



2009 DCV CONVENTION

On February 20-21, the DCV met in Fredericksburg, Texas, for its 2009 Convention. The business session took place on the 21st. The number of members on the Board of Directors was reduced. Steve von Roeder of Austin was elected President and Barney Hilburn of Hallsville was elected VicePresident. Several new life members joined. A contribution of \$250 was made toward the Governor's mansion restoration. Todd Smith will head the Singer monument dedication project. New recruiting brochures were distributed. Purchase of a set of flags was authorized. Also authorized was the purchase of metal grave markers in the image of the DCV logo without the wreath. These will be available for purchase at \$50 each. Elizabeth Satterfield generously volunteered to fund the cost of the dies. During personal time on Saturday afternoon delegates and guests toured the Nimitz museum and Museum of the War in the Pacific.

2009 TEXAS MOS&B CONVENTION

The Texas Society of the Military Order of the Stars and Bars will meet in convention in Fort Worth on April 24-25. The convention hotel will be the LaQuinta at 5800 Quebec Street and Loop 820. Special MOS&B rates are \$75/room and \$95/suite. There will be a reception from 5 to 7:30 on Friday evening, the 24th. The business meet-ing will be on Saturday morning, the 25th. That will be followed by a barbecue lunch (\$12), after which there will be a visit to the Texas Civil War Museum with a reduced rate of \$5. Registration forms will be available shortly.

SAFETY ASSURED!

As a watchdog, Jeb Stuart had a fierce pet raccoon.

THE REBEL ROUSER

March 2009

OUR MARCH MEETING

The topic of discussion for most programs at meetings of historical organizations is some high-ranking officer or dignitary. However, the people carrying the burden for the actual fighting were the lower ranks, the enlisted personnel. With that thought in mind, the subject for this month's program will be "A TEXAS PRIVATE'S WAR". Our speaker will be chapter secretary Ralph Green.

Our meeting will be opened at 6:30PM on Friday, March 20, in the Highland Park Cafeteria in Casa Linda Shopping Center located at the corner of Buckner Boulevard and Garland Road. We hope you will be there and bring friends.

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
Owene Caruth	George Pittard
Dan Coit	H.A. Prophet
Ralph Green	Dan Shelby
Evetts Haley, Jr.	Marshall Surratt
Carlos Hedstrom, Jr.	James A. Wild
Rodney G. Orr	John F. Wilson, Jr.

OUR SUCCESS IS UP TO YOU

Our chapter shares two common problems with most organizations: (1) programs, (2) attendance. These should not be regarded as solely responsibilities of chapter officers. Members also have responsibilities for successful chapters. Members are requested to volunteer as speakers and/or to provide contacts for speakers. In addition, their presence is requested; speakers have no interest in addressing empty chairs. We know it is not reasonable to expect everyone to attend every meeting but it would certainly be nice for more to try to be with us. Please help with both of these problems. YOU can make a difference!

BEAUVOIR MOVES AHEAD

Progress continues with the recovery from the devastation of the storm damages at Beauvoir, President Davis' home in Biloxi, Mississippi. The art restoration in the home is 90% finished. The faux oak finish on the doors adds beauty to every thing. The fresco art has been finished in the Reception Hall, Front Parlor, and Library Room. Application of faux marble finish to the fireplace mantles begins shortly. Work continues on cleaning and restoring the grounds.

FREEDOM, PERCEIVED vs. ACTUAL

Abraham Lincoln's so-called "Emancipation Proclamation" has placed an undeserved halo around Lincoln's head. Few of Lincoln's admirers seem to have actually read the document. That proclamation applied only to states that had seceded from the Union, leaving slavery untouched in the North and loyal border states. It expressly exempted those parts of the Confederacy that had already come under Northern control, meaning that it only applied to those areas where it could have no effect. It was wartime propaganda without actual concern for the slaves. It freed not one slave.

In contrast to that proclamation, Congress passed an act in April, 1862, ending slavery in the District of Columbia. Passage of this law came 8 ½ months before Lincoln issued his Emancipation Proclamation. The act provided for immediate emancipation, compensation to former owners of up to \$300 for each freed slave, voluntary colonization of former slaves to locations outside the United States, and payments of up to \$100 for each person choosing emigration. In the District, the freed slaves greeted emancipation with great jubilation. For many years afterward, they celebrated Emancipation Day on April 16 with parades and festivals.

