



THE



Newsletter of the Texas Lonestar Greys (*The Biggest Little Camp in Texas!*)
Sons of Confederate Veterans, Camp 1953, San Antonio and Schertz, Texas
Our Brothers in the Sul Ross Chapter of the Military Order of the Stars and Bars
Serving our members in; Parts of the Hill Country, East Bexar County, Western Guadalupe County, and Eastern Wilson County, Texas.



REVISED Again in 2015 July and August dedicated to The Texas Lone Star Greys and named for the Cry that chilled the Hearts of the Intruders, brought Joy to the True Believers, and Echoes still heard in the Hollowed Valleys, Plains, Forests, Swamps, Bayous, Rivers, Shores, and Upland Reaches (Hills and Hollers) of the BELOVED SOUTH LAND!

VOLUME VIII (**YES THIS IS THE TENTH YEAR** of the REVISED PUBLICATION),

Number 1; Vol. 7 (more or less ok; likely 10 now), January 2025

Rules for Contributions: This newsletter will post meeting information past, present, and future meetings and activities; announcements from other camps in our area; articles (please use sources); editorials or comments will be accepted but they must be acceptable **ABSOLUTELY: no bigotry or racial prejudice will be accepted** this is an organization for **HERITAGE NOT HATE**; if you are interested in buying or selling items of organizational interest your announcement is encouraged; finally if you want to include historical trivia related to southern heritage feel free to submit (include your source); **CAMP STAFF**

MEETING: The meeting was called to order at 7 PM by **Commander Ramirez**, with **Chaplin Mike Reynolds** opening the meeting with a beautiful invocation. Adjutant Roy Poole led us with the Pledge of Allegiance to the US flag, Texas flag and Confederate flag. The *Change* was read by **Commander Ramirez**. Following the formalities, the Camp commenced it's annual Christmas Social and final meeting of the year. Thank you to our guests for making this evening, special: **Mrs. Katie Reynolds, Dara McCammon Leah Ann Wilson, Lynn Poole and Irene Ramirez**. Thank you for decorating the meeting room, the door prizes the desserts, and thank you for joining us. The door prizes deeply appreciated and *WOW!* The **decorations were excellent**, this was the first time in years that our **Annual Christmas Social** was so well decorated. Announcements were brief and consisted of Reminders: the **Texas Division Reunion, the National Reunion**, and the **Confederate Heroes Day Dinner** hosted by Alamo City Guards Camp. The Confederate Heroes Day Dinner is always a welcome event after the Christmas/New Year's season we highly encourage all to attend, as this year's venue is very unique with regard to cuisine. **From the Commander; "Our Christmas social prepares us for the coming of Christmas. I can't think of a better group of friends to celebrate with. I had a great time. I hope you can say the same."** Mike Reynolds led us with a meaningful benediction prayer. Then we all sang *Dixie* to conclude our Christmas Social.

Juan Ramirez
Juan Ramirez
Commander,
Texas LONESTAR Greys



NEXT MEETING: Thursday 18, July 2024 at *JALISCO MEXICAN BAR AND GRILL*, 720 FM 78 Cibolo, Texas 78108. We commence gathering at 6:00 PM (1800 hrs.), the actual meeting will convene at 6:30 PM (1830 hrs.) sharp. We do not have information regarding the program as of this printing. Please watch your email or text messaging for further information or changes.

REMEMBER: February's meeting: Mr. Alan Kosub of the Wilson County and La Vernia Historical Societies will give his presentation about the war and "Reconstruction" in La Vernia, St. Hedwig, eastern Bexar County and of course Wilson County. PLEASE attend, bring family and friends. Mr. Kosub runs the area historical web site Lost Texas Roads. His program should be interesting.



ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Annual CONFEDERATE HEROES DAY DINNER, presented by the Alamo City Guards Camp; **January 18, 2025**, Celebrate a historic milestone with us as the Alamo City Guards Camp 1325 marks its 50th anniversary at the Chama Gaucha Brazilian Steakhouse on Saturday, January 18th, 2025. This evening promises to be the highlight of our three-day celebration, paying tribute to the legacy and spirit that has guided our camp for half a century.

Who: Alamo City Guards Camp #1325

What: 50th Anniversary Celebration Confederate Heroes Day Dinner

When: JAN 18th 2025

Where: Chama Gaucha Brazilian Steakhouse, San Antonio, TX

Why: \$40 Tickets for an \$80 meal, meet Paul Gramling Jr. and more.

How: Order your tickets at alamocityguards.com/confederate-heroes-day-dinner-2025

We have both online and printable forms available.

