



THE REBEL ROUSER

Newsletter for the DCV – Dallas Chapter

August 2007

20 JULY 2007

OUR AUGUST MEETING! WE'VE MOVED BACK!

Effective with this month's meeting on **August 17** the Dallas Chapter of the DCV will meet in the **Highland Park Cafeteria in Casa Linda Shopping Center**. (The street address is 300 Casa Linda Plaza, Dallas, TX 75218. This is at the corner of Buckner Blvd. and Garland Road. The telephone there is 214/324-5000.) This is the same location where we formerly met, although it was named the Casa Linda Cafeteria at that time. We hope more of you will join us as we "return home!"

For our meeting this month we are privileged to have as our speaker **Jeff Massey**, Past Commander General of the MOS&B. After the War, Confederate veterans banded together for mutual aid and companionship, forming the United Confederate Veterans. Compatriot Massey will discuss the formation of the organization, including in his discussion accounts of many of the prominent members.

A native of Arkansas, Jeff is a longtime resident of Oklahoma, where he practices law. He has a distinguished record of achievement in many phases of Confederate activities and heritage. One of his latest successes has been the creation and restoration of the Confederate Memorial Hall at the new Oklahoma History Museum and the display of two Confederate flags in the new Flag Plaza near the Oklahoma State Capital.

Our meeting will be called to order at **7PM**. Remember, that **August 17!** Please join us for this "homecoming", AND bring friends!

EXCEPTIONAL PRINTERS

Following secession, North Carolina's first drill manual was printed at The Institute for the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind.

Chapter Vice President Michael Bryant presided, as President Larry Johnson was on vacation.

The meeting opened with an invocation by chaplain Gary Snowden. This was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag, Pledge to the Texas Flag, and Salute to the Confederate Flag.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved for the Chapter to move its meeting site back to the former location, now known as Highland Park Cafeteria.

Dr. Richard McCaslin presented a program on a legendary Texas hero, John S. "Rip" Ford. He brought out many facts not commonly known and dispelled some accepted stories such as the source of the nickname "Rip".

Door prizes were awarded.

Our meeting ended with a benediction by our chaplain.

VOLUNTEERS FOR TELEPHONE DUTY

If we can get the volunteers to do so, we will start a "telephone tree" to encourage attendance and to disseminate information between meetings. Each volunteer will be responsible for calling a short list of members to remind them of a meeting or to inform them of late-breaking information where time is a critical factor. If you are willing to serve in this group, please contact Ralph Green (214/544-0750, jnyreb@juno.com).

UNDENIABLY TRUE ADVICE

Because of its use in curing meats, salt was an extremely important commodity during the WBTS. In 1865 the *Confederate States Almanac* had this advice for Southern soldiers: "To keep meat from spoiling in the summer, eat it early in the spring."

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	Joseph D. Knight, Jr
Mrs. D.Harold Byrd	Rodney G. Orr
George Church	George Pittard
Dan Coit	Bobby Rutherford
Ralph Green	Ed Smith
Doug Guthrie	Vin Vinson
Carlos Hedstrom	Charles Walker

David Whitaker

A HUMOROUS WARTIME LOOK BY THE NEW YORK MERCURY AT "STONEWALL"

Stonewall Jackson, in personal appearance, is most unlovely — and it is said that he — like the Ashantees — files his teeth to a sharp point every other morning. He stands eleven feet five inches (or five feet eleven inches, I am not certain which) in his boots — when he has got any. His hair is black, and was furnished to order by Bachelor, of New York. In religion he is at times a devout Catholic--at least he followed closely in the footsteps of the Pope during one of his campaigns — and at others he is a colporteur for the American Tract Society--at any rate he has probably left more tracks in Virginia than any other white man; and, according to the papers, always goes into battle with a family Bible under one arm and a Greek Testament in the coat tail pocket, which he reads during the intervals of the fighting. He is abstemious in his habits, having been known to live nine days off of one sardine and a barrel of whiskey. In dress he is extremely neat, never wearing a shirt more than three months without changing it. To sum up, Stonewall, in private life is — as Shakespeare says--"a man as is a man, that we may never look upon his like again." In his military capacity he is, to quote Sheridan Knowles, "in peace a lamb, in war--a lam'er."

