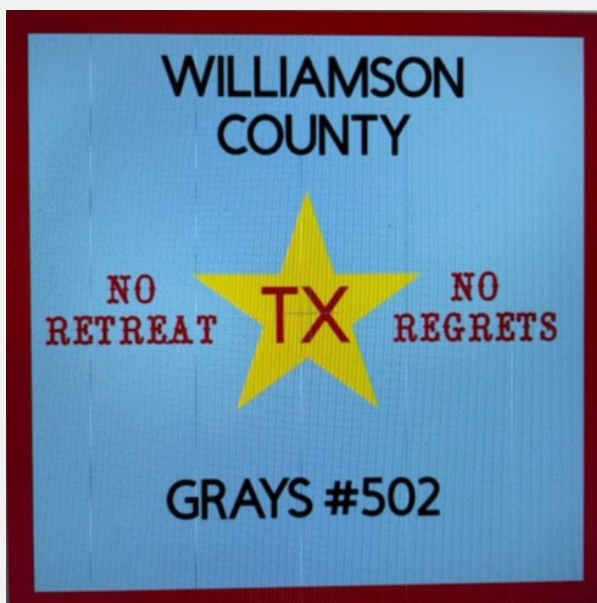




FORWARDING OUR FATHERS' FLAGS



Deo Vindice

September, 2024

Williamson County Grays Camp #502

Commander's Comments

Happy September.

On August 6, I gave a presentation to the Brenham Camp on the reasons for secession. Constitutional liberty is always the center piece. Tracy and I have attended or given talks to the Temple and Bryan Camps also. The other Camps like having visitors. They all share the same happy, positive mind set that we do.

Lampasas opened a new Camp (Salt Works Camp #2353). Michal Gray, Johnny Anderson, and Billy Ayers attended on behalf of the Williamson County Grays (see front cover photo). The Lampasas Camp is hosting a black powder shoot on October 5. As of the date of this writing, about 12 of us are planning on attending. We would love to see you there also. For more information contact one of the Camp's officers.

We are still on the Square defending our Confederate Memorial and our ancestors' good name. We set up about 8 AM and stay until "those people" go away, about 4.30PM. Most of the people are happy to see us and strike up friendly conversations. Of course every once in a while we get a strange, indescribable human who has walked out of a book on abnormal psychology. They can give you a view of humanity you won't get anywhere else. We speak up for the good name of the Southern soldier by speaking up for our Constitution. This is the standard to judge all candidates for public office by. Most of our country's problems would simply go away if that document was followed. Talk to family and friends about this. It's this philosophy that will preserve our liberty and stop the destruction of our monuments and flags. The townspeople support us because they know that is what we are doing.

Let me encourage you to get involved in the local politics. Pick a candidate you like and get involved. I'm not getting out of my lane with this. Remember I went to trial for wearing a Confederate uniform.

Action Steps:

- Talk to family & friends about joining or supporting our Camp & the positive aspects of our Southern 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. 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



Johnny Anderson at the Marker for the
40th Alabama



Alfred B. Thompson & Louisa Jane Carney

Johnny Anderson's CSA ancestor.

Name: Alfred B. Thompson (1842-1918)

Rank: Private, Enlisted May 1, 1862

Unit: Company D, 40th Alabama Infantry in Mobile, Alabama.

Battles or Interesting Fact: Alfred B. Thompson was born on Christmas Eve in 1842 in Choctaw County, Alabama, to Joel Phillip Thompson and Martha Arrington Thompson.

The 40th Alabama was deployed to Vicksburg, where they took part in the Siege of Vicksburg. Alfred and the rest of the 40th were surrendered on July 4, 1863, but were soon paroled. The regiment regrouped and fought at the Battle of Lookout Mountain, Tennessee, where Alfred was captured. He was paroled and exchanged again. The 40th Alabama subsequently engaged in the Atlanta Campaign, suffering heavy casualties at the Battle of New Hope Church. After the fall of Atlanta, the regiment was sent to Mobile for garrison duty. In January 1865, they moved to North Carolina, where they fought their final battle at Bentonville.

After the war, Alfred returned to farming in Choctaw County and on Aug 2, 1865 he married Louisa Jane Carney. Together they had 11 children including my Great Great Grandfather Henry Jasper Thompson. Alfred died on Mar 30, 1918 and is buried in the Mount Carmel Cemetery in Cordova, Alabama.

Chaplain's Corner

Sons of Confederate Veterans,

One of my favorite Bible stories is from 2nd Chronicles Chapter 32 when Assyria invaded Judah with the greatest power the world had seen until that time. There seemed to be nothing to stop them! Judah's King Hezekiah had to meet the threat of a world power. He fortified Jerusalem against the threat of the Assyrian king, Sennacherib, who told him that resistance was fatal because no other nation had resisted him. They depended on their gods yet they still fell before him.

The Assyrian king told him, "Do you know what my fathers and I have done to all the peoples of other lands? Were the gods of those nations able to save their lands from my hand? They spoke of the God of Israel as though he was one of the gods of the other peoples of the earth - a work of human hands".