ABE MARRIED INTO GOOD STOCK

Abraham Lincoln's brother-in-law was a Confederate surgeon, and his three sisters-in-law were married to Confederate soldiers.

EDWARD STANLY

After a Northern invasion had established a toehold in northeastern North Carolina, Lincoln appointed a native Tarheel, Edward Stanly, to be military governor of the State. Stanly became disillusioned with Lincoln's method of "preserving the union" as he watched shipload after shipload of stolen furniture, artwork, pianos, carpets and libraries taken northward. In a letter to Senator Charles Sumner, Stanly stated that "I was informed that one regiment of abolitionists had conveyed North more than \$40,000 worth of property." After his resignation January 15, 1863, he said he had witnessed "the most shameful pillaging and robbery that ever disgraced an army in any civilized land."

A FAN OF THE GENERAL

In July 1863, after managing to make her way to the tent of Robert E. Lee, a Pennsylvania lady asked Lee for his autograph. Lee was both surprised and amused and reminded her that he was a Confederate. She replied that she was a good Union woman but still wanted his autograph. As he provided his signature, Lee told her, "It is in your interest to be for the Union, and I hope you may be as firm in your principles as I am in mine."

NOT FORGOTTEN, JUST UNMENTIONED

In November 1864 Union ships intercepted a cotton-laden ship off the coast of Texas. The ship had delivered guns to Texas in exchange for the cotton. One of the ship's owners was William Sprague, sitting US Senator from Rhode Island. A former governor of Rhode Island, Sprague was the son-in-law of Salmon Chase, Chief Justice of the US Supreme Court. Chase urged Secretary of War Edwin Stanton to suppress news of the incident. Always willing to bend the rules of honesty and legality, Stanton "sanitized" the War Department files, leaving no official record that the cotton-carrying Yankee ship had ever existed. When a political rival of Sprague described the event in 1870, the major newspapers swept the scandal under the rug, telling their readers the focus should be on punishing the South, not impugning Northern heroes.

20 FEBRUARY 2009

The meeting opened at 6:30 PM with an invocation followed by Pledges to the US and Texas flags and a Salute to the Confederate flag. Members and guests announced Confederate ancestors to be honored.

The following were elected as officers of the Dallas chapter of the DCV for 2009: President – Larry Johnson, Chaplain – Jay Shelton, Secretary – Ralph Green.

Our program was a demonstration of field music. This type of music was not for entertainment. It served to inspire troops and to communicate various instructions, such as summoning musicians, call troops for meals, sick call, tattoo, and time for “disorderly women” to leave camp.

Our meeting ended with a benediction.

GEORGE H. THOMAS

Thomas treated his fellow Southerners harshly. In retaliation for the Episcopal bishop of Alabama instructing his priests to omit prayers for Reconstruction authorities, Thomas closed all Episcopal churches in Alabama. He coerced the Tennessee legislature to pass the 14th Amendment to the US Constitution by arresting dissident members and forcing them to sit in the chamber so there would be a quorum.

DISGRACE TO UNIFORM

In June 1864, when many of the men of Union General James H. Ledlie's division were slaughtered at the Battle of the Crater at Petersburg, Ledlie was safe. He and another general, Edward Ferrero, were drinking rum in a bombproof. After a court of inquiry harshly criticized both generals, Ledlie was discharged from the army. A subordinate of Ledlie termed his removal “a heavy loss to the Rebels.”

LOYAL

Thirteen Confederates died defending the flag of First Texas at Sharpsburg. In order to seize the flag as a trophy, Union soldiers had to roll the body of a dead officer off of it.

REVEALING INCIDENT

The War was over. Robert E. Lee was at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Richmond for Sunday services. A black man rose, walked down and knelt to receive communion. The congregation gasped and the priest paused, unsure what to do. Lee rose, strode down and knelt beside the black communicant. The service continued.

GOOD REASON TO REMEMBER

When A.P. Hill was asked by a major at Sharpsburg if he knew Ambrose Burnside, the Federal commander, the general replied that he ought to, Burnside still owed him \$8,000 on a loan!

DID UNIFORM HAVE A YELLOW STRIPE?

After Colonel William H. Christian, commander of the 26th New York, fled the field of battle, “ducking and dodging Confederate shells” the outraged men of the regiment forced him to resign on September 19, 1862. Almost unbelievably, the US Congress later returned him to uniform and made him a brevet general, the only man ever forced from uniform for cowardice to be rewarded with such an honor.