A YANKEE OPINION OF FORREST

Yankee General Jeff. C. Davis interrogated a prisoner about Nathan Bedford Forrest's location. Davis said Forrest was the most dangerous man in the rebel army, stating: "Forrest is such a damned fool he will attack anybody at any time and in any position."

YEAH, SURE HE WAS!

During the Federal retreat after First Manassas, Union Colonel Ambrose E. Burnside, future general and commander of the Army of the Potmac, was racing hatless and swordless to the rear. Asked by newspaperman Henry Villard why he was in such a hurry, Burnside answered while continuing his flight, "I am hurrying ahead to get rations for my command."

REBEL OR PATRIOT

A successful revolution earns the world's admiration; its advocates are immortalized as "patriots". A failure is stigmatized as "rebellion" and its people are "rebels." A poet of long ago was referring to a "rebel" when he wrote:

How many a spirit born to bless
Hath sunk beneath that withering name,
Whom but a day's, an hour's success
Had wafted to eternal fame.

Our rebel ancestors were truly patriots!

DEAFENED BY FURY IN BATTLE

With most of the Union troops who had erupted from the Crater at Petersburg pushed back into the Crater, the surrounding Confederates rained death upon them. Shells and cannisters were lobbed into the pit to the accompaniment of withering rifle fire. Inflamed by the black troops who had stormed the Confederates yelling "No quarter to the Rebels!", the Southerners felt little sympathy for the cowering Federals. Pleas for mercy were drowned out by the roar of explosives, rifles, and combat. Finally, a Confederate officer screamed at a Federal colonel, "Why the hell don't you fellows surrender?" When the Federal quickly screamed back, "Why the hell don't you let us?", sanity returned and the battle ended.

PATRIOTS PUNISHED

In early February, 1865, Union General John B. Sanborn, commanding the District of Southwest Missouri, banished forty-eight families and one hundred other men and women to a distance of fifty miles outside of his district, for feeding and harboring guerrillas and bushwhackers. The parties had to leave the district by February 20, on penalty of arrest and punishment.

YOUNGEST CONFEDERATE GENERAL

William Paul Roberts was born in Gates County, North Carolina on July 11, 1841. At age 19, he enlisted in what eventually became designated as the 2nd North Carolina Cavalry. Promoted to major for his early performances within the state, he further distinguished himself with the Army of Northern Virginia when his unit transferred to it the fall of 1862. Promoted to colonel in June 1864, William served with great distinction at Ream's Station near Petersburg. He was recognized for leading his dismounted troopers in a gallant charge against Union earthworks. On February 23, 1865, he was officially appointed a brigadier general (backdated to February 21), thereby making him the youngest general officer in the South. It was reported that Robert E. Lee gave Roberts his own gauntlets when Robertson was so promoted. Commanding a brigade at Five Forks, he was virtually overwhelmed by numerically superior Union forces. Avoiding capture, he made his way with the army to Appomattox, only to be surrendered there on April 9, 1865. After the war, William returned to Gates County where he eventually entered the realm of state politics. In 1875 he represented Gates County at the constitutional convention. The following year he was elected to the state legislature and in 1880, he became a state auditor and served in that capacity until 1888. He died in Norfolk, Virginia on March 28, 1910 and is buried in his native county at Gatesville, North Carolina.

Note: The youngest officer in the War was E.G. Baxter. Born February 10, 1849, he enlisted in the 7th Kentucky in June of 1862 and was commissioned a second lieutenant when not quite fourteen.

DOWN ONLY SO FAR!

A soldier of Bate's division, after fleeing two days from Nashville, had thrown away his gun and accoutrements. Alone in the woods, he sat down and commenced thinking, the first chance he had for such a thing. Rolling up his sleeves and looking at his legs and general physique, he thus gave vent to his feelings; "I am whipped, badly whipped, and somewhat demoralized; but no man can say I am scattered."

UNEXPECTED ENDORSEMENT

On January 1, 1865, the *New York News* printed the Confederate Constitution in full, declaring it better than the Constitution of the United States, because of its "clearer and more explicit enunciation of the doctrine of State rights."

WELL SAID, SENATOR!

Senator E.W.Carmack, 1903

The Confederate soldiers were our kinfolk and our heroes. We testify to the country our enduring fidelity to their memory. We commemorate their valor and devotion. There were some things not surrendered at Appomattox. We did not surrender our rights and history, nor was it one of those conditions of surrender that unfriendly lips should be suffered to tell the story of that war or that unfriendly hands should write the epitaphs of our Confederate dead. We have the right to teach our children the true history of that war, the causes that led up to it, and the principles involved.