The night will begin with a warm welcome, followed by an exquisite dining experience at the renowned Chama Gaucha, where guests will enjoy the finest Brazilian cuisine served in the traditional rodizio style. This special dinner is part of a larger 50th-anniversary celebration, which kicks off on Friday, January 17th, with a scavenger hunt through historic sites, and concludes on Sunday, January 19th, with a memorial service for American icon Robert E. Lee. Join us for this extraordinary event—an evening of history, music, and camaraderie as we honor 50 years of the Alamo City Guards Camp 1325. Tickets go on sale soon, so make plans now to be part of this once-in-a-lifetime celebration! **POC: Cody Crislip** ccrislip633@alamocityguards.com and **Christian Lee** c.lee.scv.acg.210@gmail.com

Attire: Suit or Coat and tie for men, evening wear for the ladies, period civilian or military dress for Gentlemen and period dresses for the Ladies, or tasteful weteran wear for Gents and Gals, and retired military may wear branch dress or formal uniforms (if they still fit).



TRIVIA ALL SHOULD KNOW: Robert Edward Lee was born on: January 19, 1807 and Thomas Jonathan "Stonewall" Jackson (January 21, 1824.

OUR PANTHEON OF SOUTHERN HEROES:



LEFT-RIGHT: President Jefferson F. Davis, General Robert E. Lee, General Thomas J. “Stonewall” Jackson, General Nathan Bedford Forrest, General John Hunt Morgan, General Adam Rankin Johnson, Colonel Santos Benavides (with Mrs. Benavides), General Richard Montgomery Gano, and John Singleton Mosby.

Lawrence Sullivan Ross Chapter #184 Military Order of the Stars & Bars January Quarterly Business Meeting

LaFonda Alamo Heights Mexican Restaurant 8633 Crownhill Boulevard, San Antonio, Texas 78209 (inside Loop 410, behind Magic Time Machine) 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM Saturday, January 11th, 2025 **RSVP** by e-mail to Yancey Swearingen at sanantoniocandy@satx.rr.com ***We need to let the restaurant know number attending for set up*** **FAMILY & FRIENDS WELCOME;** CASUAL Membership in the Military Order of the Stars & Bars is limited to male descendants, either lineal or collateral, of the officers who served honorably in the Army, Navy and other forces of the Confederate States of America and male descendants of the elected and appointed civilian officials of the Confederate States; the national Confederate Government; and the Five Civilized Tribes which allied with the Confederacy. Chaplains, Surgeons, and Civil Servants may also qualify for membership.

Nostalgia TV: If you stream your TV two War Between the States TV shows from the late 1950s early 60s are on ROKU TV; in the good old days of fairly honest television the South was portrayed very well until we arrived at the senseless 60s. **YANCEY DERINGER** if you recall is set in post-war New Orleans and the main character Yancey Deringer (Jock Mahoney) is a former Confederate officer. There is also **THE REBEL**, set in the post war west mostly Texas involving a former Confederate soldier; Johnny Yuma (Nick Adams) roaming from one adventure to another trying to make sense of the post-war world. Sorry folks your staff is still searching for **THE GRAY GHOST**, if we locate the program it will be in the “**YELL.**”

FLORESVILLE GUN SHOW: The Floresville Gun Show is held in Floresville Texas by Premier Gun Shows. It is held at Floresville Event Center located at 600 TX-97. Next Show Date: January 11, 2025 - January 12, 2025, Floresville Event Center Address: 600 TX-97, Floresville, Texas, 78114. Show Cost: \$10.00, Show Hours: Saturday 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM and Sunday 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Email: <http://premiergunshows.com>

NEW BRAUNFELS GUN SHOW: New Braunfels Gun Show held by Premier Gun Shows at New Braunfels Civic/Convention Center Show Date: February 22, 2025 - February 23, 2025; Venue: New Braunfels Civic/Convention Center, Address: 375 S Castell Ave, New Braunfels, Texas, 78130 Phone: 817-732-1194; Show Cost: \$10.00 Show Hours: Saturday 9 am – 5 pm and Sunday 10 am – 4 pm Email: info@premiergunshows.com

Reconstruction: Destroying the Republic Creating an Empire

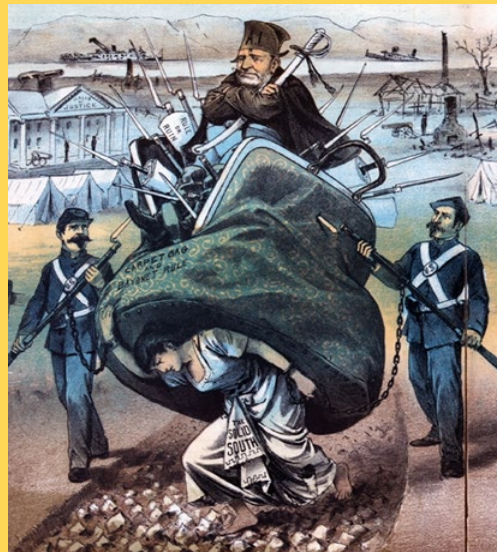
New book by James Ronald Kennedy co-author of The South Was Right!

