



THE REBEL ROUSER

Newsletter for the DCV – Dallas Chapter

November 2006

Edited by Ralph Green and Ed Smith

Christmas Party

Our Next Meeting Will Be A Joint Meeting

The Dallas Chapter of the DCV and the General W.L. Cabell Camp of the SCV take pleasure in announcing a joint meeting. Members of both organizations are invited to attend and bring guests.

Our program will feature a tale that resembles a fictional wartime novel. **Bobby Rutherford** will present a true tale of love and brutality in the mountains of western North Carolina and eastern Tennessee during the War Between the States. It is the story of Keith and Malinda Blalock, the only husband and wife team to have fought side by side for both the Confederate gray and the Union blue. It is an almost unbelievable account of hate, conflicting loyalties, and the brutality that can be displayed while war rages.

Bobby has a love for history and all things Southern. Married, with two children and four granddaughters, this Mesquite resident is a retired postal employee of 32 years.

Our meeting will be called to order at **7PM** on Friday, **17 November 2006**, in the **Casa Linda Cafeteria** in **Casa Linda Shopping Center**, located at the corner of Buckner Blvd. and Garland Road. Please be with us!

Make your plans now to attend the Christmas Party to be celebrated by DCV and SCV members on Friday evening, December 15. Mr. & Mrs. Larry W. Johnson will host the party at their residence, 624 Green Canyon Drive, Mesquite, TX 75150. To assist them with their planning, please notify them (972/226-8478 or email hbband@sbcglobal.net) as to your intention to attend.

Welcome New Members

We are pleased to welcome the following compatriots to the Dallas Chapter of the DCV:

James Sherman Jackson 214/733-8768
1280 Alta Vista
Fairview, TX 75069

Larry W. Johnson 972/226-8478
624 Green Canyon
Mesquite, TX 75150

Jay Wendell Shelton 972/727-8524
720 Pebblebrook
Allen, TX 75002

James Arthur Wild 281/353-9453
4 Charis Place
Spring, TX 77388

International Recognition

Although the Confederacy had diplomatic representatives abroad, the only country that officially recognized the Confederate States of America was the Duchy of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, which did so on July 30, 1861. (The ruler there had married a Southern belle.)

From The President

On Sunday, October 22, the DCV provided the color guard for a grave marker dedication at Wildwood Cemetery at the Terrell State Hospital. The dedication was sponsored by two local UDC groups. The DCV was well represented with about twelve members present. I want to thank all members who participated. This is what we should be doing as an organization. Thanks to those that attended and made the event a success.

Jim Templin, President, DCV

H.L. MENCKEN'S CRITIQUE OF THE GETTYSBURG ADDRESS

“The Gettysburg speech was at once the shortest and the most famous oration in American history... the highest emotion reduced to a few poetical phrases. Lincoln himself never even remotely approached it. It is genuinely stupendous. But let us not forget that it is poetry, not logic; beauty, not sense. Think of the argument in it. Put it into the cold words of everyday. The doctrine is simply this: that the Union soldiers who died at Gettysburg sacrificed their lives to the cause of self-determination -- that government of the people, by the people, for the people, should not perish from the earth. IT IS DIFFICULT TO IMAGINE ANYTHING MORE UNTRUE. The Union soldiers in the battle actually fought against self-determination; it was the Confederates who fought for the right of their people to govern themselves.”

THE HERITAGE WE HONOR

Jefferson Davis, 1871

There is little left for us to do, who still live, but that little is of worth. It is to preserve the traditions of our fathers and to keep in honorable remembrance the deeds of our brothers, happiest of whom we must reckon those who fell before the night of despotism closed upon this country.

PLANNING TO ATTEND OUR MEETING?

If not, we hope you will read, remember, and act on these words taken from a letter in the *Columbia (SC) Register* of December 12, 1875.

Is the glorious, silent, cheerful endurance of hunger, thirst, weariness, disease, nakedness and the sword to be forgotten? Are the children of this generation to be ignorant of the noble manhood of their sires? Alas! It seems so. Confederate Soldier! At that name, how many eyes fill with tears and hearts beat true! Sacred thou art, treasured in our inner sanctuaries, but we owe thee more than a hidden reverence. There is a spirit throughout this land causing the young to believe that victory means right, that honor, truth and justice are as naught compared with the riches, office and worldly prosperity. “Bury the Past” Is this the watchword? No, Never. We submit to the will of Him who can bring good out of evil, but we are not called upon to forget and willingly forget the sufferings of those who, having all bodily ills, then gave their life blood on the battlefield for us. Shall we never forget them, fording rivers, and scanty rations of meat and bread, strung on poles and borne on their shoulders to preserve their insufficient food from the destroying waters, or can we look with careless indifference on their ragged suits, as they press onward through the drifting snow, staining the whitened earth with blood drops from unshod frozen feet?diseased, wounded, maimed, hungry fellows. Was there a murmur from them? Children of the Confederate Soldier, listen to this brave man’s teachings. You will turn your steps homeward with a greater self-respect and a heart glowing with the thought, “I am a hero’s Child.”

