



THE REBEL ROUSER

Newsletter for the DCV - July 2007 Issue

*Dallas Chapter
530 Hackberry Drive
Fairview, TX 75069*

OUR NEXT MEETING

John S. "Rip" Ford will be discussed by **Dr. Richard B. McCaslin** at this month's program. A native of South Carolina, Ford grew up in Tennessee and came to Texas just after the Battle of San Jacinto. Few of the movers and shakers of early Texas had such a varied background as Ford. His many vocations included doctor, attorney, surveyor, Texas Ranger, school superintendent, and newspaperman. His political record in various offices would be envied by many modern politicians. He also served in the military in the Mexican War before his service to the Confederacy. The nickname of "Rip" was earned while serving as an adjutant during the Mexican War. During the WBTS Texans flocked to serve under him.

Richard B. McCaslin is a professor of history at the University of North Texas. He earned his Masters degree in history at Louisiana State University and his PhD in history at UT at Austin. Among honors he has received are the Tullis Prize of the Texas State Historical Association and a Certificate of Commendation from the American Association for State and Local History (both for *Tainted Breeze: The Great Hanging at Gainesville, Texas, October 1862*), the Slatten Award, the Laney Prize and a nomination for a Pulitzer in Biography (all for *Lee in the Shadow of Washington*). His latest book, on Tennessee in the Civil War is his third entry in the award-winning *Portraits of Conflict* series.

Our meeting will be called to order at **7PM** on **Friday, July 20, 2007**, in **Raymond's Bar-B-Q** at **10920 Garland Road**. Visitors are always welcome. Come and bring some!

A TAD VAGUE

A foreign ship arrived in Honolulu from San Francisco in early 1865. When the captain was asked for news from the United States, he said there was some sort of a row going on but he hadn't learned any particulars.

CREED OF THE DCV

We don't waste our time mourning or arguing about the fact that the South lost the Civil War, even though we prefer the more accurate term "War Between the States." However we remember that many years ago huge numbers of Southerners resented what had become an increasingly overbearing Federal government and decided to leave what they regarded as a voluntary union of states. Slavery had nothing to do with the decision of most of them, as relatively few owned slaves. When they were not allowed to leave peacefully, they did what they believed to be the right thing and took up arms in defense of their homes and families. Whatever their reasons those people saw fit to fight and die for their beliefs. We come from those people. We honor and respect them for their bravery, gallantry, and dedication. We feel an obligation to show our respect, to preserve and present their true history. We are proud to be Southerners and will not turn our back on our heritage. We don't care how something is done up North, how something is said up North, or what one eats or drinks up North. We enjoy, celebrate, and honor Southern ways, history, and traditions. We are American by birth, Southern by the grace of God!

THE FUTURE OF THE DCV

If the DCV is to accomplish the goals and aims it has established for itself, ie, presenting and defending the true history of our ancestors and their cause, we must all step up and take action, not merely stand back and wait for others to act. How many of us are recruiting members? If we are to be relevant, we **must** grow. It takes numbers to have clout.

DIDN'T REQUIRE MUCH

One Yankee soldier said in awe of his opponent: "Give a rebel a canteen of water and a pocket full of crackers, and he's ready for a week's campaign!"

JUNE 15, 2007

An invocation by Chaplain Gary Snowden opened the meeting. This was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the US Flag, Salute to the Confederate Flag, and Pledge to the Texas Flag.

The first item of business was a report on the installation of Private William Hawkins' grave-marker in Greenwood cemetery on June 10. The next item was consideration of returning our meetings to the Casa Linda Cafeteria. Larry Johnson was delegated the task of investigating and reporting on this.

John C. "Jack" Waugh presented "*Old Jack and Old Bedford – Two of a Kind*", a discussion of two of the South's greatest generals, "Stonewall" Jackson and Nathan Bedford Forrest. Although very different personally, the two were extremely similar on the battlefield.

Door prizes were awarded.

Our meeting ended with a benediction by our chaplain.

IN THE SERVICE OF THE SOUTH

Mrs. Charles J. Faulkner was an able and experienced spy in the Valley of Virginia. She was more dangerous to the Union than Belle Boyd, because she was more adroit, with larger social influence and greater means of accomplishing her purposes. Almost nightly she entertained large numbers of young Federal officers in her home. She and her two daughters lavished their most courtly blandishments upon the men, and, ere the Federals knew it, the ladies had achieved their purpose, strategic intelligence. Information on Northern plans, movements, numbers of troops and the direction of their marches, or numbers in garrison, were duly transmitted to Richmond by the secret post routes which the Confederates had all through this Valley.

