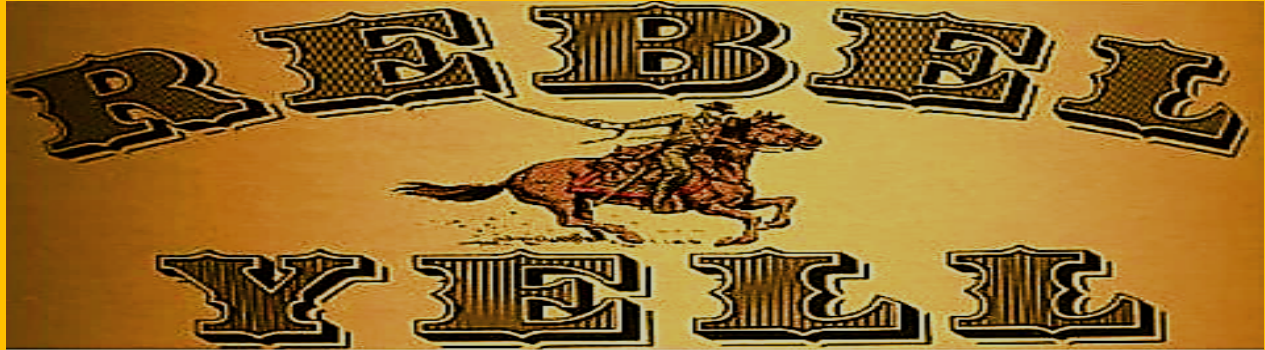




# THE



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 SOUTHLAND!

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

Number 6; Vol. 7 (more or less ok; likely 10 now), JUNE 2025

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**Rules for Contributions:** This newsletter will post meeting information on 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**

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**MEETING:** The Meeting was called to order at 6:40 PM, when Camp Chaplain Mike Reynolds offered an invocation prayer. Adjutant Roy Poole led the members and guests with the pledge to the US flag, the Texas flag, and the salute to the Confederate flag. Juan Ramirez read the *Charge* and introduced our guests; thank you very much for coming to our meeting, Mrs. Katy Reynolds and Mr. Paul Ramirez. Camp Adjutant Roy Poole gave the Adjutant's report. Roy reports an account balance of \$2586.58. This was our current balance, which reflected a \$1000 donation to the 21st Century Confederate Heroes program.

**Old Business:** Camp members were reminded of the upcoming Texas Division Reunion in Mineral Wells, Texas, and the National SCV reunion in Houston, Texas, on July 17-20. The Confederate Cemetery cleanup day took place, April 19th. The Cemetery Association and United Daughters of the Confederacy are grateful for the work of the LONESTAR GREYS and Mrs. Lynn Poole's efforts to make Decoration Day special. The Confederate Decoration Day drew 50-60 people for the memorial observance. We want to give Greg Ripps of the *Wilson County News* a hearty thank you for attending and covering the event again this year. The good folks at the *Wilson County News* have been most generous in covering our historical and heritage-rich events over the decades. again, thank you.

**New business:** Welcome to our newest compatriot, Paul Ramirez, three Rebel Yells. Rusty Harris's research on foreign-born Confederate soldiers has Roy Poole thinking that we could put a grave-size flag of the country of origin to recognize the veterans, which is a great idea. The Program titled "What hygiene was like in the Civil War" was presented by Roy Poole. This was a great presentation, it was educational and fun. Camp Chaplain Mike Reynolds offered the benediction, and we closed with a rebelliously rousing rendition of *Dixie*.

Juan Ramirez  
Juan Ramirez  
Commander,  
Texas LONESTAR Greys



**NEXT MEETING:** 19 June 2025 at 6:30 PM (1830); however, we gather at 6:00 PM (1800) to socialize, order food, and set up for the meeting. The meeting location will be at Casa Jalisco, 6846 US Highway, 87E, China Grove, Texas. Guests and family members are always welcome, and please bring a friend or interested party, you know, possible new members. As of this publishing time, we do not have program information, so watch your email or your caller ID.



