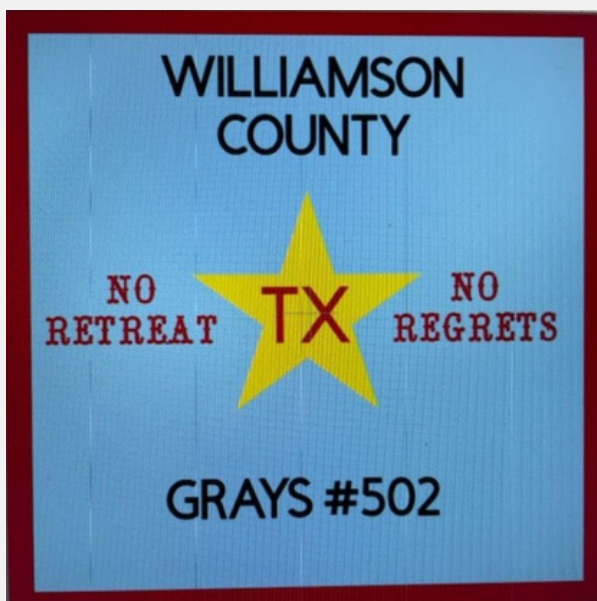




# FORWARDING OUR FATHERS' FLAGS



**Deo Vindice**

August 2024

**Williamson County Grays, Camp #502**

# Commander's Comments

**Compatriots & Friends of the Williamson County Grays,**

**We have many updates this month. Here are a few.**

## **Weekly Square Gathering:**

We're back on the Square every Saturday from ~ 10 AM to ~ 2 PM. Last weekend, BLM did not show up. Over the past four years, the only hostility we've encountered has come from them. Otherwise, our time there is enjoyable, filled with positive conversations about the South. People love hearing our stories, taking pictures with us, and engaging in discussions, especially as we start packing up. Come and join the conversation.

## **Reunion Highlights:**

- "Donnie" Kennedy (Louisiana) is the new SCV Commander-in-Chief.
- Tony Griffin (Virginia) is the new Lt Commander-in-Chief.
- John McCammon (Texas) is the new Army of the Trans-Mississippi Commander.
- Various groups united with our cause attended, including the Virginia Flaggers, Defend Arlington, Lee Rides Again, the UDC, Uncle Gregory, and several vendors of Confederate memorabilia.

## **SCV Priorities:**

- The top priority is to pay off the Museum debt, which is now just under a million dollars.
- Once the debt is cleared, Commander Kennedy plans to launch offensive advertising campaigns and engage with politicians to counter the anti-Southern movement.
- Although we are not a political group, we find ourselves involved in the political sphere. It's crucial to influence people toward understanding and appreciating our culture.

## **Action Steps:**

- Talk to family and friends about joining or supporting our Camp and the positive aspects of our culture.
- Support candidates who respect Constitutional Government.
- Volunteer for campaigns and find ways to make a difference.

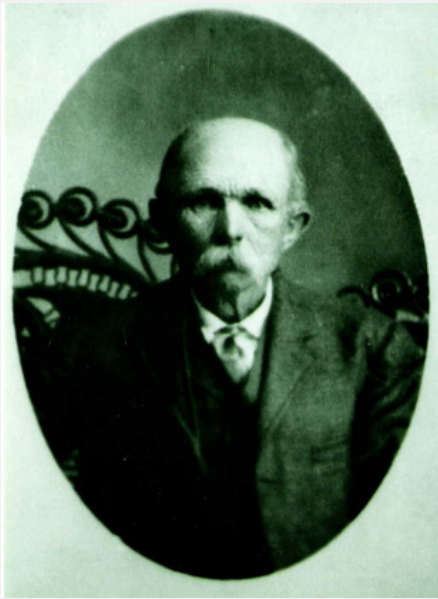
**Reminder:** The Texas Division is hosting the SCV National Reunion in July of 2025. More information can be found at [www.scv130.com](http://www.scv130.com). Make plans to be there!