Will we see **you** at our meeting?

A YANKEE GENTLEMAN

After the Battle of Munfordsville in September, 1862, Confederates and Federals observed a burial truce. During that truce, Colonel John Wilder of the 17th Indiana lent Confederate Brigadier General James R. Chalmers shovels so he could bury his dead.

DCV MEETING OF 20 OCTOBER 2006

Our meeting opened with an warm welcome to attendees, an invocation by our Chaplain, Ron Shultz, the Pledge to the US Flag, Salute to the Confederate Flag, and Pledge to the Texas Flag.

Announcements were made regarding availability of Confederate Calendars, a Marker Dedication in Terrell, and the November Civil War Dallas observation in Dallas Heritage Village. The 13th Civil War Preservation Seminar was announced and attendance was encouraged.

New members were accepted.

Jim Templin, President of the Descendants of Confederate Veterans, presented a discussion on "The Big Guns of Fayette", the unusual story of the 5th Texas Field Artillery. The most unusual part of the unit's history was that it was classified as a field artillery unit which never had a field artillery piece.

Door prizes were awarded.

Our meeting ended with a benediction by our chaplain.

PRAYER OF A TEXAS RANGER Texas Ranger Capt. Jerome B. McGowan

Oh Lord! We are about to do battle with vastly superior numbers of the enemy, and Heavenly Father, we would mightily like for you to be on our side and help us, but if you can't do it, for Christ sake don't go over to the enemy, but just lie low and you'll see one of the damnest fights you ever saw in all your life. Amen.

13TH CIVIL WAR PRESERVATION SEMINAR

This should definitely be a MUST for serious students of the WBTS! After 12 years of arranging and sponsoring an annual Civil War Preservation Seminar, Daniel M. Laney, President of the Austin Civil War Round Table, announced this would be the last. These seminars were established to raise funds for preservation of Civil War sites and have raised over \$150,000 for that purpose. Proceeds from this year's seminar will be devoted to preserving the Slaughter Pen at Fredericksburg. The seminar will be held at Hill College in Hillsboro on **Saturday, 18 November 2006**. It is sponsored by the Harold B. Simpson History Complex and the Austin and Baylor-Waco Civil War Round Tables. In addition to the speakers, attendees receive free admission to the Museum, a great book sale, and an opportunity to win a fabulous Don Troiani print. This all-day affair will open for registration at 8:30AM with the talks opening at 10. Jeff Wert will discuss "*The Crucibles of the Army of the Potomac: Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville*." Frank O'Reilly will speak on "*Winter War on the Rappahannock: Fredericksburg*." Ed Bearss will discuss "*Chancellorsville: Lee's Greatest Victory*" as well as review the meaning of the battles discussed. The speakers and Dan Laney will have a panel discussion of "To the Brink of Victory" after which drawings will be held for raffle prizes. Send your reservation and check to "**CW Seminar, P.O. Box 619, Hillsboro, TX 76645**". **Regular reservations** are \$50 each. **Patron reservations** include breakfast, lunch, a tape of the conference, and special seating is available at \$125 each. A CD of the conference may be ordered for \$15.

DON'T PET THE PET

Lt. Colonel Robert E. Lee kept an unusual pet during his tour of duty with the 2nd US Cavalry in Texas in the late 1850's. Fed frogs and mice, the "pet" was a rattlesnake.

Clash of the Sabres *Blue and Gray*

I was fortunate this week to receive a copy of the book "Clash of the Sabres, Blue and Gray", by Col. Walbrook D. Swank. I found it to be a very good book and an easy read about the Military and civilian life and experiences of two of President Jefferson Davis's Kinsmen during the War Between the States.

"The Author has...dramatized the Civil War experiences of two cavalry troopers...What emerges is a vivid picture of both Army and civilian life during a critical and tragic period of our Nation's history."

I recommend the book and I look forward to reading more of the 12 books now in print by Col. Swank.

-Ed Smith, Editor

Ralph Green, Editor

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Fairview, Texas 75069

HONOR ROLL OF SOUTHRONS

*O*ur sincere thanks go to each Southron for donating \$10 or more toward the cost of the REBEL ROUSER. A current month donation is designated by an underline."

*T*o date, the following individuals have made very generous donations to support our efforts:

Carlos Hedstrom

Vin Vinson

George Pittard

Ed Smith

Ralph Green

HAD ENOUGH TIRE-KICKING?

If you are receiving this newsletter because you indicated an interest in joining the Descendants of Confederate Veterans but have not yet done so, you need to follow through and submit your application. We will soon hold our third monthly meeting and do not wish to lose you; we may have to if you do not act. If you have any question as to how and where to submit your application, or how much to send, please contact Ed Smith (214/906-7700), Bobby Rutherford (972/285-0312), or Ralph Green (214/544-0750). Please join us!