**HIGHLIGHTS FROM THIS YEAR'S CONFEDERATE DECORATION DAY COMMEMORATION:** This year honored Colonel Charles Lynn Pyron (photos courtesy of Juan Ramirez).



#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**



**SPECIAL EDITION** of the "YELL" for Memorial Day, all of y'all that made photographic and written contributions, we, the Staff, are deeply appreciative.



**FLORESVILLE GUN SHOW:** July 19th – 20th, 2025 Saturday: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm and Sunday: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm; Admission: General: \$10, Military: \$9, FREE Upgrade to a Weekend Pass when you sign up at the show. Children under 12: FREE, Uniformed Peace Officers: FREE, and FREE PARKING! LOCATION: Floresville Event Center, 600 TX-97, Floresville, TX 78114; Vendors: 300+ Tables and 8ft Tables \$90.00/each; POCs: Floresville Gun Show/American Gun Shows; Contact: Tommy & Tammy Phillips; Phone: (774) 486-7469 ext. 774-GUN-SHOW; Email: [info@americangunshows.com](mailto:info@americangunshows.com) or <http://AmericanGunShows.com>



**SAN ANTONIO GUN SHOW:** June 6th – 8th, Hours: Friday: 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm; Saturday: 10:00 am - 5:00 pm; Sunday: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm Admission: General: \$15.00; Children 12 & under: Free, **FREE PARKING**. This San Antonio gun show is held at Alzafar Shriners and hosted by Texas Gun Shows. All federal and local firearm laws and ordinances must be obeyed. Promoter: Texas Gun Shows, Contact: Darwin Boedeker, Phone: (210) 844-9599, Email: [info@gunshowstx.com](mailto:info@gunshowstx.com), <https://gunshowstx.com/> Contact Us. LOCATION: Alzafar Shriners, 901 N Loop 1604 W, San Antonio, TX 78258. Vendor Info: 8ft Tables \$100.00/each, also 6ft Tables \$85.00/each.

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

Roy and Lynn Poole, along with John McCammon and Juan Ramirez, show up for the early cleanup day at the Confederate Cemetery. They answered the call for volunteers, and all are grateful for their help in this task.



*Kudos to Roy and Lynn Poole for their detailed work response; they got right to work.*



A nation which does not  
remember what it was yesterday  
does not know where it is today.

~ Robert E. Lee



\*\*\*CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE: Originally Contributed or Inspired by Sanford Reed, 6<sup>th</sup> (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, Chaplain 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. \*\*\*

May/June Chaplains Corner

“In the darkest hour, when the demons come.

Call on me, Brother,

And we will fight them together.”

Why am I starting my message with that quote, you ask?

Well, it goes along with what I was talking about last month.

Memorial Day.

To many, Memorial Day is just a day to get together, drink beer, and burn meat on the grill with little or no thought as to why we actually honor the day.

As a nation, only 3% of the population has ever served in service to this nation in uniform. Today's generation's percentage is much lower. Less than one percent of the younger generations have served any time in uniform.

With that being said, there is another number that must be mentioned. Especially during the time we set aside to remember those who are no longer here with us.

That number is 22.

Why is that number significant, you ask? 22 is the average number of military personnel and military veterans who take their own lives each day. 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Fortunately, as of 2022 (the last year we have numbers for), that number has decreased to 17.6

A sad fact is that veterans are at a 57% higher risk of self-harm than those who never served.

A large proportion of our members are veterans, and we must look out for each other. That is why I am bringing this subject up during the time that is intended to set aside and remember our brothers.

Let's all remember our brothers whom we served alongside with happy memories and honor their lives.

But let's also remind ourselves to check in on each other and make sure we don't let our buddies down.

As hard as it can be to admit that we need help, just reaching out is the most important first step.

The Suicide and Crisis Lifeline is 988

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is (888) 273-TALK

The Veterans Crisis Line is (800) 273-8255 (press 1) or confidential chat at [www.veteranscrisisline.net](http://www.veteranscrisisline.net)

A friend of mine years ago wrote what he calls the “Spartan Pledge” after his own battles:

*The Spartan Pledge*

I will not take my own

Life by my own hand

Until I talk to my

Battle Buddy first

My mission is to

Find a mission to help

My warfighter family.