A complete history of Reconstruction from the mistakes made by the South in 1787, 1850, & 1861.

Reconstruction divided into Active Reconstruction (1866-77), Passive Reconstruction (1877-1965), and Modern Era Reconstruction (post-1965).

Thirty-two chapters, including fifteen dedicated to Reconstruction in each Southern State. 550 pages, indexed, bibliography, and 1209 footnotes.

How the Yankee Empire destroyed America’s legitimate Republic of Sovereign States and created an all-powerful Federal Government. Available from online bookstores and www.kennedytwins.com



Another excellently researched and written book by the Kennedy Brothers; as with their previous works they are so fact driven with excellently annotated sources few of our rabid detractors can refute. This is a must have for your growing libraries and if you are an educator in the fields of history, political science, or legal subjects it is **A RECOMMENDED READ THAT SHOULD BE MANDATORY.**

GO YE FORTH AND EDUCATE THE IGNORANT AND NON-BELIEVERS.



***CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE: Originally Contributed or Inspired by Sanford Reed; 6th (South Texas) Brigade and past Texas Division Chaplain (National SCV Genealogist) and our Camp Chaplain the late Tom Guion. This issue Compatriot Sanford Reed inspires us spiritually by touching our hearts and souls with a patriotic inspired prayer. Thank you, Chaplains Reed, and our departed Brother; Tom Guion. Our Current Camp Chaplain: Mike Reynolds gives us spiritual inspiration and his efforts are always welcome and deeply appreciated. ***

As this year comes to an end and the new one is looming over us, we should take a few minutes to reflect on what has been and what we hope is coming.

We just celebrated the Christmas holiday which is supposed to be a celebration of Christ's birth but has unfortunately been turned into an over commercialized hollow shell of the original reason for the season. The stores inundate us with opportunities to "save" money by spending at their establishments while Santa and the Grinch get more attention than the original reason for the holiday, the birth of Jesus.

I took my grandkids for a ride to look at Christmas lights last week; only one out of every twenty or so houses had any reference to the nativity. Our military bases are forbidden to even display the nativity except at the chapel (but during "pride" month rainbow flags are on base everywhere).

When I was young the gifts my grandparents gave us were all hand made with love by them. To this day, I still have many of those gifts and still treasure them. I couldn't honestly tell you what I got from the stores a week ago.

Our society has become a disposable one. We want the newest and fanciest toy that Apple, Google, Amazon, Glock or Remington offers, and the old school antique familiar foundations are replaced and eventually forgotten. But it's those old school things that will outlast and endure.

We don't need the biggest, the most expensive, or the flashiest things. Our Savior came to this world in the simplest of places in the humblest of ways. He was surrounded by farm animals, shepherds, his parents, angels and eventually three wise men.

It is my prayer that with the dawning of the new year we can go back and grab ahold of the traditional ways and things and put some of the progressive ideals and materialistic mentality behind us. I pray that we can remember the peace of simplicity and the contentment of knowing that no matter how bad the storm seems, we are in the presence of God.

This next year is going to be a roller coaster ride. Stay seated and keep your arms and legs in the car at all times. May God Bless all y'all!

Mike Reynolds

Mike Reynolds,
Texas Lone Star Greys,
Camp Chaplain

***NOTE: the insignia for the Confederate Christian Chaplains used by the Confederate army we also included a symbol of all our Old Testament predecessors and used the U.S. Army Jewish Chaplain branch insignia the Confederate army included thousands of Jewish soldiers they had no official chaplain corps rather local Rabbis filled in when possible and soldiers who took it upon themselves to hold services. Since we have a number of Jewish Compatriots in the SCV we could not overlook their faith.



SOUTHERN CULTURE, HUMOR, PRIDE and PRINT

The Legend of the Black-Eyed Pea

Contributed by

Army of the Trans-Mississippi Commander John McCammon

The Real Story of how the legendary "black-eyed pea" came to be a symbol of good luck has gone untold in fear that feelings would be hurt. It is a story of war, the most brutal and bloody war, military might, and power pushed upon civilians, women, children, and elderly. Never seen as a war crime this was the policy of the greatest nation on earth trying to maintain that status at all costs. An unhealed wound remains in Southern states even today, on the other hand the policy of slavery has been an open wound that has also been slow to heal but or to talk about magnified for political convenience.

