



THE REBEL ROUSER

Newsletter for the DCV – Dallas Chapter

April 2008

21 MARCH 2008

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

The first order of business was a report on the DCV Convention. The next was the acceptance of David Routh as a new member.

At President Johnson's suggestion the group discussed the need to increase attendance at our meetings and the need to recruit.

Ralph Green presented a reading of a black lady journalist, an Englishman's view of the War, and a brief essay entitled *In Defense of our Confederate Heritage*.

Our meeting ended with a benediction.

SEW AND SEW

As a fundraiser for the Mineola, Texas, library, Bob Bell created reproductions of Civil War period sewing kits. Such kits were used both on the homefront and by soldiers. Needles were kept inside the kit and the thread was wrapped around the spindles. Bell's reproductions were slightly larger than the 3"-4" originals.



NEW MEMBER

David Kyle Routh
342 Lakeside Drive
Rockwall, TX 75032

214/236-1108

THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM

Lt. Elliott K. Wright will present "Civil War Calendar in Texas", a Powerpoint presentation in monthly format. It touches upon some of the major people and events in Texas during the War Between the States.

Kip has been a student of the War since he was a tiny tot. His first complete sentence was "Stonewall Jackson just died." A native of Georgia, he moved to Texas in 1993 to work for the US Army Corps of Engineers. He has a BA in History and a Masters in Historic Preservation. A teacher in the Fort Worth ISD from 2001 to 2006, he is currently on duty with the Navy Recruiting District in Dallas. He and his native Dallasite wife Amy Barrett Barstow have two sons.

Our meeting will be called to order at 6:30PM on Friday, April 18, in the Highland Park Cafeteria in Casa Linda Shopping Center located at Garland Road and Buckner Boulevard. Please be with us and bring friend. Visitors are always welcome!

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 Church
E.Murfee Gewin
Ralph Green
Evetts Haley, Jr
Houston DCV
Joseph D. Knight, Jr.
Rodney G. Orr

Ray Satterfield
Dan Shelby
Marshall Surratt
Walbrook Swank
Charles Walker
David Whitaker
James A. Wild
John Wilson

MILITARY ORDER OF STARS AND BARS

71st General Convention

May 15-17, 2008

Holiday Inn, Springdale, Arkansas

Dallas Chapter DCV members and Lone Star Chapter MOS&B members are meeting together currently.

SAM HOUSTON

On March 28, 1863, General Sam Houston gave a public speech in Houston, Texas:

The period is approaching when the great issues of the war will be decided. The turning point must soon come. From our army we may expect everything. Let us expect but little from foreign powers, but be ready to make the best of the condition of things abroad, and by a wise foreign policy endeavor to make them tend to our advantage. We can afford to wait for the future. A people whose expansive energies have carried our institutions thus far Southward, cannot be restrained if destiny points the way.

Fellow-citizens, you have before you the scheme of your independence. It is to be accomplished through the triumph of your arms, the sustenance of your currency, devotion and unity of purpose in your relations with your Government and each other, the wisdom of those who control your affairs, and the blessings of Providence. Convinced that the separation of the Yankee and the Southern people is fixed and certain, that fanaticism and conservative principles of Government cannot harmonize, I long for peace, and with it, the happy dawn of a nation whose gloomy period has given such evidence of greatness that the world may hope for its long and prosperous existence. I trust the day will hasten; that, stimulated by the dangers which surround us, we shall remain united; that our Constitution may be maintained sacred, that territory may be added to our limits, and that we may emerge from the scenes of war with our liberties unimpaired either by usurpation at home or tyranny abroad.

Let us gather up the links that remain to us, and encircling with them our hearts, swear to resist to the last that worst of all tyranny, fraternal hate. From one nation we have become two, and well will it be for mankind if this fast or destiny is soon recognized by our foes and the world. War may still wage, and its march of desolation trample upon the hopes of millions, yet the chain of unity will be broken, and two people yet live to attest how vain were the dreams of those who believed that the Union was a thing of forever.

AN UNWANTED DISTINCTION

In 1864, the fifth largest city in the Confederacy was Andersonville Prison in southwest Georgia. It held 33,000 prisoners.

