



# Shotguns and Bowie Knives



Newsletter of Terry's Texas Rangers Camp #1937

Cleburne, Texas

*Sons of Confederate Veterans*

February 2017- Number 190

## Shootin' from the Hip

by Commander Steve Wells

Your commander has had a couple of busy weekends on behalf of the camp. On Saturday, Feb. 25th, I traveled to Texarkana for an officer's meeting. Joining me from our camp were 1st Lt. Commander Doug Barron and his wife, Patricia, and 2nd Lt. Texas Division Commander Bob Rubel and his wife, LuAnn. Our National Commander Thomas Strain attended, as well as State Division Commanders from Louisiana, Arkansas, and from Texas, Gary Bray. The Commander of the Trans Mississippi Army (ATM), Johnnie Holley, from Tyler, was there, as well as almost one-hundred other SVC and UDC members. The theme of the meeting was: "Recruit and Retain". The general outlook was the SCV does a fairly good job of recruiting but a terrible job retaining members. Several testimonies and suggestions were given that I will share with the camp on how Terry's Texas Rangers may do a better job in the future retaining members. I was particularly impressed with the work being done on behalf of the SCV by the Arkansas Division. The Red Diamond Camp of Texarkana hosted the event and did a great job, including that of their Honor/Color Guard. The important thing I came away with is to make each member feel welcome and involved to their ability.

Last Saturday, March 4th, I drove to Tyler with our Color Sgt/Quartermaster Cecil Bonham and his wife Teresa. Also there were Doug Barron and Bob Rubel and their wives. The event was a "Flag Rally" honoring our Confederate Ancestors and the banners they fought under. I can say the "Battle Flag" was in good display! Cecil brought our camp flags which we posted. I can honestly say that Terry's Texas Rangers had by far the best display of flags of our Southern Heritage. Again, our state leaders were there and gave short presentations and restated many of the same themes

as were given in Texarkana. The event was hosted by the James Douglas Camp of Tyler, and their young Commander, Jerod Lee. The site was Camp Ford, a prisoner of war camp for 6000 Union soldiers, many of them captured during the Red River Campaign. The Yankee goal was to invade Texas, but they never made it. They were defeated at Mansfield and Pleasant Hill, and many Union soldiers found themselves instead a prisoner or in a Southern grave.

May Southern Virtues Prevail!  
Steve Wells, Commander, Camp 1937

## Confederate of the Month



Thomas R. R. Cobb  
Jefferson County, Georgia

Thomas Reade Rootes Cobb was born at Cherry Hill, a plantation in Jefferson County, on April 10, 1823. His family moved to Athens while he was still a child, and he resided there until his death.

Thomas R. R. Cobb, an antebellum legal authority and Confederate general, was born in Jefferson County but spent most of his life in Athens. He graduated at the top of his class from the University of Georgia and in

1844 married Marion Lumpkin, the daughter of prominent judge Joseph Henry Lumpkin.

Cobb attended the University of Georgia, graduated at the top of his class, and was admitted to the Georgia bar in 1842. In 1844 he married Marion Lumpkin, the daughter of Judge Joseph Henry Lumpkin.

During the 1840s and 1850s, Cobb and his older brother, Howell Cobb, campaigned against northern and southern radicals whose ideas threatened the Union. While Howell, an influential Democrat, served as Thomas's political mentor, the younger Cobb focused most of his energies on furthering his brother's career.

Cobb was a deeply religious man and a leader in the Presbyterian church in Athens. His legal views reflected his puritanical religious beliefs and a desire for restraint and self-control.

Following Georgia's secession from the Union in 1861, Howell Cobb served as president of the Confederate Provisional Congress (1861-62) and a major general of the Confederate army. The election of U.S. president Abraham Lincoln in 1860, Cobb renounced his Unionist leanings and became an ardent supporter of secession. After Georgia seceded from the Union on January 19, 1861, Cobb was elected to the Provincial Congress of the Confederate States of America in Montgomery, Alabama, and served on the committee that drafted the Confederate constitution. Cobb later resigned from the Confederate congress and in August 1861 formed a regiment of infantry, cavalry, and artillery, known both as the Georgia Legion and as Cobb's Legion. Commissioned as a colonel by Governor Joseph E. Brown, Cobb led his regiment into battles at Seven Days, Second Manassas, and Antietam. He became frustrated with his slow advancement through the ranks of command and felt that President Jefferson Davis, General Robert E. Lee, and others were discriminating against him. In October 1862, after assuming command of a brigade formerly led by his brother, Cobb was finally promoted by Lee to brigadier general. He was killed at the Battle of Fredericksburg in Virginia in December 1862. Cobb's brigade held the Stone Wall during the battle. He was seen waving his hat over his head and crying to his men, "Get ready, boys, here they come."