WAS NOT HIGHLY VALUED

In 1861 U.S. Grant was threatened with being relieved of his command. After Shiloh, Gov. David Todd of Ohio wanted him court-martialed. Grant was described to Abraham Lincoln as "a drunken wooden-headed tanner."

EVENED THE SCORE

It is well known how Captain Charles Wilkes, as the commander of the *San Jacinto*, captured the British steamer *Trent* and made prisoners of Confederate commissioners James Mason and John Slidell. Lesser known is the prior relationship of two of the parties. As a young man Wilkes fell head over ears in love with an attractive young lass who returned his affection and consented to become his wife. But the young sailor had a rival in a young man named Slidell. Young Slidell refused to accept the situation and poisoned the mind of the girl's father. The father refused to consent to his daughter's marriage with Wilkes and instead offered her hand to Slidell. After many protestations, tears, and hysterics, the girl accepted her father's decision and became Mrs. John Slidell. Charles Wilkes never saw his lady love again nor his successful rival until he saw Slidell standing a prisoner on board his ship. Wilkes at last had his revenge.

GRAVE MARKER INSTALLATION

Sunday, June 19, was hot, but not hot enough to dissuade many good Southerners from attending and participating in the ceremonies in Greenwood Cemetery marking the installation of the grave marker for Private William B. Hawkins. Under direction of Larry Johnson the Heritage Brass band provided period music while DCV, UDC, and SCV members honored Private Hawkins in particular and their ancestry in general. Bobby Rutherford presided over the occasion. Daryl Coleman served as chaplain. Mark Mueller spoke on the history of Private Hawkins' military unit. Mrs. Elizabeth Welch discussed his personal history. Members of the Lucy Holcombe Pickens Chapter of the UDC unveiled the restored marker and later provided refreshments. The marker was found in a dump several months ago. Diligent efforts to find Private Hawkins' grave were unsuccessful, although much information was learned about his life, including his Confederate service. Rather than the stone marker being destroyed, it was installed in the Confederate section of Greenwood Cemetery.

THANKS?

When the Confederate Congress passed a joint resolution of thanks to General R. M. Gano, the official record listed his name as "Guano". The general said he had made a list of twenty-three different ways in which his name had been spelled; but he never imagined that it would come to "guano."

THE CSA AND SLAVERY

When the Constitution of the US was adopted, the Southern states attempted to prohibit the further importation of slaves. That attempt was blocked by New England representatives. When the Constitution of the Confederate States of America was adopted on March 11, 1861, the New England states could no longer block the Southern states. Therefore the CSA Constitution took the first step in addressing the slavery problem with the following prohibition:

Section 9 - Limits on Congress, Bill of Rights

1. The importation of negroes of the African race from any foreign country other than the slaveholding States or Territories of the United States of America, is hereby forbidden; and Congress is required to pass such laws as shall effectually prevent the same.

NOT IMPRESSED BY RANK

While encamped on the Peninsula, Brigadier General Henry Wise rode up to one of his wagons stuck in mud. He reined in his horse and critically commented: "Here is a fine wagon and team going to destruction for want of a driver." Unabashed the wagoner instantly retorted: "Yes, and here is a very fine brigade, too, going to destruction for want of a Brigadier." Without further comment the General resumed his journey at a quickened pace.

ONLY WOUNDED

During the battle of Murfreesboro a Tennessean and Arkansan made an agreement that the first one of the two that got wounded should be taken off by the other. Pretty soon the Arkansas man called out to the Tennessean that he was wounded and to take him off. True to his word, the Tennessean shouldered him and carried him away to the rear. While going along, a cannon ball came along and took off the head of the wounded man, but the bearer did not observe it. When he arrived where the surgeon was he laid him down and said, "Doctor, here is a friend of mine. Can't you do something for him?" The doctor in surprise wanted to know why he brought that dead man to him? The Tennessean turned and looked at him, and very coolly remarked: "Why, blast him, he told me he was only wounded."