It is my prayer that each one of us has a peaceful and reflective Memorial Day and those demons that haunt us stay away.

But let me paraphrase what I said in my opening quote: If the demons come, call on me, Brother, and we will fight them together.

My email is [Reynolds\\_r@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Reynolds_r@sbcglobal.net), and my cell is 210-381-4282.

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 some Jewish Compatriots in the SCV we could not overlook their faith.



### SOUTHERN CULTURE, HUMOR, PRIDE and PRINT

Since we are on the back side of the Kentucky Derby, Texas Confederate Decoration Day, and June 3 is Jefferson Davis's birth day, and we are almost a year out from the SCV 131<sup>st</sup> National Reunion in Lexington, Kentucky, we felt it fitting to insert this timely delicacy. *OK, folks, your "Staff" has heard of chess pie and consumed one or two, but never heard of a Jefferson Davis Pie, just thought since we like to eat all the so-called "bad stuff" we would just add this one. Git-r-dun! Y'all.*

#### **JEFFERSON DAVIS PIE**

The Jefferson Davis Pie, sometimes called the KENTUCKY PIE, is a custard pie, like a chess pie. Its origins are obscure, to say the least, with some claiming that it was a recipe created by a slave woman with the name of Jefferson Davis added much later, others that the slave woman named it the Jeff Davis Pie herself, and others still claim that it found its origins in the Davis household being a family recipe. With many different versions of the pie, it's hard to tell if the references to the pies across history are the same pie or different pies by the same name. **THE RECIPE:**

#### **PIE INGREDIENTS**

1 deep-dish pie shell, unbaked  
1 cup white granulated sugar  
1 cup of brown sugar  
1 Tbs. flour  
1/4 tsp. nutmeg  
1/4 tsp. cinnamon  
1 cup heavy cream  
4 eggs, slightly beaten  
1/2 cup of butter (1 stick), melted  
1 Tbs. lemon juice  
1 tsp. lemon zest  
pinch of salt  
1 tsp. vanilla

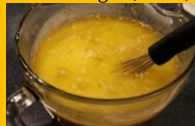
#### **WHIPPED CREAM INGREDIENTS**

1 cup heavy whipping cream  
3 Tbs. white sugar  
1 Tbs. Good Kentucky Bourbon

#### **INSTRUCTIONS**

Preheat oven to 400 degrees.

Mix the sugars, flour, nutmeg, and cinnamon. Add cream and mix.



Add eggs and mix.



Add butter, lemon juice, lemon zest, salt, and vanilla and mix



Place the pie shell on a cookie sheet. This helps the pie cook evenly, and it catches any spills. Pour the mixture into the shell and carefully place in the oven. Bake at 400 for 10 minutes. Reduce heat to 350 and bake for approximately 40 -45 minutes. It will puff up some, but will fall back down when it cools. Cool and serve with whipped cream... bourbon whipped cream is especially good!



Whip cream and sugar until peaks form and then fold in bourbon. Serve immediately.

SOURCE: [www.virginiagentrymagazine.com/p/the-jefferson-davis-pie](http://www.virginiagentrymagazine.com/p/the-jefferson-davis-pie)



