



THE REBEL ROUSER

Newsletter for the DCV – Dallas Chapter

January 2009

Lone Star Chapter, MOS&B

JOINT MEETING

Nathan Bedford Forrest

(1821-1877)



21 NOVEMBER 2008

This was our last meeting of 2008. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by President Larry Johnson and opened with an invocation by our Chaplain, Jay Shelton, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the US Flag, Pledge to the Texas Flag, and Salute to the Confederate Flag.

There were two main items of business. The first was the presentation to the chapter of a beautiful Chapter Flag by its creator, Elizabeth Satterfield. Mrs. Satterfield made the flag and gave it in memory of her husband, the late Ray Satterfield.

The next item was a discussion of the need for recruiting new members. New members are the life blood of any organization and it is essential that we "Meet and greet the Public" and make them aware of our purpose and existence. The Board of the DCV has created and made available an attractive recruiting brochure to aid the chapters. A proposal was approved to man a table at the December Gun Show. (Unfortunately for us the Gun Show was sold out and we were unable to take part in this event.) **MEMBERS & FRIENDS: PLEASE HELP US WITH YOUR IDEAS FOR, AND PARTICIPATION IN, RECRUITING EFFORTS.**

Ralph Green presented a reading of anecdotes assembled during research on his book *Sidelights and Lighter Sides of the War Between the States*.

Our meeting ended with a benediction by our Chaplain.

TEMPORARY RELIEF?

After repeated failed efforts to have a particular officer relieved of his command, US Grant sent the War Department an exasperated dispatch: "I beg that you will relieve General ----, at least until all danger is over."

Nathan Bedford Forrest is a giant of a figure in the history of the War Between the States. A man who fought his way to wealth from poverty before the War, he was equally successful in his military career. He was the only man in either army who enlisted as a private and rose to the rank of lieutenant general. Daring and innovative as a cavalry commander, he discovered new doctrines for mobile forces. His actions earned him the title of *Wizard of the Saddle*. **Tony Sinclair** will bring us a discussion of Forrest for this month's program.

Our speaker is a teacher and Social Studies coordinator in the Avalon ISD. He is a graduate of Stephen F. Austin with a BA in History/English. He, his wife, and two daughters are residents of Ennis.

In addition to our program chapter officers for 2009 will be elected. Any member is eligible. Feel free to nominate someone or stand for office yourself.

Our meeting will be called to order at 6:30PM on Friday, January 16, in the Highland Park Cafeteria in Casa Linda Cafeteria Shopping Center at Buckner Blvd. and Garland Road. Visitors are always welcome. Come and bring some!

"Sometimes I wonder whether the world is being run by smart people who are putting us on....or by imbeciles who really mean it." Mark Twain

DCV CONVENTION

The 2009 Convention of the DCV will be held February 20-21, 2009, in the **Fredericksburg Inn and Hotel Suites** at Fredericksburg, TX. The rate is **\$89** per night. Our association must be identified for the special rate. The hotel has our listing as "Society of Descendants of Confederate Veterans." Members are urged to register promptly to ensure availability of the special room rate.

The hotel's location and telephone number:
201 S. WASHINGTON
FREDERICKSBURG, TX. 78624
1.830.997.0202
1.800.446.0202

Meetings will be held in the Nimitz Pacific Museum conference room.

REGISTRATION FOR CONVENTION

NAME _____

CHAPTER _____

GUEST(S) _____

HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION of GUEST(S) _____

REGISTRATION FEE, \$5.00 (member only)

Mail Registration to

Randy Jones

804 Lakeway Dr., Ennis, Tx., 75119

or

Terry Ayers

1016 Greenbrook Pkway, Pflugerville, TX. 78660

CSA LIMITED SLAVERY

Adopted March 11, 1861, the CSA Constitution forbade importation of slaves from any foreign country except the United States:

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

WHAT HE NEEDED

An officer charged with constructing a battery complained to his colonel that it was impossible due to the depth of the mud. The colonel responded that it must be done and ordered the officer to requisition whatever was required to do the job. The officer then prepared a requisition including the following: "Twenty-five men, twenty foot tall, to work in mud eighteen feet deep."