OUR SOUTHRON SUPPORTERS

The following have donated \$10 or more to assist with the expenses of the Dallas Chapter, including printing and distribution of the newsletter:

Ron Aldis	Rodney G. Orr
Dan Coit	George Pittard
Ralph Green	Bobby Rutherford
Doug Guthrie	Ed Smith
Carlos Hedstrom	Vin Vinson
Joseph D. Knight, Jr	Charles Walker
David Whitaker	

MILITARY ORDER OF THE STARS & BARS

As a courtesy to another fine organization, we publish the names and addresses of the recently elected officers of the Texas Society of the MOS&B:

Commander

Jim Templin
2500 Woodlawn Dr.
Ennis, TX 75119-7644
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Lt. Commander

Henry Seale
17 Seaside Lane
Texas City, TX 77590-6148
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Adjutant

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Genealogist

David Whitaker
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SAM HOUSTON

It has been said that Sam Houston opposed the Confederacy and supported its Union foes. Actually Houston opposed secession, but supported the Southern fighting men and recognized the Yankee army as invaders. On November 1, 1862, Houston addressed a gathering of Texans in Brenham. He told them that this was probably the last occasion he would ever address a public assembly. He advised them to use all their efforts to repel "the insidious foe that was stealthily marching to rob, plunder, and destroy their homes, their property, etc." He concluded with a beautiful oration of his own case; a septuagenarian, driven from his house and home, without cause or reason, and coming back to Washington county, the cradle of Texas liberty, and where he now expected to lay his bones.

CONSIDERATION FOR THE FOE

When the battalion under the command of Major Tom Brown found a troop of Union cavalry huddled all together within point blank distance, so near that they could almost lay their hands upon them, the Major gave the word to fire. To his utter amazement no report followed the order. Brown, astonished at the failure of his men to obey the order, looked along the line and found every man firmly in his place, gun to shoulder and finger to the trigger. "Fire! God d — n you, fire!" exclaimed the Major. In an instant two hundred guns belched forth, hurling the fatal missiles into the enemy. When the Major asked his men why they hesitated so long, they told him the foe was so close, and they had so dead a thing on them, that it looked like a shame to take advantage of them.

A BRIEF BUT DEADLY ENCOUNTER

As Captain Jones, of Co. B, 17th Mississippi, was passing through woods at the head of his men, he met another party also headed by an officer. The two halted instantly. Jones exclaimed, "For God Almighty's sake, tell me quick, friends or enemies, who are you?" The other replied. "We are friends" and at the same time advanced. Behind Jones, Joseph Ware instantly cried out, "Captain, they are not friends..... They are Yankees! Let me shoot." Again Jones exclaimed, "Who are you? Speak quick, for I can't keep my men from firing." "I'll let you know who we are, you d — d rebel," said the Yankee officer, for such he was. Suiting action to word he sprang upon and seized Captain Jones by the collar. For a second or two a scuffle ensued between the officers until Jones broke loose. At the same instant one of Jones' Mississippians killed the Yankee with his musket.

BET THEY WERE A HOLY TERROR!

The Helena. Arkansas, *Shield* commented on a regiment of Arkansas troops that had recently passed through the town. They said it should properly be styled the Preachers' Regiment, since its Colonel from Pine Bluff was a Methodist minister and in the regiment there were no less than eight other preachers, one of whom was over seventy years of age!

HONOR AND GLORY

"There is a true glory and a true honor: the glory of duty done - the honor of the integrity of principle."
~Robert E. Lee, Appomattox, 1865

SIMON CAMERON

Simon Cameron was Abraham Lincoln's first Secretary of War. He was famous as a political machine boss and political opportunist. He once defined an honest politician as someone who, "once bought, stays bought". He's also known as one who never forgot a friend or forgave an enemy. Cameron served less than a year, resigning after stories of his unscrupulous dealings in contracting for war materiel came to light. His actions in procuring inferior army uniforms and blankets that would shred and fall apart gave rise to the word "shoddy" for any poorly manufactured product.

FORREST'S WOUNDS

Confederate General Nathan Bedford Forrest was physically wounded in battle just three times. At Shiloh, he was shot through the left hip and the bullet lodged in his spinal column. He was wounded again just prior to the Battle of Chickamauga; and he was shot in the right foot at the Battle of Tupelo. However, his Civil War medical history is more colorful if we add the contusions he suffered each of the six times he was "unhorsed" in battle, with only one instance in which the horse was shot out from under him. The most unusual shooting occurred when one of his officers tried to kill him. Including all these instances, the total number of times Forrest was wounded during the Civil War is ten.

KNEW THE TERRITORY

When J.E.B. Stuart completed his famous trip around the Union Army, he was guided by John Singleton Mosby, later of Mosby's Rangers fame.

AN UNUSUAL PET

Confederate soldiers of Company B of the Forty-third Mississippi regiment had a really unusual "pet". It was a camel, used to transport supplies. **In a forced march toward Iuka, Mississippi, just prior to the battle of Corinth, the camel blundered into the line of march and spooked horses so badly that there was a terrible stampede. The camel was accidentally killed during the siege of Vicksburg.**

ME, TOO!

If there are no dogs in Heaven, then when I die I want to go where they went. -Will Rogers