STONEWALL JACKSON'S WAY

A prime theory of war for Stonewall Jackson was “Always mystify, mislead, and surprise the enemy, if possible, and when you strike and overcome him, never let up in the pursuit so long as your men have strength to follow, for an army routed, if hotly pursued, becomes panic-stricken and can then be destroyed by half their number.” It was a shame he could not act on his own advice after the First Battle of Manassas when he said, “Give me 10,000 men and I'll take Washington tomorrow!” Unfortunately, rain began to fall, mud began to form, and Jackson's superiors decided the tired Confederates needed to rest and reform.

BATTLE OF NEW MARKET

Cadets from Virginia Military Institute marched 80 miles in four days in May 1864 to join Confederates under John C. Breckinridge to expel Union invaders. Ten cadets died but the bluecoats fled. In memory of the performance of the cadets, VMI cadets reenact the march every year.

SERVED WITH HIS FRIENDS

A free black when the War started, Henry "Dad" Brown of Darlington, South Carolina, joined a SoUth Carolina regiment as a drummer. He was present both at the firing on Fort Sumter and at First Manassas. Seeing a Union force approaching at First Manassas, he called his regiment to arms without waiting for orders. After the War he never missed a meeting of the United Confederate Veterans and often lent money to his former Confederate comrades. When he died in 1907, his pallbearers were white former Confederates and black former slaves. His funeral was preached by two pastors, one black, one white.

WISE WORDS FROM WADE HAMPTON

If we were wrong in our contest [for Southern independence] then th Declaration of Independence was a grave mistake and the revolution to which it led was a crime..... If Washington was a patriot, Lee cannot have been a rebel; if the enunciation of the grand truths in the Declaration of Independence made Jefferson immortal, the observance of them could not have made Davis a traitor.

HERE, BOY!

Since I poured spot remover on my dog, I can't find him.

KNEW WHAT HE WANTED

Two Confederate soldiers were chatting when one said "Why can not we be better supplied? Perhaps we are expected to live off the enemy. If so, we Texans will ask for discharges. We are getting homesick, anyway." "Oh," replied the other soldier, "you want to see the girl you left behind you, don't you?" "No, indeed, I want something to eat!"

SAMUEL COOPER

A native of Hackensack, Samuel Cooper was Adjutant General of the US Army when the South seceded. Married to a Virginia lady, Cooper transferred his allegiance to the Confederacy and became Adjutant General of the Confederate Army and its. the highest ranking general. His meticulous attention to detail and record keeping is credited with providing the bulk of the Confederate section of the Official Records. In a military career that began in 1815 and spanned nearly fifty years Cooper never engaged in any serious conflict.

GOOD EXPLANATION

A woman once asked Nathan Bedford Forrest why his head was gray while his beard was black. Forrest replied that he didn't know unless it was because he worked his head more than he did his jaw!

JOB WORTH DOING, WORTH DOING WELL

Unable to dissuade his son from volunteering for the Confederate army, an elderly Georgian finally gave in. As he presented a prized possession, a single-barrel shotgun, to his son, the father told his son, "I don't want any war, but if you will go, here's ol' Betsy; take her and give the Yankees Hell!"

A NATIONAL SONG

An editorial from the *Richmond Daily Dispatch*
December 18, 1862

It appears that the Republicans have adopted the famous "John Brown's Soul's a Marching On" as a national song, and no one can dispute the propriety of the selection. It is impossible to imagine anything more atrocious than the poetry except its sentiments, nor more abominable than the subject except the people. A more faithful type of the Puritan race than John Brown could not be found. A fanatic, a horse thief, and murderer, no one can dispute his claims to be the patron saint of the rogues and ruffians who are "marching on." stealing and butchering as they go. The French have the "Marseilles," the Britons "God Save the Queen," the United States once had "Hail Columbia," and the Yankees "Yankee Doodle"--an appropriate air for them in their days of simplicity — but "John Brown" is the melody of all others suited to their course and full-blown depravity. It is redolent of all the peculiar characteristics of that peculiar people. The horse thief, murderer, and insurrectionist, was the true representative of the spirit and character of this whole invasion, and his ignominious end of the destiny which awaits it.

The Rebel Rouser

Monthly Publication of
Dallas Chapter,

Descendants of Confederate Veterans
& Lone Star Chapter,

Military Order of the Stars & Bars
530 Hackberry Drive, Fairview TX 75069

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