroes graves and get them spruced up. A good cleaning of the area, cleaning of the stone and a fresh flag, if needed, is a wonderful way to celebrate the life of your hero. Let us not forget the tradition of “Decoration” and honoring our fallen heroes.

Guardians, we have numerous cemeteries and individual graves that need a compatriot to step up and be counted. Many of you have cemeteries that are a stones throw from your front door. Two to three hours of your time per year will insure that the graves in these cemeteries will not be lost to history. Our Confederate Heroes gave up to four years of their lives and many made the supreme sacrifice for us and our families. Show them that they did not serve in vain.

1st Lt. David Richard Reynolds Sons of Confederate Veterans Camp # 2270 reports that, effective April 30, 2019, our Guardian numbers are 248 graves in 31 cemeteries in 4 counties attended to by 12 Compatriots.

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. Letters and articles may be submitted to: Joe.Reynolds@davidreynolds.org (Cutoff for articles is 15th of the month)