GO GET 'EM!

Marine Lt. General Lewis "Chesty" Puller was a descendant of a major in Jeb Stuart's 5th Virginia Cavalry. When informed at Guadalcanal during WW II that Japanese had surrounded his division, Puller lived up to his Confederate heritage. He said, "All right, they're on our left, they're on our right, they're in front of us, they're behind us.... They can't get away this time!"

ZEBULON VANCE

Zebulon Vance, a US Congressman in 1861, tried to keep his state in the Union. After Lincoln lied to him about re-supplying Fort Sumter, he became an ardent secessionist. Later as governor of North Carolina, he said that his job was to "fight the Yankees and fuss with the Confederacy."

CONTRARY TO YANKEE OFFICERS

Robert E. Lee was scrupulous about his men abstaining from "unnecessary or wanton injury" to private property. When an irate owner of a Chambersburg hat shop complained that some Rebels had stolen hats from him, Lee found the men and forced them to return the stolen hats!

HAD AN EARLIER TICKET

Ulric Dahlgren was a 21-year-old colonel when he led an 1864 raid on Richmond with an aim to assassinate President Davis. After he died in that attempt, his body was buried with great secrecy lest it be desecrated by outraged Southerners. Several weeks later Confederate authorities opened the grave in order to send the body North. They were surprised to find that Union sympathizers had already stolen the body to send home.

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:

David Allison	Van Perryman
Dan Coit	George Pittard
Ralph Green	H.A. Prophet
Carlos Hedstrom, Jr.	Dan Shelby
Houston DCV	Marshall Surratt
Rodney G. Orr	James A. Wild
John F. Wilson, Jr.	

SOUTHERN CHARM

General Gorge Pickett's Division was marching through Greencastle, Pennsylvania, and their band was gaily playing "Dixie". A young girl rushed out of a vine-covered house with a US flag, shouting, "Traitors, traitors, traitors, come and take this flag, the man of you who dares!" General Pickett bowed to her, saluted her flag, and turned to his men who doffed their caps and cheered the young girl. Impressed by the Southerners' actions, the girl still waved her flag but stopped calling them traitors. Instead she cried out, "Oh, I wish – I wish I had a Rebel flag, I'd wave that, too!"

OBEDIENT TEXANS

One reason for Lee's invasion of Pennsylvania was to obtain food and supplies for the army. Southern troops going through Chambersburg near Gettysburg discovered a considerable store of whiskey. A large quantity of this was gathered along with routine things like shoes and victuals but not all of the liquor could be taken. Fearing that a large amount of "fire water" lying around could create a problem, a contingent of Texas troops under General Jerome B. Robertson was ordered to dispose of the whiskey. The Texans did their duty with great devotion. They sacrificed their sobriety to dispose of every drop, although not quite in the way intended!

KINDLY OLD FATHER ABRAHAM

Abraham Lincoln thought it both logical and wise to send freed slaves to colonies established for them in Central America and other overseas locations. To this end he proposed a plan to do so and persuaded the US Congress to appropriate \$600,000 for the overseas colonization of former slaves.

NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT

General Cadmus Wilcox was riding with a single trooper when the latter saw a Yankee picket in the distance. Raising his rifle, the trooper asked if he should shoot the Yankee. Wilcox responded, "No, the distance is too great. Better not waste your powder." He had hardly spoken when a ball from the picket flew within a couple of inches of the general's head, prompting Wilcox to say, "You may shoot!"

THOUGHT THAT WAS YOU

A soldier returning to camp from an evening "on the town" was halted by a sentinel asking for the countersign. "Friend, with a bottle." "Advance bottle, and draw stopper."

BRAGG AS A STRATEGIST

A Charleston newspaper claimed that if General Braxton Bragg was near the gates of Heaven and invited in, at the last moment he would fall back. Bragg questioned one of his men who had escaped from his capture by Yankees and asked what the Yankees were doing. "Retreating." Expecting the Yankees to advance, the surprised Bragg asked, "Do you know what a retreat is?" "I ought to know, General. I've been with your army two years."