*Lee Wallace - Camp Commander*

---

## Honoring Our Camp Heroes

We honor the bravery and sacrifices of our martyrs of the South



John Henry Wakefield



Headstone Demarcus C. Pettus

### **Billy Ayer's CSA ancestor.**

**Name:** John Henry Wakefield

**Rank:** Private

**Unit:** Co. I, 11th Texas Cavalry

**Battles or interesting fact:** Private Wakefield fought in Osage County, Indian Territory at Elkhorn Tavern and several other battles. He was wounded 31 December 1862 at Murfreesboro, Tennessee, and still went on to fight at Richmond, Kentucky and Perryville, Kentucky, numerous battles in Georgia including the defense of Atlanta. Private Wakefield was the last member of the 11th Texas Cavalry to surrender at the end of the war.

### **Cheryl Ayer's CSA ancestor.**

**Name:** Demarcus C. Pettus

**Rank:** Sergeant

**Unit:** Co. K, 7th Arkansas Infantry

**Battles or interesting fact:** SGT. Pettus was wounded at the Battle of Shiloh (Pittsburgh Landing) on 6 April 1862. He was wounded again in the Battle of Chickamauga, and then killed in the Battle of Franklin, Tennessee on 30 November 1864. He was 21 years old.



## Chaplain's Corner

---

### Sons of Confederate Veterans,

When we look at these current times and its crazy and wild ideologies, we need not be surprised because we are looking at a move away from Christian values, which made this nation, to evil and God-less values and philosophies. The author, C K. Chesterton wrote about the devil's biggest lie was to make people believe that he does not exist. However saint Peter in his second epistle, chapter 3, beginning with verse 3, "This first you must know that in the last days there will come deceitful scoffers, men walking according to their own lusts, saying, "Where is the promise of his coming?". Is this not what we are experiencing now? Isn't the leftist agenda and popularity the same that Peter speaks about?

In the second epistle of John he says, "for many deceivers have gone forth into the world who do not confess Jesus as the Christ coming in the flesh. This is the deceiver and the Antichrist."

Are these not the times that the holy apostles wrote about? We can name the false ideologies that scream at us from television, the false news, Hollywood, politicians, and every form of brain washing. But remember what John says in his second epistle, "Anyone who advances and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ, has not God; he who abides in the doctrine, he has both the Father and the Son". Verse 9.

Let's recognize the times and see evil for what it is. Let us not look back but look to the God of our forefathers and mothers. Paul writes the Ephesians, "See to it therefore, brethren that you walk with care; not as unwise but as wise making the most of your time, because the days are evil.". (5:15)

What we do as the Sons of the Confederate Veterans is so important for us to continue our mission showing that our forebears walked in the light of the Word of God. And remember, this is not simply a war of ideologies, but a fight between good and evil, truth and lies, Christ and evil!

Don Sawyer, Co-Chaplain



# **Ask the Colonel** **August's Question**

**How can I best support the SCV and our fight to defend Southern culture?**



**General Lee expects you to join him in Houston for the 130th SCV Reunion!**

Preserving our rich cultural history and traditions, unique to Southerners, is at the core of our mission including telling the true history of the South to *all* our people

Here are some things you can do:

1. SCV Membership: Maintaining your SCV membership enables us to share in a common vision and to stay in the know.
2. Camp Meetings: These monthly meetings are an opportunity to forge friendships, learn about upcoming events, and receive local updates.
3. Volunteer: The Williamson County Grays have many opportunities to volunteer from flagging cemeteries, defending the Memorial, to writing for the newsletter, and many others. Check with Commander Lee Wallace for additional information.
4. Events: Go to Division picnics and reunions, attend other Camp meetings or events, get involved. Its very rewarding!

# RECENT HAPPENINGS



**DINNER & DISCUSSION : July 26**  
Co-Chaplain, Bishop Don Sawyer ,accompanied by his intern Danny, enjoyed dinner & conversation hosted by SCV Compatriot Shelby Little and his partner , Teresa. In attendance were Commander Lee Wallace, 1st Lt. Commander Billy Ayers with his wife, Cheryl, and Compatriot Tracy Wallace.