The story of THE BLACK-EYED PEA being considered good luck relates directly back to Sherman's Bloody March to the Sea in late 1864. It was called The Savannah Campaign and was led by Major General William T. Sherman. The Civil War campaign began on November 15, 1864, when Sherman's troops marched from the captured city of Atlanta, Georgia and ended at the port of Savannah on December 22, 1864.

When the smoke cleared, the Southerners who had survived the onslaught came out of hiding. They found that the *blue belly* aggressors that had looted and stolen everything of value, and everything you could eat including all livestock, death and destruction were everywhere regardless of religion or ethnicity. While in hiding, few had enough to eat starvation was now thrust upon the survivors.

There was no international aid, no Red Cross meal trucks. The Northern army had taken everything they could carry and eaten everything they could eat. But they could not take it all. The devastated people of the South found for some unknown reason Sherman's merciless troops had left silos full of black-eyed peas. You see at the time in the north the lowly black-eyed pea was only used to feed stock. The northern troops saw it as the thing of least value, taking grain for their horses, livestock, and other crops to feed themselves they just could not take everything. So, they left the black-eyed peas in great quantities assuming it would be of no use to the survivors because all the stock that it could feed had either been taken or eaten. Southerners awoke to face a new year in this devastation; facing massive starvation if not for the good luck of having the black-eyed peas to eat. From New Year's Day 1866 forward the tradition grew to eat black-eyed peas on New Year's Day for good luck.

"Didn't I tell you we'd lick 'em!" Joe Wheeler or those immortal words of a Rebel guerrilla: "fooled 'em again Josey."



Southern Delicacy: Black Eyed Peas and Cornbread

A HUMOROUS NOTE: in northern zoos all the animals have signs or plaques identifying the critter; in Southern zoos not only do we identify the critter we also post instructions on how to cook (fix) the thang!

HAPPY NEW YEARS Y'ALL, May GOD Bless Y'all and yorn' in this New Year of Opportunity we have been given through a power much higher than ours.

TEXAS and CONFEDERATE HISTORY

The YELL Staff understands that Black History Month this year runs from February 1-28, however, your Staff felt that we would run a feature early. With so much hidden from the pages of history and myth presented as fact, we thought it was in the interest of fairness and history to run three factual articles concerning Black Confederates that revisionists somehow manage to overlook or just become confused with facts versus emotion. Hopefully, you will find these storis all fact, interesting. "YELL" Staff

BLACK CONFEDERATES OFTEN OVERLOOKED IN AMERICAN HISTORY

Crossville Chronicle (Crossville, Tennessee)

By Pamela Wood and Barbara Parsons

Chronicle contributors Feb 25, 2008

Our nation celebrates Black History Month in February each year. Many African-Americans who contributed to our nation's history are recognized. Probably the most overlooked group of African-Americans is the Black Confederates.

Black Confederates served within Confederate regiments alongside their white brothers. Black rebels served as body servants, musicians, teamsters, sentries, cooks, quartermasters, hospital stewards, chaplains, and engineers. An estimated 40,000 served in combat. Seventy-five Black Confederates rode in General Nathan Bedford Forrest's cavalry (NOTE: several Blacks were part of Forrest's Escort or his personal security detail- "YELL"-Staff), and a number rode with General John Hunt Morgan into Ohio.

At least one of the Black Confederates captured with General Morgan was murdered in cold blood as he was brought into the Union Prison. The Union Army did not know how to explain black soldiers in the Confederacy to the people of the north. Capture for a Black Confederate many times was a death sentence.

Perhaps you think this story would have no relevance in the Upper Cumberland region of Tennessee. In fact, within the past four years the Highland Brigade of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, and the Captain Sally Tompkins 2123, United Daughters of the Confederacy have marked the graves of two men in our area who received Tennessee Black Confederate pensions from the state of Tennessee.

