



THE REBEL ROUSER

Newsletter for the DCV – Dallas Chapter

July 2008

**OUR NEXT MEETING
JOINT DCV/MOS&B MEETING!**

20 JUNE 2008

Our meeting opened with an invocation, Pledge of Allegiance to the US Flag, Pledge to the Texas Flag, Salute to the Confederate Flag, and introduction of members and guests.

In discussing the future of the DCV, President Larry Johnson pointed out the need for recruitment of new members and the need for member participation in our meetings.

Preston Furlow presented a talk on the 10th Texas Cavalry, its campaigns and battles, and its flags. A portion of his talk was on Colonel Cullen R. Earp, commander of the 10th Texas, including the recovery and re-interment of his remains.

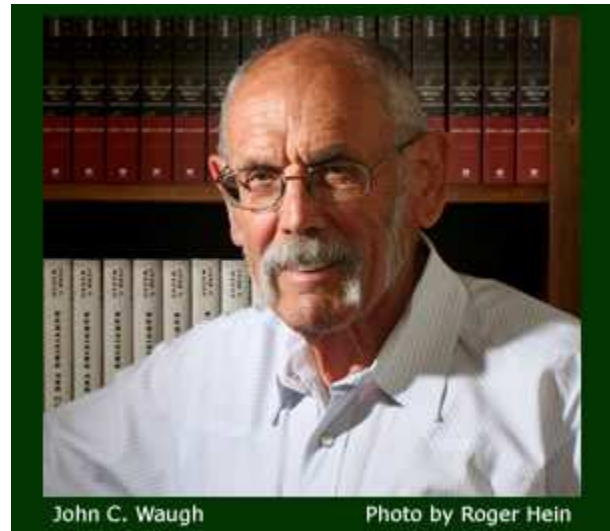
After door prizes were awarded, a benediction brought the meeting to a close.

A MASS OF TROOPS

When Stonewall Jackson led his men into Harpers Ferry on September 15, 1862, he accepted the surrender of about 12,000 Union troops. This was the largest surrender of US troops until WW II. However, that number was dwarfed by the number of Confederates taken at Vicksburg. Unable to transport so many men to Federal prisons, US Grant approved the largest parole of the war, approximately 29,000 men.

FARE'S FAIR

Charlotte Hellman was a citizen of Winchester, Virginia. In September, 1864, when she saw Union General Philip Sherman approaching along a toll road, she hastily lowered a wooden crossbar. She refused to allow him and his troops to pass until he paid the customary twenty-five cents toll.



John C. Waugh

Photo by Roger Hein

Two men became President in 1861: Jefferson Davis for the Confederacy, Abraham Lincoln for the US. Their journeys to their new offices presented interesting similarities. ***"TWO JOURNEYS TO THE PRESIDENCY"*** will be the topic for our speaker, ***John C. Waugh.***

Jack Waugh is a former journalist turned historical writer. He is the author of several award winning books about the WBTS. He and his wife are residents of Pantego, Texas. His talks are not only informative, they are entertaining.

Don't miss this meeting! Be with us when the meeting opens at **6:30PM** on **Friday, July 18**, in the **Highland Park Cafeteria** in **Casa Linda Shopping Center**, located at the intersection of **Buckner Blvd. and Garland Road**. Visitors are always welcome! *Come and bring some!*

UNUSUAL CAMPAIGN PROMISE

A militia officer from Alamance County, North Carolina, William A. Smith, was elected commander of the 37th Home Guard Battalion on the basis of his promise that his troops would not become involved in combat.

CONFEDERATE FLAG ON DISPLAY

The only Confederate flag to be captured in the state of California is on display in the California State Capitol Museum in Sacramento. It flew neither high nor long. On the evening of July 4, 1861, about 10:00 PM, following a fireworks display, J.R.Gillis unfurled a unique Confederate flag which had been wrapped around his walking stick. The silk flag had two red and one white bars, and a blue field with seventeen white stars. Holding the flag high, Gillis paraded down the street past the St. George Hotel at 4th and J Streets to the applause of many Southern sympathizers. Two Union sympathizers, J.W.Biderman and Curtis Clark, followed Gillis from the hotel, grabbed him and tore the flag from him, with Biderman shouting that no such flag could be carried in his presence. After leaving the scene briefly, Biderman returned with a group of fellow Unionists and waved the flag in front of the St. George Hotel, daring any secessionist to come and take it. Gillis never recovered the flag. To add insult to his injury, the flag is now known as the "Biderman flag."