## TEXAS and CONFEDERATE HISTORY



### JEFFERSON FINIS DAVIS, His Early Life in and out of Kentucky

Rusty Harris

June is a month that we recognize as the beginning of summer but it is more than a change of seasons for many of us who observe our Confederate history. In June Jefferson F. Davis was born on; June 3, 1808, at Fairview (originally called Davisburg), in Trigg County (at the time of Davis's birth Trigg County was still part of Christian County), Kentucky, he was the last of ten children born to the Davis family. At the age of two, the Davis's family moved to Louisiana and then to Mississippi, by the time Jefferson was about six years of age (accounts vary as to his age some contend, he was eight years of age) (1814) he was sent to Springfield, in Washington County, Kentucky to attend Saint Thomas College, a Catholic preparatory school run by Dominicans. Four or five years later he returned to Mississippi for further education. By 1823, Davis was back in Kentucky this time in Lexington (Fayette County) where he attended Transylvania College (now University) where he met and established a strong friendship with Albert Sydney Johnston who would perish on the battlefield at Shiloh on April 6, 1862. Jefferson Davis lived in a room rented from the postmaster of Lexington the building is located on the Historic South Hill at the intersection of High Street (State Road 1974) and Limestone Street in Lexington. Jefferson Davis resided in Lexington for three years before attending West Point graduating in 1828.



**Photos: Jefferson Davis monument at his birthplace in Fairview, Kentucky; Historical marker where Davis lived in Lexington (photo by Rebeca); Home where Davis resided while attending Transylvania College (photo by Rebeca); Morrison Chapel at Transylvania University where Davis attend college and met Albert Sydney Johnston (photo by Rebeca) and Beauvoir the last residence of Jefferson Davis in Biloxi, Mississippi (photo by Rebeca)**

Jefferson Davis, on the other hand, often and fondly referred to Kentucky as “my own native land.” Davis married Sarah Knox Taylor, the daughter of General and later United States President Zachary Taylor. her brother was Kentucky-born Confederate general Richard Taylor, but Sarah was born in Vincennes, Indiana. Sarah Knox Taylor-Davis died of malaria in 1835; Jefferson Davis, too, was ailing from the virus at the time of Sarah's death. Davis later married Varina Howell Davis, who became the only First Lady of the Confederate States of America.

Occasionally, the question arises whether or not Davis and Lincoln ever met during antebellum times. In this writer's opinion, the men probably met especially since both were routinely associated with Kentucky aristocracy during visits to the state. There is, however, some evidence that the two men likely met during the Black Hawk Indian War. Mrs. Varina Howell Davis wrote in her memoirs that her husband a young lieutenant and life-long friend Robert Anderson also a lieutenant and fellow Kentuckian (who would later surrender Ft. Sumter to Confederate forces at Charleston, South Carolina in April 1861) swore Abraham Lincoln then a captain of volunteers (militia) into Federal service for the Black Hawk War. Another source contends that the future adversaries likely shared the same officer's mess during the Black Hawk War. Additionally, during the War for Southern Independence, Joseph Walker Taylor, a young Kentucky Confederate officer, also a nephew of Zachary Taylor, with whom Davis was well acquainted, approached the Confederate President about a plan to kidnap Lincoln. Davis's response to Taylor suggests that Davis had likely known Lincoln to some extent. Stunned by the plan, Davis sternly replied to Taylor, “*How can this be done?*” with the young Kentuckian laying out his concept of the plot to an incredulous Jefferson Davis. Davis shook his head in disapproval, saying, “*I cannot give my authority, Walker.*” “*In the first place, I suppose Lincoln is a man of courage. He has been in Indian wars and is a western man. He would undoubtedly resist being captured. In that case, you would kill him. I could not stand the imputation of having consented to let Mr. Lincoln be assassinated. Our cause could not stand it. Besides, what value would he be to us as a prisoner?*” Davis continued, “*Lincoln is not the Government of the Federal Power. He is merely the political instrument there. If he were brought to Richmond, what could I do with him? He would have to be treated like the magistrate of the north, and we have neither the time nor the provision. No, sir, I will not give my authority to abduct Lincoln!*” Judge for yourselves regarding the probability of the two men having met while the evidence presented herein, limited though it may be, is sourced.