Pvt. Sam Cullom of Overton County (Livingston), a slave of the Cullom family, went to war with his owner's son, Jim Cullom. They were among the first unit to leave for Confederate duty from Overton County. They fought together in numerous campaigns until Jim Cullom was killed in the battles of the Atlanta campaign. Sam Cullom buried Jim and continued to fight with the unit until the end of the war, when he returned to Overton County. Sam Cullom's application for a Tennessee Black Confederate pension was approved in three days of its arrival at the Confederate Pension Board in Nashville. Sam is buried in the Bethlehem Methodist Church cemetery just outside Livingston, in an area where Sam and his family were major landowners. Land in the area where the Overton County Fairgrounds sits once belonged to Sam Cullom, Black Confederate. There is also a family story that at one time Sam Cullom was threatened by a group of men and the KKK came to rescue him. Four granddaughters of Sam Cullom, three of whom live in the Livingston area, attended the historic grave marking held to honor his service to the Confederate States of America. The fourth granddaughter is a retired college professor, Dr. Althea Armstrong, who lives in Detroit, Michigan.

At the age of twelve years, Henry Henderson of North Carolina went to war with his owner, William Henderson. Henry settled in the River Hill community of White County after the war and raised his family there. Upon receiving proper certification of this service to the Confederate Army, Henry Henderson was granted a Tennessee Black Confederate pension. Henry, his wife, and other family members are buried in the Old Union Cemetery in White County. Approximately 50 descendants of Henry Henderson, several from Indiana, attended his historic grave marking. A granddaughter who still lives in Sparta assisted with the arrangements for his grave marking.

Benjamin Watson, a free man of color, enlisted in the 25th Tennessee Infantry on Sept. 15, 1861, at Camp Myers (Overton County). At the time he was 55 years of age! No record of Benjamin Watson can be located after the war and it is possible that he died during that time.

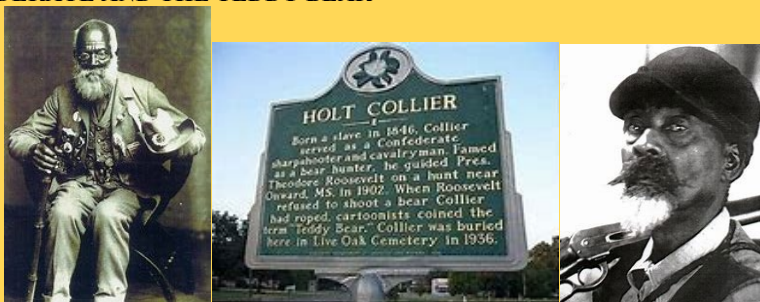
Churchwell Randalls, another free man of color from White County, also joined the 25th Tennessee Infantry at Camp Myers. The only way to locate the “free men of color” who served in the Confederacy is to research through every single original Confederate service record as their military service was not listed separately. These men’s names are on the rosters with all other regular Confederate soldiers with merely a notation on the bottom of their card that states, “Free Man of Color.”

The Confederate Burial Mound at Camp Morton, Indianapolis, Indiana, has bronze tablets which list nearly 1,200 Confederates who died there. Among the names are 26 black Southerners. At a time when they could have walked into the camp commander’s office and taken the Oath of Allegiance at any time, they chose instead to stay with their fellow Confederates even unto death.

The intent of this article is not to give a complete history of the Black Confederate, but to pique your interest enough in this “politically incorrect” history to urge you to research for yourself. Too long has our national history ignored the service and sacrifices of these forgotten soldiers whose contributions to our country’s history is not only valid but worthy. Dr. Martin Luther King once said, “Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.” This certainly extends to the honorable service of the Black Confederate soldiers, sailors, and marines of the War Between the States.

Web Source: http://www.crossville-chronicle.com/news/lifestyles/black-confederates-often-overlooked-in-american-history/article_42044b5b-ca9f-503f-806a-2f10c35dcb0a.html accessed 03JAN2018

THE BLACK CONFEDERATE AND THE TEDDY BEAR



Most people have never heard of Holt Collier – and those who have heard of the “Teddy Bear” may be surprised to learn about his history.

Collier was born into slavery in Mississippi in 1848. By his 15th birthday, he had become an expert on wildlife in the Mississippi Delta and was known as one to of the best bear hunters in the American southeast.

Freed, prior to the war between North and South, Collier wanted to join up to serve the Confederacy. He was originally turned down for due to his age, but he was accepted in the 9th Texas Brigade. His service was honorable and would conclude as a trusted aide and sharpshooter under Confederate Lt. Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest.

After the war, his fame would grow. He claimed he had killed 3,000 bears and he was the “guide of choice...in those days, leading hunts for a Who’s Who of prominent men from around the country. Once, when an angry black bear cornered one of his prized dogs inside a hollowed log, Collier climbed in. As the bear tried to crawl past Collier and escape from the log, Collier stabbed it with his knife, killing the bear. Collier suffered only minor scratches,” according to “Camp Smoke”.

Men would travel miles to hunt with him as if they were learning from the very man who invented the art. In 1902, Holt received a request from none other than U.S. President Teddy Roosevelt.