FITZHUGH LEE

A contemporary commented on Fitzhugh Lee being commissioned a Brigadier-General: "General Lee entered the war as Captain of Lee's Virginia Rangers, a cavalry corps composed of excellent material. He seems to have inherited a full share of the military genius of "Light Horse Harry," his grandfather, and of the distinguished Gen. Robert E. Lee, whose son he is. No men in the Confederacy have lost more by the incursions of the Yankees than the Lee family. First taking possession of Arlington Heights, they completed their scheme of devastation and destruction by stealing all the memorials, including pictures of the Pater Patria, left by G. W. P. Custis, his adopted son. Next they seize, desecrate, and burn the White House, the property of the Junior Lee, run off his negroes, destroy his crops, kill his cattle and stock, and, in fact commit all the excesses that a devilish ingenuity can suggest. Yankee depredations on this family alone amount in dollars to hundreds of thousands. "

"PORTABLE SOUP"

1862 recipe

Let veal or beef soup get quite cold, then skim off every particle of fat; boil it till it is of a thick glutinous consistence. Care should be taken not to have the soup burn. Season it very highly with pepper, salt, mace, and cloves; add a little brandy or wine, and pour it over earthen platters, not more than a quarter-inch in thickness; let it be till cold then cut in three inch square pieces; set them in the sun to dry, often turning them. When very dry, place them in tin or earthen vessels, having a layer of white paper between each layer of cakes. These directions, if they are carefully attended to, will keep good for a long time. Whenever you wish to make a soup of them, you have only to put a quart of water to one cake, and make the water piping hot.

A FINE FORREST FORAY

In a brilliant attack upon the Federals at Murfreesboro, Tennessee, Nathan Bedford Forrest's cavalry destroyed the railroad track and depot, and captured \$500,000 worth of stores, of which a portion was burnt owing to inability to bring it off. They also captured two Brigadier Generals, with other field and staff officers, 1200 men, four field pieces, 60 wagons, 300 mules and over 150 horses, besides spreading alarm and consternation among the enemy throughout Tennessee.

BETTER KEEP AN EYE ON 'EM

Complaining about the restrictions placed on newspaper reporters by Union General Henry Halleck, the *New York Herald* suggested that General Halleck apply to General Jeb Stuart's cavalry the same rule enforced against newspaper correspondents, i.e., exclude them wholly from the lines of the Union army. The *Herald* said Stuart certainly got more valuable information from the Army than the press could give them, citing Stuart's seizing all of General Pope's baggage, private papers, charts, maps, etc., including General Halleck's dispatches and plans of the campaign. The *Herald* commented that "*Something of the energy and vigilance so lavishly used in preventing the loyal people of the country from knowing what their army is doing, might be usefully bestowed on the rebel cavalry.*"

YANKEE BRUTALITY IN VIRGINIA

The brutality of the Yankees in Culpeper County, Virginia, was evidenced daily. Miss Ella Slaughter, an accomplished young lady was grossly insulted by a soldier. She drew a pistol and commanded him to leave her presence. The ruffian immediately took his departure but soon afterward returned with an officer and a file of men who arrested Miss Slaughter and imprisoned her in the county jail. There she was treated as a hardened criminal. The high-handed deeds of Butler in New Orleans were no worse than the atrocities of Pope and his men in Northern Virginia.

STOP THAT MAN!

Late one morning, a man rushed down one of Richmond's main streets, with soldiers and officers in full chase, shouting "Stop that man!" The pursuit continued until the fugitive was collared by a fleet-footed officer. The immense crowd that had collected wondered what crime inspired the man's wild flight. It turned out that he was a "substitute" who had received a handsome bonus to do the fighting that somebody else owed the country. After joining a company, he ingloriously deserted, calculating upon having a gay old time with the cash in hand. Venturing abroad later in pursuit of pleasure, he was detected by his new comrades and chased. When captured he was placed in quarters from which he would not escape again. Sadly, this substitute's actions were not unusual. What was more unusual was his capture.

RESPECTED BY ALL

In the aftermath of the "Trent Affair", negative feelings against Britain ran high in the US. However, despite the threat of war between the two nations, when Queen Victoria's husband, Prince Albert, died in December 1861, flags in New York and several other cities were lowered to half-staff in recognition of his efforts for peace.