As to what happened next remains a mystery. According to historian Robert K. Krick, a piece of artillery shrapnel struck General Cobb in the left thigh and severed his femoral artery. General Cobb collapsed in the sunken road about two in the afternoon and bled to death.

**Camp Ford Heritage Flag Rally  
Texas Division Sons of Confederate Veterans  
Brigades 4, 5, 7 and 8  
Tyler, Texas  
Saturday, March 4, 2017**



The 2nd Annual National Heritage Flag Rally was held at Camp Ford in Tyler, Texas. Terry's Texas Rangers Camp #1937 was represented by Past Commander Bob Rubel, Commander Steve Wells, 1st Lt. Commander Doug Barron and Color Sergeant/Quarter Master Cecil Bonham. Also in attendance were Louann Rubel, Pat Barron and Theresa Bonham.

Bob Rubel, 2nd Lt. Commander of the Texas Division gave a presentation on the Confederate Battle Flag. Bob's presentation covered the historic beginnings of the flag, designed by General P.G.T. Beauregard after the battle of Manassas. After much discussion, the design was finalized into what it is today, a red field crossed with blue bars with white stars. The flag design was done to keep the loss of lives down and to be used as a rallying point that could be distinguished during the battles. The flag was approved in September of 1861 by commanding General Joseph E. Johnston.

The Confederate Flag never ceased being the flag of the Confederate soldier and today it still commands wide respect as a memorial to his service. The Flag was used as a memorial symbol for fallen heroes and became mainstream in the postwar South within our monuments, statues, cemeteries

and community parks to welcome back our soldiers and show support for families of those who didn't return home.

The Sons of Confederate Veterans adopted the Confederate Battle Flag as a part of their logo in 1896. They did this to honor all the men who died while fighting behind the Flag. To these men and women, this was a tribute to their ancestors and will continue to stand for our Southern history and heritage.



## **Camp Ford Tyler, Texas**

On the site of Highway 271 just off of Loop 323 in Tyler, Texas during the War Between the States was located Camp Ford, the largest prisoner of war compound for Union troops west of the Mississippi River. It was named in honor of Col. John S. "Rip" Ford. Col. Ford originally established a training camp here in the spring of 1862. The camp was established for new Confederate recruits. Camp Ford first consisted of four to five acres enclosed by a stockade sixteen feet high.

In the spring of 1864 following the Confederate victories at Mansfield, Louisiana and Mark's Mills, Arkansas the enclosure was doubled to accommodate a large amount of prisoners. Approximately 5000 - 6000 Federals were confined here during this period. Union soldiers representing nearly one hundred different regiments plus sailors from gunboats and transports were brought here. Prisoners constructed their own shelters from log huts and burrows called "shebangs" to brush arbors and tents made

of blankets. A spring, located about 100 yards southwest of the camp, furnished an ample supply of good water for the troops. Rations for prisoners and guards were meager, which consisted of beef and corn meal and sometimes supplemented by vegetables purchased from nearby farms.

Even though conditions were primitive Camp Ford compared favorably with other prison camps during the War. Camp Ford continued to serve as a prison until the surrender of the Trans-Mississippi Department in May, 1865. After the War, Federal occupation troops destroyed the facility.

(Information from various sources) Submitted by Louann Rubel

### **Texas Division Guardian Program**

#### **Terry's Texas Rangers Camp Members Who Are Caring for Confederate Veterans' Graves**

Mike Smith - Guardian  
Bob Rubel - Guardian  
Wade Chaney - Guardian  
Ben Davis - Guardian  
Brian Rubel - Guardian  
Kevin Rubel - Guardian  
Melvin Burt - Guardian  
Michael Simons - Guardian

These eight TTR members are caring for a total of 78 Confederate Veteran's Graves.

For more information about the Texas Division Guardian Program, contact

Bob Rubel, Commander, at (817) 483-6288 or (817) 929-5576.



## Chaplain's Corner

Proverbs 22:28 New American Standard Bible (NASB)

28 Do not move the ancient boundary, Which your fathers have set.

Remove not the ancient boundary stone or Landmark was a commandment to the Jews not to move property lines or memorial altars since both were to stay where they were. First Land ownership reverted to the original families every 50 years during the year of Jubilee. The altars were ordered by God to remember the great acts He had done for Israel.

So what about today? The same remains. We are not to remove the ancient landmarks of Faith and the Bible and even our modern landmarks like those who many want to be removed these days.

The truth is we cannot erase history just to appease someone's feelings. The History of our Southland is to be learned from, not erased, just because some of it is ugly.

Chaplain Michael Simons

## Name Badges

Terry's Texas Rangers Camp #1937 personalized name badges can be purchased at Bennett's Printing & Office Supply. They are located at 300 E. Chambers in Cleburne. The local telephone number is 817-641-9861.