"Then the Lord sent an angel who destroyed every valiant warrior, leader, and commander in the camp of the Assyrian king, so that he had to return shamefaced to his own country. When he entered the temple of his god, some of his own offspring struck him down there with the sword.

Good Americans are shocked from the rise of evil, of wokeism, and the many aberrations and trends in our society and nation. We seem to be overpowered with the amount of evil that we have never before experienced. Hezekiah and God's people must have felt the way that so many of us feel now. However, let us remember to invoke our God who is mighty and all powerful against the powers of darkness and beg Him to save us, our nation, and our lands from the winds of the many "isms" like liberalism, communism, socialism, wokeism, paganism, and more.



As St. Paul said,
"Who can be against us when God is with us?"

Don Sawyer, Co-Chaplain



Ask the Colonel September's Question

Would you ever wear a
dress or a skirt?

Well, despite some possibly inebriated acquaintances insisting that I have the legs for it, I don't think Williamson County or the Grays are quite ready for the spectacle of me wearing a dress. Maybe if I shaved my legs? The "Antifa Super Soldier" (see side photos) either missed the memo or perhaps has an overabundance of self-confidence about his attire. Once you've witnessed that sight in person, it's hard to unsee it. Trust me on that!

That said, I certainly don't mean to disparage the brave Scots and Irish who wear kilts with pride; or the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) when they wear the hajib to infiltrate Hamas territory. It's just that this "mini-skirt" look isn't quite the same and I lack their indifference to windy days. But as long as they keep up their same tactics, I'm confident we needn't fear for our eventual triumph.



Antifa on the Square.

RECENT HAPPENINGS

Awards Season



Previous Wilco Grays Camp Commander, Compatriot Tommy Turner received the SCV Heritage Defense Medal. It is presented here by Ed Hill, Commander in Kingsport, Tennessee. Tommy and his beautiful wife, Linda, report they are doing well in Tennessee.



**Reese Henry
Texas Division Bronze Cross**



**Tracy Wallace
SCV Meritorious Service**



**Lee Wallace,
SCV Heritage Defense**

The Camp is focused on getting more awards this year. Information about various awards can be found at:

<https://scvtexas.org/resources/awards/>

UP COMING EVENTS



National Guardian Program

The Camp has applied to be Guardians of 2 cemeteries in Williamson County. We have plenty of headstones to adopt. Contact Billy Ayers if you are interested in helping.

Speakers: We are looking for folks who would like to give a talk at a Camp meeting. If you, or someone you know, is interested, please let us know at our next Camp meeting.

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 3, 2024: Our next Camp meeting. Also the date for announcing candidacy for Camp Officers (Commander, 1st & 2nd Lt Commanders). If you are interested in serving in one of these positions, let it be known. Elections will be held at the November 7th meeting.

October 5, 2024: Black powder shoot at the Saltworks Camp. Currently, there are 12 people from our Camp going. The cost is \$10 to hang out and have lunch; or \$30 if you want to shoot.

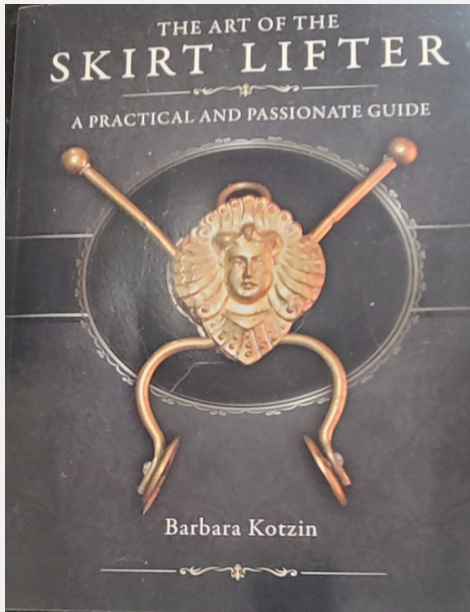
November 7: Camp meeting. Elections will be held at this meeting.

December 5, 2024: Our annual Christmas gathering with gifts and prizes.

June 6-8, 2025: Texas Division Reunion in Mineral Wells, Texas. Let us know if you would like to share a ride to the event. More information can be found at: <https://scvtexas.org/event/texas-division-reunion-2025/>

July 16-20, 2025: Texas Division is hosting the SCV National Reunion in Houston. Information can be found at: <https://scv130.com/schedule/>

Ladies Corner



In the 19th century, skirt lifters were the unsung heroes of women's fashion. Working hard to keep those enormous skirts from dragging through mud puddles and doorways.

By Teresa Chapman



Skirt Lifters

In the early 1800s, women's skirts were getting fluffier and more dramatic, thanks to the "pannier." These hoop skirts made women look like they were walking around in a human-sized teacup, but the pannier's main job was to make the wearer's silhouette as wide as a Victorian doorframe. While not quite a skirt lifter, the pannier set the stage for the quest to keep skirts from becoming walking hazards.