“I got things ready; found a beautiful campin’ place. I was boss of the hunt. Along came the President with a car-load of guards, but he left all but one of ‘em in the car. Anyway, he was safer with me than with all the policemen in Washington. The President was a pleasant man; when he was talking, he’d stop every little while to ask other people’s opinion,” Holt later recalled.

Originally scheduled to be a 10-day hunt, Roosevelt didn’t want to wait over a week to see a live bear...he wanted one the first day.

Collier delivered the bear...‘popped out of the gap’ where’ promised...but the “Colonel” and his party had adjourned from the blind to have lunch.

Frustrated, Collier, exhausted from his efforts fleshing out the bear, decided he but take more aggressive steps to bring the bear to the Colonel. He challenged the bear, but unfortunately, Jocko, Collier’s favorite hunting dog was in the bear’s clutches.

Collier saved him by clubbing the bear with his rifle, and after a fight, he subdued the bear, threw a lasso over it’s neck and tied it to a willow tree.

Collier would summon President Roosevelt to show him the bear he’d missed earlier and to put it out of his misery. Some in the party including railroad baron Stuyvesant Fish, and Mississippi Governor Andrew Longino cheered the leader of the free world to shoot the bear.

“But Roosevelt, ever the skilled politician, knew that reporters were back in camp would have a field day with the story. His hunting had been criticized by many East Coast intellectuals and he knew the press’ judgment would be harsh. Roosevelt also knew the laws of the hunt and practiced good sportsmanship in the field. It was an injured animal and there would be nothing sporting about the kill. Roosevelt declined the shot, but ordered the bear put down to end its suffering,” according to Camp Smoke.

But the greatest and longest lasting memory of this trip was the PR blitz that hit the nation when President Roosevelt refused to kill the bear that Holt rounded up for him. Most reports advertised the bear as a cub, when in actuality it was full grown. Although the animal was later put down, Teddy Roosevelt’s refusal was viewed as a noble act in the media and ‘Teddy’ Bears were the hottest item purchased throughout the nation.

Once he returned to Washington, Roosevelt sent Collier a Winchester rifle like the one he used on the trip. It would become one of Collier's favorites.

Collier would die in Mississippi 1936 at the age of 90, the year Teddy Roosevelt's 5th cousin, Franklin Roosevelt was running for re-election for president.

Collier makes the pages of American history as one of the most respected outdoorsman in the nation...despite the color of his skin...with an interesting connection to a much-loved toy of millions of American children, and a Confederate Veteran. As America observes Black History Month, let's make sure they remember Black Southern History.

© Copyright 2012 – 2017 Abbeville Institute

Web Source: <https://www.abbevilleinstitute.org/blog/the-black-confederate-and-the-teddy-bear/> accessed 03JAN2018



CONFEDERATE VETERAN SHOT, Negro Confederate Veteran Shot

Dallas, Tex. – June 14. Two negroes, Henson Williams and his son William, were shot dead from ambush in Brazos County, while they were plowing in a field. Officers are searching for a white man who is believed to have shot them. The elder Williams fought through the Civil War as a Confederate soldier and made such a good record that he was made a full member of the Confederate Veteran's camp at Milliken. The old white Confederate soldiers are enraged at the assassination and threaten vengeance on the assassin when captured.

New York Times issue June 15, 1900.

TEXAS HISTORIAN HIGHLIGHTS ROLES OF BLACK CIVIL WAR VETS

September 3, 2012 / 7:06 PM CDT / CBS Texas

Local News, texas

TYLER (AP) — Blacks fought in the Civil War, surprisingly on the side of the Confederacy, many of them from Texas, Palestine historian Norris White Jr. said his research shows.

They are the *"black forgotten Confederates,"* White said, who has extensively researched the role of blacks in the Confederate Army for a book he is writing that will be titled "Black Texans Who Served in the Confederate Army."

Much attention has been given in movies such as *"Glory"* and in books and articles written by prominent U.S. military and Civil War era historians to the exploits and heroics of black soldiers serving in the Union forces, White said, but he added that *"very little observance, if any, has been given to their counterparts in the Confederate Army."*

"Their voices have been omitted from the pages of history," White said. Traditionally, the consensus has been that the Civil War was a battle among white men, White said.

"That's pretty accurate, but it's not complete, and I'm finding out that many different, diverse ethnic groups participated for the Union cause and the Southern cause," he said.

His research has uncovered that blacks, Latinos and Native Americans served in the Confederate Army.

"I approached this as a historical topic that needs great attention," White said. Since it's well documented that blacks fought for the Union forces, White said, he likes to take in his research the road that has been traveled.