There are two types of name badges - one with a pin on the back and the other with a magnetic clip. Bennett's Printing would be glad to answer any questions that you have on the name badges.



## Texas Division Commander's Report

Gentlemen of the Texas Division and all Southern Patriots everywhere, I am very happy to announce a Texas Division SCV project that has quietly been in the works for months and has finally been rolled out. After countless meetings and trips to Austin and lawmakers offices around the state by Division members we have a new bill designed to protect monuments, plaques etc. created or dedicated to Texas Heroes. This bill is to create a law protecting not only Confederate monuments but also "ALL" monuments to veterans and heroes of Texas.

The bill is the "Texas Heroes Protection Act" HB-1359 introduced by Texas Rep. James White of Woodville TX on January 30th 2017. This bill is no small undertaking. We need your support to make this bill become law in Texas. Passing this law can stop many of the attacks we as a people have endured over the past few years on our history, our family history and family honor.

We have worked very hard to give birth to this bill. Now it falls to all of you to get behind the "Texas Heroes Protection Act" and push as hard as you can to get this bill passed into law. I have to ask each and every one of you to contact your State Rep. and State Senator and ask them to get behind this effort to save the history of the Heroes and Veterans of this State. Please, don't sit back and assume the other guy will take care of the calls on this. We need "YOU" to do this. Please help! Your call, your letter, your email, your visit could be the very one that makes this happen. You may be the person that stopped the removal of historic monuments in Texas by your actions. Contact your family and friends. Call on all Veterans groups to help, after all this bill protects all of them also.

It is time for Texans to rise up and let it be known that we as a people love our veterans, our Heroes, and our history. "WE" say enough is enough SAVE

OUR HISTORY. Keep the phone lines burned up. Keep the pressure on! Make the Lawmakers accountable they represent YOU. You voted for them so now it is time for them to step up and vote as you direct, that is why they are in office to represent you. This message is just the beginning of this battle. More information will be forthcoming as effort to pass the bill moves along. Hopefully with your help around the State we will be able to tally the numbers of lawmakers that have joined the effort to pass the bill into law. TIME IS SHORT. Make the call now. Later may be too late to matter. You can't win a fight after it is over.

The line is drawn in the sand. FIGHT!

Gary D. Bray Commander  
Texas Division, SCV  
February 4, 2017

## Uniforms for Terry's Texas Rangers

Mercury Sutler - Tom and Thelma Barry are our source for uniforms for Terry's Texas Rangers. They have been our suppliers for many years. They are based in Livingston, Texas. Their telephone number is 936-327-3707. They will be glad to help you. When you call just let them know you are interested in uniforms for the Terry's Texas Rangers Camp #1937 in Cleburne, Texas.

Email: [mercurys@livingston.net](mailto:mercurys@livingston.net)

They also have a website: [www.mercurysutler.com](http://www.mercurysutler.com)



## Crosses honoring Confederate veterans have been stolen from historic Sheldon church near Beaufort



7 March 2017 - Anti-Southern Bigots, Southern Heritage & Heritage Defense

YEMASSEE — Three iron crosses honoring Confederate veterans were stolen from the historic Old Sheldon Church ruins, leaving the site's caretakers and state historians aghast.

Authentic "Southern Cross of Honor" markers are a black market collector's item. The theft also could be another example of "protest" vandalism sweeping the country. South Carolina and other states in the region are wrestling with how to balance heritage while placating a rise in anti-Confederate protests after the shootings at Emanuel AME Church and other recent events.

Whatever the case, the crime is a felony and one that disgusts the people who watch over such sites.

The pillared remnants of the church in the woods near Yemassee are an iconic Lowcountry landmark, a treasured destination for historians, photographers and cultural tours. But the site has been vandalized so much in recent years that university and preservation interests are trying to figure out how to protect it.

The crosses had been set in heavy concrete footings.

"Someone dug them up and took the footings. It's a despicable person who wants to desecrate graves," said Bill Sammons, a volunteer with St. Helena Church in Beaufort, who has helped look after the ruins.

"It's just wrong," said Jonathan Leader, state archaeologist. "It would be wrong if it were anybody's cemetery. It would be wrong if it were anybody's grave. It's doubly wrong that it's a veteran's grave."

The ruins of the nation's first church built in a temple form stood quietly in remote woods here for more than a century. But now they are being vandalized by people trampling over graves, pocketing souvenirs, spray-painting walls or breaking headstones...

Old Sheldon Church is a National Historic Register site, one of the nation's earliest and grandest religious buildings. It was first built between 1745 and 1753, slightly before St. Michael's Church, downtown Charleston's oldest surviving church building.

### Camp Chatter

Adjutant Michael Smith's granddaughter, Lexi Gregory, played on the basketball team that won the 3rd grade championship at Azle I.S.D. last week.

