

Scurry Times

November 2014 Newsletter



Charge to the Sons of Confederate Veterans

"To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will commit 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 which he loved and which you love also, and those ideals 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. General Stephen Dill Lee, Commander General, United Confederate Veterans, New Orleans, Louisiana, April 25, 1906.

SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS



**GEN. W.R. SCURRY/ CAMP 606
3RD TEXAS BRIGADE
WICHITA FALLS, TEXAS**



C o m m a n d e r r e p o r t

I want to thank our Camp members for the support for the Scurry Camp. We are in need of continued efforts for membership and retention. We had a good outreach at the TO Fair, and we are going to replace the gun show with outdoor events to continue to promote the Camp.

I want to thank James Brock, Rusty Haynes, Mark and Stephen Lancaster for their contribution for the successful cookout at Jackson Camp at Holliday, Texas. I think it would be a nice yearly event for the Camp in October, since the weather is good.

Will plan to see all at the next November Meeting at China Star. Again, I appreciate all of our members as we continue to advance the Cause. Gary Holly Camp Commander



C h a p l a i n R e p o r t**CHAPLAINS WORDS**

Gentlemen, I do not have any scriptural message to pass on in this writing. In fact, I find myself somewhat lacking in the skills of a Chaplain. I do, however, have something I would like to say about the situation and confrontation in West Texas.

I am saddened by the childish behavior and lack of professionalism displayed by a group of OUR COMPATRIOTS. I am well aware that we are all only human and susceptible to a loss of self-control. As members of the SCV, we should always remember that our behavior, especially in public, is always under scrutiny, we are being watched by the public, particularly by our detractors. They want to find something lacking in our demeanor. Always be on the alert!

I was raised with two brothers. We did not always get along. It even escalated to a physical confrontation at times. We somehow managed to work out our differences, and we did so without bringing in outsiders. In the opening line of the "Bonnie Blue Flag", it states that we are a Band of Brothers. Gentlemen, I submit that WE are a Band of Brothers, and as such, we can forgive the trespasses of our brothers and move on. There is no need for "charges" to be brought against each other. We have plenty of enemies without fighting among ourselves. If discipline is needed, let each camp deal with this in their own way. We have much to do without monitoring the behavior of another camp.

May the good Lord take a likin' to you.

C a m p O f f i c e r s 2 0 1 4**Commander: [Gary Holley](#)****1st Lt Commander: Glenn Beck****2nd Lt Commander: [Bob McNeely](#)****Adjutant: [Mark Lancaster](#)****N e x t M e e t i n g****November 10th [China Star](#) 6:30p.m.****Program given by Glenn Beck.****2 0 1 4 E v e n t s****Nov. 10: Camp Meeting @ [China Star](#)****Dec 8: Camp Meeting @ [China Star](#)****Camp Contact Information:****Website: <http://wrscurrycamp.webs.com/>****Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/General-WR-Scurry-Camp-606/226318404130137>****Twitter: <https://twitter.com/GenWRscurry606>**

Bold CSA Vet

Thomas Evans Riddle, & Man o' War

by Mike Cox

Thomas Evans Riddle bet on a dead racehorse. He lost.

The horse was Man o' War. Foaled in 1917, he won his first race, the Belmont Stakes, in 1919. He never took the Triple Crown of racing, but in his short track career Man o' War won 25 of his 26 races. Before he died at the age of 30 in 1947 the legendary racehorse had made his owner, Samuel D. Riddle, a millionaire several times over in stud fees.

Though Sam Riddle lived in Pennsylvania, Man o' War was often stabled and trained in Kentucky. Both states claimed the wonder horse of the 20th century.

Sam Riddle didn't live much longer after Man o' War died—about four years. When Sam died, he left his fortune to endow a hospital near his home in Philadelphia. Thomas Riddle, then a 106-year-old Confederate veteran, laid claim to part of the owner's estate, estimated at \$4 million. In his deposition, Thomas attested that he was the late Sam's elder half-brother.

Tom Riddle's attorney, Rodes K. Myers of Bowling Green, Kentucky, wanted Tom to fly to Philadelphia for a court hearing with 21 others claiming to be legitimate Riddle heirs, but the old soldier's doctors refused to give permission.

While the case languished in the courts of Philadelphia, Tom continued his daily games of checkers and dominoes with visitors. The last Civil War veteran living in the Confederate Home for Men at 1620 West Sixth Street in Austin, Tom had lots of visitors. And once the news was out that he might be an heir to a fortune, he had a lot of proposals of marriage.

The claimants lost their suit. In 1956 the Riddle fortune endowed a hospital in Pennsylvania as Sam Riddle had intended.

Tom Riddle first came from Tennessee to Texas in 1879, settling for 23 years in Grayson County as a stonemason and farmer. But after several discouraging years of drought, boll weevils and grasshoppers, he packed up his wife and kids and moved westward to Clay County.

Later Tom lived in Wichita Falls before coming to the Confederate Home in January 1950. When he first arrived, he enjoyed taking frequent walks around the 26-acre campus overlooking the Colorado River.

The Home was built in 1884 by a volunteer group of former members of General John Bell Hood's Texas Brigade at a cost of \$500,000. Eight years later the State of Texas took control. Over time the rambling frame building with wide steps and a tall tower accommodated 3,800 veterans. By 1943 only six former soldiers remained. That year the Home began admitting aged male patients from other hospitals.