LEST WE FORGET

I SALUTE THE CONFEDERATE FLAG WITH AFFECTION, REVERENCE, AND UNDYING DEVOTION TO THE CAUSE FOR WHICH IT STANDS.

SHOULD HAVE PHRASED IT DIFFERENTLY

As the marriage ceremony was about to be performed in a small Southern church, the clergyman called on parties wishing to be married to rise. A large number of ladies immediately rose. After the confusion, all but one sat down quickly again.

PREPARED

A pious old gentleman composed a fervent prayer to the Almighty, wrote it legibly, and affixed the manuscript to his bed post. Then on cold nights he merely pointed to the document, and with the words, "O Lord! them's my sentiments!" blew out the light, and nestled amid the blankets.

ONE AGAINST EIGHT

Confederate cavalryman Robert E. Patterson was on furlough at his home in the upper edge of Tennessee when he learned of a party of eight Yankees on horseback making their way through the mountains towards Kentucky. He immediately mounted and gave chase. When they caught sight of him, the Yankees stampeded, scattering saddlebags, shawls and blankets along the road. Some of the men dismounted and took to the bushes. Patterson captured three horses and the equipment dropped by the fleeing Northerners.

WHO GOES THERE?

Yankee pickets challenged intruders with, "What regiment are you with?" Southerners asked: "Who is your commander?"

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Editor – Ralph Green

FORMAL

Confederate envoy to England James M. Mason did not allow even his own servants to see him dressed informally. He never even came down to breakfast until after he had donned a dress coat.

WELL-EARNED!

Confederate General Adam R. Johnson earned the name “Stovepipe” on July 18, 1862, when he led a group of just twelve men against heavily defended Newberg, Indiana. Union forces surrendered when they saw a huge cannon headed toward them. The “weapon” that led to the surrendered had been fashioned by Johnson from a wagon and pieces of stovepipe!

UCV OFFICERS

The organization of Confederate veterans, the United Confederate Veterans, used Confederate Army insignia of rank for their uniforms. UCV officers were accorded their equivalent army rank.

<u>Collar Insignia</u>	<u>Army Rank</u>	<u>UCV Rank</u>
1 Bar	2nd Lt.	Camp 2nd Lt Cdr
2 Bars	1st Lt.	Camp 1st Lt Cdr
3 Bars	Captain	Camp Commander
1 Star	Major	Brigade Adjutant
2 Stars	Lt. Col.	Brigade Commander
3 Stars	Colonel	Div. 1st Lt Cdr
3 Stars and Wreath	General	Division and Department Commanders

The insignias of rank shown above were worn on the collar. In addition, general officers wore sleeve braid. Usually UCV general officers wore frock coats while lesser grades wore fatigue jackets with roll-down collars.

YOUR SUGGESTIONS NEEDED!

During our meeting on March 21 a couple of items were discussed that require input from our members: attendance and membership.

Attendance has been light the last couple of meetings and we need your thoughts on ways to improve our attendance. One suggestion was to switch from monthly meetings to quarterly or every other month. While this would make it easier to secure speakers it would reduce the amount of time we would share as a group.

Should we change the meeting night? Would **YOU** come if it were another date or time? Can you suggest another meeting place that would be better?

Recruiting has been non-existent in the past but no organization thrives without bringing in new members. Do you know of events where we could/should be recruiting? Would it be practical to launch a campaign where each member would be expected to recruit at least one new member? The DCV is now open to both men and women; does that give you any ideas on recruiting?

Support your DCV! Give us your ideas! Contact President Larry Johnson at 624 Green Canyon, Mesquite, TX 75150 (hband@sbcglobal.net) or Secretary Ralph Green at 530 Hackberry Dr., Fairview, TX 75069 (jnyreb@juno.com).

CSS ALABAMA

In eleven months the famous *C.S.S. Alabama* captured 69 Northern vessels valued at \$6,500,000. The *C.S.S. Alabama* never entered a Confederate port during the length of her service.

WONDER WHO TOLD

Tom Parker and Bob Martin differed significantly from their fellow cavalymen under Jubal Early in only one way. Sisters Mary Ann and Molly Bell served two years under those names and dressed as men before they were unmasked as women and sent home. It is estimated that at least 300 women disguised themselves as men and fought in the ranks.