Aubrie Hatch, daughter of Michael Hatch, has a role her school's UIL One-Act Play production. She attends Brewer Middle School in White Settlement.

Cadet Morgan Gregory, grandson of adjutant Michael Smith, won 1st place in the 300 hurdles and 2nd place in the 110 hurdles yesterday at Azle I.S.D. Junior High track meet.



## Quotable Confederates

"It was not well to drive men into final corners; at those moments they could all develop teeth and claws."

— Stephen Crane, *The Red Badge of Courage*

"The trite saying that honesty is the best policy has met with the just criticism that honesty is not policy. The real honest man is honest from conviction of what is right, not from policy."

-- General Robert E. Lee

"Duty is ours; consequences are God's."

--- General Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson

"If you bring these leaders to trial, it will condemn the North, for by the Constitution, secession is not a rebellion. His [Jefferson Davis] capture was a mistake. His trial will be a greater one. We cannot convict him of treason."

-- Salmon P. Chase, Chief Justice of the US Supreme Court, 1867

Finally satisfied with his strength and alignments, Stonewall Jackson asked his leading division's commander, "Are you ready, General Rodes?" Rodes was ready. "You can go forward then." Rodes waved to Major Blackford, who turned to his bugler, Raif Grayson, of Sumter County, Alabama. The brass instrument "had not sounded more than a note or two," Blackford wrote to his cousin, "when the whole line opened with a terrible yell." One of the men yelling, Lieutenant Octavius A. Wiggins of North Carolina, described the sound echoing through the late afternoon as "that inimitable, unearthly, indescribable 'Rebel Yell' from the throats of twenty thousand veteran soldiers."

--- from "Like Chaff Before the Wind", *Civil War Trust: Battle of Chancellorsville*



# Terry's Texas Rangers Camp #1937, SCV

## 2017 Camp Officers

For contact information, visit the camp's website at:  
[www.scvcamp1937.org](http://www.scvcamp1937.org)

Commander	Steve Wells
1 <sup>st</sup> Lt. Commander	Doug Barron
2 <sup>nd</sup> Lt. Commander	Randy Simpson
Adjutant	Mike Smith
Chaplain	Michael Simons
Color Sgt./Quartermaster	Cecil Bonham
Camp Surgeon	Robert McMinn
Communications Officer	Doug Barron
Judge Advocate	Melvin Burt
Historian	Vacant
Newsletter Editor	Michael Hatch
Camp Secretary	Bill Hawkins
Color/Honor Guard	Bruce Wilson

### Committee Chairmen

Awards	Bob Rubel
Cemetery	
Preservation/Heritage	

### PLEDGE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG

"I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, AND TO THE REPUBLIC FOR THE WHICH IT STANDS, ONE NATION, UNDER GOD, INDIVISIBLE, WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL."

### PLEDGE TO THE TEXAS FLAG

"HONOR THE TEXAS FLAG, I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THEE, TEXAS, ONE STATE UNDER GOD, ONE AND INDIVISIBLE."

## **SALUTE TO THE CONFEDERATE FLAG**

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

## **THE SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS CHARGE**

"TO YOU, SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS, WE SUBMIT THE VINDICATION OF THE CAUSE FOR WHICH WE FOUGHT; TO YOUR STRENGTH WILL BE GIVEN THE DEFENSE OF THE CONFEDERATE SOLDIER'S GOOD NAME, THE GUARDIANSHIP OF HIS HISTORY, THE EMULATION OF HIS VIRTUES, THE PERPETUATION OF THOSE PRINCIPLES HE LOVED AND WHICH MADE HIM GLORIOUS AND WHICH YOU ALSO CHERISH. REMEMBER IT IS YOUR DUTY TO SEE THAT THE TRUE HISTORY OF THE SOUTH IS PRESENTED TO FUTURE GENERATIONS."

LT. GEN. STEPHEN D LEE

## **SUGGESTED LINKS**

SCV National Headquarters  
[www.scv.org](http://www.scv.org)

SCV Army of Trans-Mississippi  
[www.scv.atm.com](http://www.scv.atm.com)

SCV Texas Division  
[www.scv.texas.org](http://www.scv.texas.org)

SCV Terry's Texas Rangers Camp 1937  
[www.scvcamp1937.org](http://www.scvcamp1937.org)

SCV Terry's Texas Rangers Camp 1937 Facebook  
[www.facebook.com/texasterrysrangers](http://www.facebook.com/texasterrysrangers)

SCV Texas Division email list- This is for official communications from Division Command to the membership. Excellent for keeping abreast of current events within the SCV.

[http://www.scvtexas.org/Mailing\\_List.html](http://www.scvtexas.org/Mailing_List.html)