MOS&B CONVENTION

The Military Order of the Stars & Bars met in convention in Corsicana, TX, on the weekend of June 27-28, with Texas Society Commander Jim Templin presiding. Out of state dignitaries included Past Commander General "Beau" Cantrell and Lt. Commander General Max Waldrop. Representing the Dallas Lone Star Chapter were David Allison, Steve Lucas, and Ralph Green. With the approval of the Convention, Commander Templin appointed a committee to prepare a bid to be submitted for Texas to host the 2012 MOS&B General Convention. David Whitaker of Houston will chair this committee. The convention ended with a visit to the Pearce Collection of Civil War memorabilia located at Navarro College. There was no officer election this year.

HELP NEEDED FOR CONFEDERATE MONUMENT IN MICHIGAN

In 1996, workers on a utility project in downtown Petoskey, Michigan, unearthed a Confederate iron howitzer cast in Augusta, GA. How a Confederate cannon wound up in Michigan is unknown but it is believed to have been brought there during an 1899 reunion of Civil War veterans. Robert Finch

Camp No. 14 of the Sons of Union Veterans arranged for the cannon's restoration, including cleaning the cast iron cannon's finish without damaging it. On Saturday, June 21, 2008, the cannon, now restored, mounted on a replica Civil War artillery carriage and marked with an historical plaque, was donated to the City of Petoskey by the SUV camp during ceremonies at Arlington Park in Petoskey. "We're honored to have this cannon located here on this site," Petoskey mayor Dale Meyer said. A gun salute and poetry recitation were part of the program. Some funds are still needed to help pay for the \$20,000-plus restoration project. Contributions payable to *Petoskey Confederate Cannon Fund* should be sent to Neal Breaugh, 10230 E. San Remo Blvd., Traverse City, MI. 49684.

BOUNTIES

Potential recruits were offered awards, or "bounties," for enlisting, by both North and South. This was as much as \$677 in New York. Bounty jumping soon became a profession, with men signing up, deserting, and enlisting again elsewhere. For those who were drafted, the law allowed them to pay a substitute to go in their place. Another type of "bounty jumper" was born when men would hire out to more than one draftee and then make a hasty exit once they were paid. The record for bounty jumping was held by John O'Connor, who admitted to hiring himself out 32 times before being caught. He received a 4-year prison term.

TRULY A WAR OF BROTHERS

Senator John J. Crittendon of Kentucky had two sons who became major generals during the Civil War: one for the North, one for the South.

Missouri sent 39 regiments to fight in the siege of Vicksburg: 17 to the Confederacy and 22 to the Union.

DID HE HAVE A COMMISSION AGENT?

Alfred Thomas Archimedes Torbert held commissions in both USA and CSA armies simultaneously. While a lieutenant in the US Army, he received an appointment on March 16 as a first lieutenant in the Confederate Army. He refused the appointment and remained in the US Army.

MISLED

A report from the Brookhaven (Mississippi)
Telegraph, January, 1865

During the recent raid on this place many negroes, heretofore considered faithful servants — men, women and children — accompanied the Yankees on their return. In great glee they mounted the stolen horses and mules of their owners, and, loaded with plunder, took their departure for the land of Abe Lincoln's rule. The vision of the soft rolling carriage, fine dress, luxuriant eating, freedom and equality with their liberators, received the first rude shock but a few miles from town, when they were compelled to dismount and trudge through the mud. Fatigued, hungry and cold, they strived might and main to keep up with the apostles of liberty, fear of recapture by indignant masters stimulating their fast-fading dream of ease and idleness. The weather became bitter cold, and the negroes suffered terribly. ... We are informed that twenty-two of these Abe Lincoln milestones have been found frozen to death on the roads traveled by the Yankees on their return, mostly children.

KEPT HIS SENSES

Confederate soldiers often had a wonderful presence of mind about them in the most trying emergency. One arrived home with his head bandaged from a wound where the ball entered one side and came out the other. When he was asked "Joe, how did you feel when the ball struck you? Did you have your right senses about you?" "Had my senses?" replied Joe; "I had sense enough to put my hand in my pocket to see if my money was all right."

JOHN SINGLETON MOSBY

Although he wanted to fight for the Confederacy, John Singleton Mosby didn't want to do so as a member of the regular army. After badgering officials for permission to organize his own unit under the Partisan Ranger Law, he finally received permission and started the 43rd Battalion, Virginia Cavalry with just eight men. Although his force rarely exceeded 800, an estimated 1,900 fought under Mosby at one time or another. It is estimated that this relatively small force immobilized 30,000 Federals. Mosby was mentioned in Robert E. Lee's papers more often than any other Confederate officer.