He found that black Texans served in the Confederate Army in many diverse capacities, such as infantrymen on the battlefield, personal body servants, teamsters or laborers.

For the past 150 years, historians have documented just about every aspect of the Civil War, some topics more so than others, but this is one area that has been neglected by everyone, White said.

The topic caught White's attention while he was working on his thesis on the Buffalo soldiers, the first regular black soldiers in the U.S. military, as he pursues a master's degree in history from Stephen F. Austin State University.

White found that several Buffalo soldiers had prior service in the Confederate Army and said the thought occurred to him that they are a category that has not really been explored.

White expects to receive his degree next summer, and then he plans to begin composing his book about blacks in the Confederate Army.

"When I first began my research, I was somewhat ridiculed that I'm chasing a mystical category," White said.

"But three years later, I can show you evidence that indicates at least over 7,500 black Texans participated in the Confederate Army," he said.

That's the number of *"forgotten Confederates"* he said he has personally documented in his research, but White estimates the number of black Texans who participated in the Confederate Army in the War Between the States may have been as high as 50,000.

"The goals of my research are to historically recognize and acknowledge black Texans who served in the Confederate Army," White said, a board member for the Museum for East Texas Culture in Palestine and a preservation fellow for the Texas Historical Commission.

Since this is a country that honors its veterans, it should acknowledge, recognize and honor all of its veterans, including blacks who fought for the South, White asserted.

"My issue is simply I'd like to recognize the service of veterans — in this case, they are black Texans who fought on behalf of the Confederacy," he said.

Many families are proud and honored when he shows them evidence that their ancestors are Confederate veterans, White said. White is still in the investigation process, which he undertook three years ago.

He says several publishers have expressed interest in his book, which he hopes to publish in 2014.

"A lot of folks may wonder why blacks fought for the Confederacy or what may have motivated them" White said. "My work is not to answer that; my work is to validate that they did serve in some capacity. That's the basis of my research - just to acknowledge the fact they are Confederate veterans."

His research is based on what he calls "primary sources that indicate black Texans served in the Confederate Army."

Primary sources, White said, are "100 percent irrefutable evidence — letters, diaries, pension applications, photographs, newspaper accounts, county commission records and other evidence that give primary insight" that blacks were in the Confederate Army.

For example, White found a Texas historical marker in Wise County that states Randolph Vesey was a respected Negro citizen and homeowner who served during the Civil War as body servant and voluntary battle aid to General W.L. Cabel of the Confederate Army.

"If the Texas Historical Commission, the leading authority in preserving our history recognized the fact that there were black Texans who participated and served in the Confederate Army, then why can't we as a society?" White said.

White said he had traveled more than 30,000 miles crisscrossing the state searching for primary sources validating those blacks served in the Confederate Army.

"I've been all over the state of Texas and back again and I'm proud of what I've accomplished. I'm still looking for sources," White said.

"What I'm finding out is black Texans for a variety of reasons served in the Confederate Army, some as slaves, some as free men, some were conscripted and paid for their service, some as body servants ." White said. "There is no one category fits all."

It's both black history and Confederate history, White said, calling the two interconnected and entwined.

White said he is able to do the research because of the foundation he received from his mentors in the Texas Historical Commission and his studies at Stephen F. Austin State University and at The University of Texas at Tyler.

<https://www.cbsnews.com/texas/news/texas-historian-highlights-roles-of-black-civil-war-vets/accessed 01JAN251254PM>



OPEDS: the pen is mightier than the sword; Therefore, keep your inkwells full and your swords sharpened!



(Views expressed DO NOT NECESSARILY reflect those of the Texas Lonestar Greys Camp)

We commence the year with hope, if not a degree of optimism that the year will not only begin a few needed years of breathing space for those of us who practice historical preservation and honor heritage. Perhaps we can only aspire that the present-day Robespierre's wannabes who strive to tear everything that impede Marx and Lenin i.e.; destruction of the very ideals of the United States Declaration of Independence and Constitution, and our history with a vengeance such as we have seen over the recent decade. By the way; Lenin referred to Robespierre as a "*Bolshevik avant la lettre*" (this was long before the term was coined and in common use). The Bolsheviks or the Communists were so enamored with the French radical they even erected the Robespierre Monument in 1918. In the Soviet Union, he was used as an example of a revolutionary figure as well as by Maoists, and figured albeit vaguely in some of the radical movements of the Middle East in recent decades as well as an example by the "*wokeites*" of the present-day. Okey, enough digressing, we can hope that the results of our national election in November was enough of a mandate to stifle the "*wokeites*" and other "*useful idiots*" (term used by Lenin in his book *What is to be Done*) and politician lackeys; who will adopt any cause no matter how damaging to the nation to remain in or obtain an elected even appointed position of authority no matter how minor or significant a detriment to fellow citizens. As freedom-loving patriotic Americans we have an opportunity to be participants and educators of sorts in what should be an American Revival. Parades, historical observations, networking with other historic preservation groups, heritage organizations, societies, museums, Veterans organizations, local historical oriented festivals, and yes schools to emphasize truth in history. We are featuring an editorial by the late Dr. Walter Williams who was a powerful ally of many of us in the SCV, his excellent and fair OPEDs should be brought out of the "*woke*" dustbins