**SCV NATIONAL REUNION July 16-20**  
Compatriot, & 1st Lt. Commander Billy Ayers carried our new Camp flag at the SCV National Reunion in Charleston, South Carolina for opening ceremonies.

July 6, 2024: Skeet shoot in Granger, Texas. Although it was very hot, several Camp #502 members enjoyed getting together for a skeet shoot and bbq .

July 13, 2024: The Williamson County Grays returned to defend the Confederate Memorial on the Georgetown Square. The same day, there was an assassination attempt of President Donald Trump .

July 16 - 20, 2024: Manned a table promoting the next SCV National Reunion in Houston, Texas. Watch the promotional video here:

<https://www.youtube.com/@texasdivisionscv>



# UP COMING EVENTS



**National Guardian Program**  
**The Camp will apply to be Guardians of 2 cemeteries in Williamson County. Contact Billy Ayers if you are interested in helping.**

August 6, 2024: Reiss Funicelli, charged with vandalism of Congressman Carter's office, the Courthouse, and the Confederate Memorial, will be back in court.

August 10, 2024: A new Camp (Salt Works Camp #2353) is starting up in the Division on Saturday, August 10 from 2:30 to 5 PM at Lampasas Methodist Church Annex, located at 2 Alexander St, Lampasas, TX 76550. Your attendance to show your support would be greatly appreciated.

September 5, 2024: The next monthly meeting of the Williamson County Grays.

September 21, 2024: Division Executive Committee (DEC) in Waco.

September 26, 2024: Williamson County Historical Commission will host speakers on Williamson County history at the Courthouse. Tickets available on-line.

October 5, 2024: Black powder Turkey Shoot hosted by the Salt Works Camp.

## Ladies Corner



Theresa Coggins  
Texas Tornado



The air is filled with suspense and excitement. Competitors, dressed in cowboy attire, stand poised with their hands hovering over their holstered revolvers. The sharp crack of the starting signal breaks the tension, and in a blur of motion, contestants draw, aim, and fire at their targets in fractions of a second. The sport of Cowboy Fast Draw is the largest organization devoted to the Sport of Fast Draw to ever exist. We use the best 1800's equipment available: Single action revolvers and center fire cartridges, shooting 45 long colt and wax bullets.. Our contests are elimination style. The loser of the bout receives an "X" and after 4 "X"s they are eliminated from the contest. Our clothing is western style, late 1800's period themed. We may not ever know a person's real name. (My alias is "Texas Tornado")

My Dad got me into the sport about 2-1/2 years ago. The CEO of Cowboy Fast Draw is a long time friend and competition shooting compadre. So, I've been shooting for just that long - 2-1/2 years. I've not yet won a championship, but I have been in the Top 7 shoot offs, known as the Magnificent 7, a total of 6 times. They say once you smell the gunsmoke, you are hooked. And I was hooked after my first shot!

---



# CONFEDERATE ART & WRITING



## *The Lion of Atlanta* by Billy Ayers

*Beneath the whispering pines of Atlanta's Oakland Cemetery, the Lion of Atlanta stood for 130 years. Erected in 1894 by The Atlanta Ladies Memorial Association as a poignant reminder of the ultimate sacrifice made by the 3000 Confederate dead that it guarded. The monument, which is made up of 15 tons of Georgia marble depicts the Lion laying prostrate on top of a Confederate battle flag, ever loyal and defiant even in the face of defeat. The Lion was removed by the Atlanta City Council in 2021 leaving our soldiers graves unmarked. The Lion of Atlanta is reportedly being kept in safe storage after having been vandalized numerous times, unlike many Confederate monuments which have been toppled and destroyed by adherents of the democrat party. It is our fervent hope that sometime in the future this glorious monument to our noble ancestors can be resurrected in a place of honor.*

# THE CHARGE



**“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.”**