Enter the crinoline in mid-19th century. Skirts became even more voluminous due to the crinoline: an expansive cage of hoops and fabric layers worn beneath the skirt to provide a bell-shaped silhouette. Crinolines could be cumbersome, especially in outdoor settings & skirt lifters became increasingly practical. These devices were used to lift and manage the weight and bulk of the skirts, making them easier to walk in and less likely to drag on the ground.

Skirt lifters were often a mix of practical and slapstick. Some were simple enough to be mistaken for a medieval torture device, while others resembled fancy pulley systems that wouldn't look out of place in a steampunk carnival. They were the unsung heroes ensuring that skirts remained pristine and unscathed by the elements or the occasional overzealous dance partner.

As the 20th century dawned and skirts became shorter and simpler, skirt lifters gracefully bowed out, like vintage stagehands retiring after a grand performance. With the crinoline and bustle eras a thing of the past, these ingenious devices were no longer needed. Yet, their legacy of innovation endured, highlighting how fashion can creatively solve even the most challenging wardrobe dilemmas. In the end, skirt lifters were more than just gadgets; they were the unsung backstage crew that ensured even the most extravagant outfits could navigate society's ballrooms without tripping over their own hems.

CONFEDERATE ART & WRITING

Stonewall Jackson's Way

Posted online @:

https://csapartisan.tripod.com/poetry/stonewall_jacksons_way.html

*Come, stack arms, men! Pile on the rails,
Stir up the campfire bright;
No matter if the canteen fails,
We'll make a roaring night;
Here Shenandoah brawls along.
There burly Blue Ridge echoes strong,
To swell the Brigade's rousing song,
of "Stonewall Jackson's Way."*

*We see him now! The old slouched hat
Cocked o'er his eye askew-
The shrewd, dry smile, the speech so pat,
So calm, so blunt, so true.
The "Blue Light Elder" knows o'er well.
Lord, save his soul! we'll give him - well",
That's Stonewall Jackson's Way."*

*Silence! Ground arms! Kneel all! Caps off!
Old Blue Light's going to pray;
Strangle the fool that dares to scoff!
Attention! 'tis his way!
Appealing from his native sod,
In forma pauperis to God
"Lay bare thine arm, stretch forth thy rod;
Amen!" That's "Stonewall's Way."*

*He's in the saddle now! Fall in!
Steady- the whole brigade!
Hill's at the ford, cut off! He'll win
his way out, ball and blade;
What matter if our shoes are worn!
What matter if our feet are torn!
"Quick step. We're with him before dawn!"
That's "Stonewall's Way."*

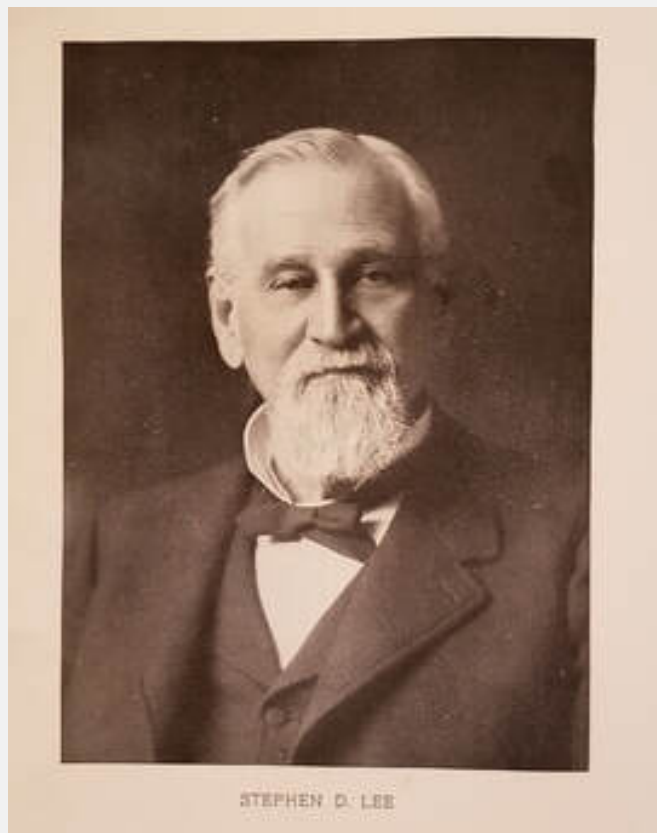
*The sun's bright lances rout the mists
of morning, and, by George,
There's Longstreet struggling in the lists,
hemmed in an ugly gorge
Pope and his Yankees whipped before
"Bayonet and grape!" hear Stonewall roar,
Charge Stuart! Pay off Ashby's score
In "Stonewall Jackson's Way."*

*Ah, maiden! Wait and watch and yearn
for news of Stonewall's band;
Ah, widow! Read with eyes that burn
that ring upon thy hand;
Ah, wife!, Sew on, pray on, hope on,
Thy life shall not be all forlorn
The foe had better ne'er been born,
Than get in "Stonewall's Way."*

Anonymous:

Found on the body of a Sergeant of the Old Stonewall Brigade, Winchester, Virginia

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.”