SMALLER LOSS

Accompanied by General Archibald Gracie, General Robert E. Lee was reviewing the line at Petersburg. Lee very imprudently thrust his head above the parapet to inspect the enemy's works. This was where a young man was killed a few days previous. It was near this same spot that General Lee was now exposing himself. His officers stood horrified, expecting every moment to see him killed. Finding all entreaties to be in vain, General Gracie jumped up and interposed himself between Lee and the enemy. Immediately General Lee remarked, "General Gracie, that is very dangerous; you will certainly be killed." General Gracie at once replied, "It is better, General, that I should be killed than you. When you get down, I will." Lee smiled and got down, followed by General Gracie. .

COINCIDENCE

In battle at New Creek, West Virginia, the 5th and 6th Virginia Cavalry Regiments, CSA, captured the 5th and 6th Virginia Cavalry Regiments, USA. The flags of the Federal units were taken to Richmond for display.

The Rebel Rouser

Monthly Publication of

Dallas Chapter

Descendants of Confederate Veterans
530 Hackberry Drive, Fairview TX 75069

Editor – Ralph Green

AD IN A WARTIME PAPER

“A gentleman who is about to leave the house in which he resides, and being desirous to return it to his landlord in the same condition in which he found it, will pay a fair price for five hundred full-grown rats, an acre of poisonous weeds, and a cart-load of rubbish; the weeds to be planted in the garden; the rubbish left on the door step, and the rats suffered to run loose through the house.”

A NOT-TOO-SUBTLE HINT

Every young man of Christian County, Kentucky, who had not enlisted by December 1861 received the following letter:

Sir

Our committee understands that you have some available weapons which a tender regard for your personal safety prevents you from using in defence of our homes, now threatened by Yankee invaders. We can probably find men who will use those weapons, and, if not, some of our own sex will shoulder them. You will, therefore, please send them to the charge of our committee, at Gen. Tilghman's headquarters.

Southern Rights Ladies' Committee

DIDN'T CARE FOR YANKEE HOSPITALITY

Sixteen Texas Rangers who were reported as captured between Glasgow and Greensburg in Kentucky returned to camp bringing with them three prisoners, three horses, a quantity of leather, and a wagon load of guns, taken from their Union captors in the locality of Green River.

A CHRISTMAS EDITORIAL

Richmond *Daily Dispatch*, December 25, 1861

In the midst of the dark storm of war, the Star of Bethlehem rises with its serene and unquenchable lustre, and gilds the edges of the clouds with rays of heavenly consolation. If it is no longer to us the herald of peace of joy, happy are we that the responsibility of strife and bloodshed rests alone upon our enemies. Asking only to be "let alone," standing upon our own thresholds in defence of our hearths and homes, and seeking to make the hearths and homes of no other people desolate and miserable, we may, without remorse, and with humble and trusting faith, look upward for approval to the "Peaceful Prince of Earth and Heaven," whose birth we this day celebrate, and whose coming we greet with garlands of joy and anthems of thanksgiving.

SPIRITED NASHVILLE LADIES

When Gen. McCook, of the Lincoln army, arrived in Nashville, he sent his card to Miss S. McNally with the request that he might renew his former acquaintance. The noble and accomplished lady returned the card with the following reply written upon the back of the card: "Sir: I do not desire to renew any acquaintance with the invaders of my State!"

Two other Union officers called upon Miss Bettie Martin, an elegant and accomplished young lady, and offered their cards, also requesting the renewal of an old acquaintanceship. With a look of scorn and contempt, she dashed the cards into their faces, and said, "Your absence, sirs, will be much better company to me than your presence."

THE LORD WILL PROVIDE

On the battlefield of Shiloh, there was a shortage of battle flags. Some of the brigades were compelled to dispense with this necessary appendage. All the brigades and divisions were placed in battle array with their battle flags, with the exception of General Daniel Ruggles' brigade. Ruggles rode up to General Bragg, on whose staff he was, and asked the reason why he had none. Just at that moment a rainbow appeared. Ruggles pointed to it with his sword, and exclaimed. --"Behold my battle flag."