YOU BETTER REST UP

Some band members were practicing when a fat shoat wandered near and was immediately shot. Not wanting to be punished for foraging, the men put the pig in a bass drum to smuggle it into camp. As they entered camp they were addressed by the regimental commander who was vexed at their absence when he wanted them to play for a dress parade. He loudly ordered them to take their places and start the music. With his drum unfit for performance, the drummer approached the colonel and quietly informed him of the situation, ending with "We 'low, Colonel, to bring the best quarter over to your mess." Without a pause, the Colonel thundered, "Sick, eh? Why didn't you say so?"

A SOLDIER'S PLIGHT

Noticing a man industriously scratching himself, an officer asked "What's the matter? Fleas?" With scorn in his voice the man answered, "Fleas? Do you think I'm a dog? No sir, them is lice!"

A GOOD DAY'S WORK

In April of 1862, A Georgian and a Down-Mainer were on picket duty opposite each other near Lee's Mills, Virginia. From behind stout old trees they exchanged fire for several hours. As they traded shots at each other, they also began trading words, becoming somewhat friendly as the day went by. After one shot came near the Georgian he called out a request for a cease fire. When the Northerner agreed, the Georgian commented that he believed they had been shooting at each other enough for one day. He suggested that they adjourn for rations. The other man agreed. With an exchange of good wishes, the two left in opposite directions, one allegedly whistling "Yankee Doodle" and the other "Dixie".

NOT AS PICTURED

Although in recent years Nathan Bedford Forrest has been termed a racist, he actually got along well with blacks and called for full citizenship for them. In addition to veterans and dignitaries at his funeral in 1877, there were about 3,000 blacks.

EARLY PARDON

Nathan Bedford Forrest was pardoned by US President Andrew Johnson on July 17, 1868.

HAD ALL HE WANTED OF TEXANS

A young Texan noticed a Federal unit crouching low to avoid capture by the Confederates who had swarmed past and unknowingly surrounded it. He walked toward it and demanded its surrender. In return for his action a volley of shots rang out and he was hit four times. Holding himself erect he again demanded surrender. This time the Federal officer surrendered and commented, "If that's the way Texans fight, I'm going to resign my commission and go home!"

NOW HE KNEW HIM

General William Hardee passed a sentinel as he neared his headquarters. When he didn't receive the usual *present arms* salute, he halted and said to the sentinel, "Don't you know me?" "No, sir," replied the raw recruit, "Who are you?" "I am General Hardee." The young man moved toward the general, put out his hand for a shake, and said, "My name is Bill Dickerson and I'm right glad to make your acquaintance."

CURIOUS CANNON

The July, 1862 capture of what was evidently an early machine gun was described in the *Richmond Daily Dispatch* as follows:

"Among the trophies captured from the Yankees in the recent battles before Richmond was a cannon, with a hopper like a coffee mill, intended to feed the instrument, which, with the vigorous turning of a crank on the part of a stalwart Hessian, was capable of loading and discharging itself sixty times per minute. Our boys call this novel engine of war the coffee mill gun. The Yankees intended it to run up and down in front of any of their regiments on exposed points, and discharge its leaden hail into the face of the rebels, but the wheels of the carriage on which the gun rested had not gyrated very long before the engineer, crank turner, driver, crew, and regimental accompaniment found it expedient to double quick and leave the machine in the possession of men that we are certain will know at least as well how to use it, and who will not give it up easily — certainly not as long as it is capable of throwing sixty balls per minute against anybody who may be disposed to dispute its possession."

AREN'T YOU PAYING ATTENTION?

Mired in mud, a frustrated teamster let fly with a series of profane expletives. A passing chaplain was shocked and asked, "My friend, do you know who died for sinners?" The teamster quickly responded, "Damn your conundrums. Don't you see I'm stuck in the mud?"

DOUBLE DUTY

Near Culpeper, Virginia, both armies frequently foraged. A farmer there stared ruefully where his fences once stood and remarked, "I hain't took no sides in this yer rebellion, but I'll be doggoned if both sides hain't took me!"

LEADERS

Eighteen percent of all Confederate generals were killed or suffered mortal wounds in combat.

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