and rescued from their incinerators and exposed to the American public who just mandated a rejection of putrid “wokeism.” Time is wasting, let’s get busy before the finger of American society points our fickle society in another direction.

HISTORICAL IGNORANCE

By The Late Great Dr. Walter Williams

The victors of war write its history in order to cast themselves in the most favorable light. That explains the considerable historical ignorance about our war of 1861 and panic over the Confederate flag. To create better understanding, we have to start a bit before the 1787 Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia.

The 1783 Treaty of Paris ended the war between the colonies and Great Britain. Its first article declared the 13 colonies “to be free, sovereign and independent states.” These 13 sovereign nations came together in 1787 as principals and created the federal government as their agent. Principals have always held the right to fire agents. In other words, states held a right to withdraw from the pact — secede.

During the 1787 Constitutional Convention, a proposal was made that would allow the federal government to suppress a seceding state. James Madison rejected it, saying, “A union of the states containing such an ingredient seemed to provide for its own destruction. The use of force against a state would look more like a declaration of war than an infliction of punishment and would probably be considered by the party attacked as a dissolution of all previous compacts by which it might be bound.”

In fact, the ratification documents of Virginia, New York and Rhode Island explicitly said they held the right to resume powers delegated should the federal government become abusive of those powers. The Constitution never would have been ratified if states thought they could not regain their sovereignty — in a word, secede.

On March 2, 1861, after seven states seceded and two days before Abraham Lincoln’s inauguration, Sen. James R. Doolittle of Wisconsin proposed a constitutional amendment that read, “No state or any part thereof, heretofore admitted or hereafter admitted into the union, shall have the power to withdraw from the jurisdiction of the United States.”

Several months earlier, Reps. Daniel E. Sickles of New York, Thomas B. Florence of Pennsylvania and Otis S. Ferry of Connecticut proposed a constitutional amendment to prohibit secession. Here’s a question for the reader: Would there have been any point to offering these amendments if secession were already unconstitutional?

On the eve of the War of 1861, even unionist politicians saw secession as a right of states. Rep. Jacob M. Kunkel of Maryland said, “Any attempt to preserve the union between the states of this Confederacy by force would be impractical, and destructive of republican liberty.”

Both Northern Democratic and Republican Parties favored allowing the South to secede in peace. Just about every major Northern newspaper editorialized in favor of the South’s right to secede. New York Tribune (Feb. 5, 1860): “If tyranny and despotism justified the Revolution of 1776, then we do not see why it would not justify the secession of Five Million of Southrons from the Federal Union in 1861.” Detroit Free Press (Feb. 19, 1861): “An attempt to subjugate the seceded states, even if successful, could produce nothing but evil — evil unmitigated in character and appalling in content.” The New York Times (March 21, 1861): “There is growing sentiment throughout the North in favor of letting the Gulf States go.”

The War of 1861 settled the issue of secession through brute force that cost 600,000 American lives. We Americans celebrate Abraham Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address, but H.L. Mencken correctly evaluated the speech: “It is poetry, not logic; beauty, not sense.” Lincoln said the soldiers sacrificed their lives “to the cause of self-determination — that government of the people, by the people, for the people should not perish from the earth.” Mencken says: “It is difficult to imagine anything more untrue. The Union soldiers in the battle actually fought against self-determination; it was the Confederates who fought for the right of people to govern themselves.”

The War of 1861 brutally established that states could not secede. We are still living with its effects. Because states cannot secede, the federal government can run roughshod over the U.S. Constitution’s limitations of the Ninth and Tenth Amendments. States have little or no response.

Walter E. Williams was a professor of economics at George Mason University, Conservative columnist, historian, U.S. Army Veteran and good American.

**In DIXIE, We Kneel Before GOD Almighty, and a fallen Veteran, and Stand for the National Anthem
ALL VETERANS ARE EQUAL!!!! Get It!**



CHARGE