GOOD LOGIC

A leading citizen who detested music was asked to subscribe to some classical concerts. He refused. "But your brother subscribes," urged the fundraiser. "If I were as deaf as he, I would subscribe too!" was the reply.

McCLELLAN AND THE U.S. PRESIDENCY

A Northern politician commented on the chances of General George McClellan being elected President of the US: "If McClellan couldn't take Richmond, making Washington his base, you may safely swear he will never take Washington, making Richmond his base ! "

AN APT PRAYER

Early on the morning of October 13, 1864, the Federals once more fired directly into homes in the city of Charleston, SC. In one house the family left the sitting room only a moment before a shell struck the room, making a complete wreck of the room and contents. A prayer book on a side table was the only article that escaped destruction. It was opened at the 49th Psalm, commencing with: "Deliver me from mine enemies, O. my God; defend me from them that rise up against me. Deliver me from the workers of iniquity and save me from bloody men."

ACH! VOT VOZ DOT?

Prussian Prince Felix Constantin Alexander Johann Nepomuk Salm-Salm visited Abraham Lincoln in 1861. Learning that his royal visitor had a military background and wished to fight for the Union, Lincoln appointed him a colonel. Later promoted to brigadier general, the prince neither spoke nor understood English.

PLANTATION OWNER

Jefferson Davis' pre-War plantation, "Brierfield" was a gift from his wealthy older brother, Joseph. According to the 1860 census, the plantation consisted of 800 improved and 1,000 unimproved acres with 113 slaves. Davis was paternalistic in regard to slavery, encouraging literacy and allowing slave juries.

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DCV LIFE MEMBERSHIP

It is now possible to become a Life Member of the DCV. After becoming a Life Member, the member will pay only chapter dues. The cost for a Life Membership is based on age:

<u>Age</u>	<u>1-Time Cost</u>
18-59	\$300
60-69	\$200
70-79	\$100
80+	\$ 50

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:

Mrs. D.Harold Byrd	George Pittard
George Church	Bobby Rutherford
E.Murfee Gewin	Dan Shelby
Ralph Green	Marshall Surratt
Evetts Haley, Jr	Charles Walker
Houston DCV	David Whitaker
Joseph D. Knight, Jr.	James A. Wild
Rodney G. Orr	John Wilson

UNEXPECTED SUPPORTERS

Jefferson Davis was initially threatened with the gallows after his capture. After months in prison, he was offered freedom once he had posted a bond of \$100,000. That amount was stipulated because it was known to be far beyond his means. However, three prominent Yankees stepped up and posted his bond: publisher Horace Greeley, Gerrit Smith (a financial supporter of John Brown), and financier Cornelius Vanderbilt. The Chief Justice of the US Supreme Court advised against trying Davis, stating his opinion that the US could not prove him guilty of any crime.

A WISE MAN

Major General Patrick Cleburne gave an excellent explanation of the War in a very few words:

“It is said slavery is all we are fighting for..... 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.”

General Cleburne clearly saw what would happen if the South lost the War:

“It means the history of this heroic struggle will be written by the enemy, that our youth will be trained by the enemy; that our youth will be trained by Northern schoolteachers; will learn from Northern schoolbooks 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.”

INFANTRY WEAPONRY

The principal weapon of the war and the one by which 80 percent of all wounds were produced was a single-shot, muzzle-loading rifle in the hands of foot soldiers. The muzzle-loading rifle could be loaded at the rate of about three times a minute. Its maximum range was about 1000 yards. Most wounds were caused by an elongated bullet made of soft lead, about an inch long, pointed at one end and hollowed out at the base, and called a "minie" ball, having been invented by Capt. Minié of the French army. Fully armed, a soldier carried about seven pounds of ammunition. His cartridge box contained 40 rounds, and an additional 60 rounds might be conveyed in the pocket if an extensive battle was anticipated. Most infantry rifles were equipped with bayonets, but very few men wounded by bayonet showed up at hospitals. This was probably due to the fact that opposing soldiers did not often actually come to grips and, when they did, were prone to use their rifles as clubs. Besides the rifle and cannon, weapons consisted of revolvers, swords, cutlasses, hand grenades, Greek fire and land mines. At the Battle of First Bull Run or Manassas, between 8,000 and 10,000 bullets were fired for every man killed or wounded.