Tom Riddle was the last Confederate veteran living in the Home. Born April 16, 1845 in Tennessee, he had served in the 12th Tennessee Infantry. He said that 18 months of his military time was under General Robert E. Lee. The way Tom remembered it, General Lee himself chose Tom to care for the general's horse, Traveler. Tom was with Lee at the Battle of Gettysburg in June and July 1863. Tom was slightly wounded in his left side, but as he told the story only 13 men were killed. "I was there and we buried every one of them right there on the field." He didn't remember the battle as a big deal—but then, he didn't live to see Ken Burns' Civil War special on PBS.

At the Confederate Home, Riddle kept a portrait of General Lee and a Confederate battle flag near his bed. He never earned rank in Lee's Army of Virginia, but the State of Texas and others heaped honorary titles on him, including colonel of the Confederate Air Force.

The old soldier had a television set in his room at the Confederate Home. He liked to keep up with the news of the Korean War. He may have watched films of Pork Chop Hill in April 1953.

That month the Home's staff, members of the Austin Chapter of the Daughters of the Confederacy and local townspeople came together to celebrate Riddle's 106th birthday.

Tom lived just one more year. After bouts with pneumonia and heart failure, the old soldier died April 2, 1954, just two weeks shy of his 107th birthday. Four days later, he was buried in Burkburnett.

No matter whether he truly had a blood tie to the man who had owned Man o' War, death had dropped Tom Riddle from the run for the money.

© *Mike Cox*

["Texas Tales"](#) - May 14, 2005 column

<http://www.texasescapes.com/MikeCoxTexasTales/238-Bold-CSA-Vet-Thomas-Evans-Riddle-and-Man-o-War.htm>

3rd Brigade Camps and Meetings

Arlington, Texas

Colonel Middleton Tate Johnson Camp #1648

Commander: James MacNab (214) 679-1532

Adjutant: R. Hearcan (817) 656-5060

Meets: Second (2nd) Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm

Location: Division Street Diner 1800 W. Division St.
Arlington

Decatur, Texas

Albert Sidney Johnston Camp #983

Commander: Henry Ross (940) 627-5335

Adjutant: James Keen (940) 644-5830

Meets: Second (2nd) Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm

Location: Wesley Center 201 E. Main Street, Decatur

Haltom City, Texas

Col. William H. Griffin Camp #2235

Commander: Jack Dyess

Adjutant: Jack Dyess

Meets: Please contact the Camp

Fort Worth, Texas

Robert E Lee Camp #239

Commander: James Turnage (817) 297-2987

Adjutant: Dustin Nabors (940) 395-7180

Meets: Third (3rd) Monday of the month 7:00 pm

Location: Ol' South Pancake House 1509 S. University
Drive, Fort Worth

Bedford, Texas

Colonel E W Taylor Camp #1777

Commander: Michael E. Patterson (817) 283-2658

Adjutant: James Alderman (817) 605-0538

Meets: Last Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm

Location: Catfish Company Restaurant 900 Airport
Freeway, # 110, North Richland Hills

Weatherford, Texas

Gov. Samuel W.T. Lanham Camp #586

Commander: Larry Martin (817) 964-1747

Adjutant: Vaughn Oliver (817) 550-6012

Meets: Fourth (4th) Monday of the month

Location: Antonios Mexican Food 1900 South Santa Fe
Weatherford

Cleburne, Texas

Patrick R Cleburne Camp #436

Commander: Thomas Freeman (817) 447-8459

Adjutant: Carl Johnson (817) 295-9587

Meets: First (1st) Monday of the month at 7:00 pm

Location: United Cooperative Services Bldg. 3309 N.
Main Street, Cleburne

Wichita Falls, Texas

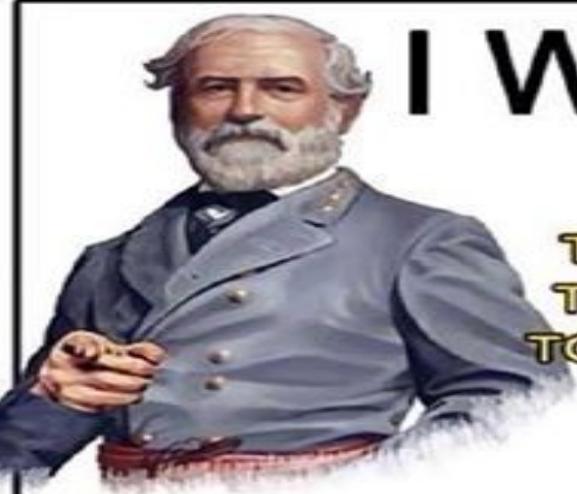
General W R Scurry Camp #606

Commander: Gary Holly (940) 357-1229

Adjutant: Mark Lancaster (940) 613-4181

Meets: Second (2nd) Monday of the month at 6:30 PM.

Location: China Star Restaurant 1024 Central Freeway,
Wichita Falls



I WANT YOU

TO WAKE UP
TO WAKE OTHERS UP
TO KNOW YOU ARE FREE
TO THINK FOR YOURSELF
TO PROTECT YOUR RIGHTS
TO RESIST TYRANNY
AND TO DEFEND OUR
SOUTHERN HERITAGE
WHILE YOU'RE AT IT.

 Southern Legal Resource Center
582-020,281

[Email Us](#)