In 1833, a severe cholera epidemic devastated Lexington, Kentucky. A young army lieutenant was on leave/furlough in Lexington at the time, he was Jefferson F. Davis. Davis, William “King” Solomon (a white slave of a free Black woman; known locally as Aunt Charlotte-she too died in the epidemic, Aunt Charlotte “Gingerbread Charlotte” purchased the town vagrant for fifty cents), and London Ferrell (free Black man who was a noted local preacher) dug the graves for many dozens of victims both white and Black; free and slave. Much of the town fled, and these three men buried most of the victims of the plague. Davis decided to bury them together, both Blacks and Whites, although some residents were opposed to Davis's decision. They buried the dead at the Old Episcopal Burial Ground. Mary Todd Lincoln's father also died during the epidemic. Jefferson Davis and his burial party interred Mary Todd Lincoln's father-heavily suggests that Davis was at least acquainted with the Todds and Lincoln. Davis acceded to the Todd family's request to bury Robert S. Todd in the Lexington Cemetery because they did not want him

buried where Blacks were interred epidemic or not. Lieutenant Jefferson Davis, graduate of Transylvania University [NOTE: Kentucky-born and educated] and later president of the Confederacy.) One account contends that Davis was visiting Lexington on a recruiting trip from his station at Fort Jefferson, Wisconsin. **STAFF-added notes and other information and the picture of “King” Solomon.**



**Left to Right: Old Episcopal Burying Ground, young Jefferson F. Davis, “King” Solomon, a white slave of a free Black woman, and “King” Solomon’s tomb at the Lexington Cemetery.**



**Left to Right: Grave of Robert S. Todd and portrait of Robert S. Todd, father of Mary Todd Lincoln**

SOURCES: Davis, Varina Howell, Mrs. Davis’s account of Jefferson meeting Lincoln in Black Hawk War days. Jefferson Davis Ex-President of the Confederate States of America, A Memoir by His Wife, In two Volumes, Volume I, Belford Company Publishers, 1822 East 18th Street, New York, 1890, pp 131-132...and...Johnson, Adam Rankin, The Partisan Rangers of the Confederate States Army, Edited by William J. Davis, State House Press, Austin, Texas, 1995 (originally published by G. G. Fetter, Louisville, Kentucky 1904), (Quotes, pg. 270; Taylor’s quotes from Johnson Partisan Rangers, via; Confederate Veteran magazine April 1903) Johnson, Partisan Rangers.), pp 270-272...also...Lieutenant Jefferson Davis, by; The Palimpsest (State Historical Society of Iowa), Des Moines, Iowa, Volume 4, Number 10 (Oct. 1923), pp 346- 357. And, *How Lexington’s Cholera Epidemic Changed History*, by Jamie Millard, Smiley Pete Publishing, Lexington, Kentucky, 03/07/2012.

**Quote from Jefferson Davis: “Nothing fills me with deeper sadness than to see a Southern man apologizing for the defense we made of our inheritance. Our cause was so just, so sacred, that had I known all that has come to pass, had I known what was to be inflicted upon me, all that my country was to suffer, all that our posterity was to endure, I would do it all over again.” Jefferson Davis.**



**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)**

**SERVICE and PATRIOTISM of SOUTHERNERS**

**Dr. Godfrey L. Garner**

Patriotism, devotion to duty, honor, and respect for authority; all human characteristics that seem today, to the uninitiated, the consumers of mass media as their only source of knowledge, to be lost. These once cherished traits of the American male almost seem to draw derision if displayed today.

Salute a flag, when there is no formal need for such, and today you’ll likely be scorned or regarded as one who is touched mentally, or maybe slightly senile. Honor those in law enforcement today, and the entire country is poised to have you committed.

Yes, patriotism and devotion to America today, draws a response, synonymous, to that which the sidewalk preacher has always experienced, because you see, while expressing a public devotion for one’s faith has always been risky, in today’s climate, simply being an honorable, proud American can render one, the status of, ‘pariah’. We tend to hide our love of country today. It seems our heroes are no longer those who sacrificed their lives defending the nation. Today, our heroes are the very individuals who would ridicule such a sacrifice, or that’s the way it would seem.

A few short decades ago, the fervent desire of virtually all young men in America was to earn the Congressional Medal of Honor. When our nation was attacked, these young men pushed and shoved to be the first in line to defend her. Such was simply the natural inclination. Even as recently as September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2001, when Islamic militant terrorists killed thousands in New York City, young men dropped out of high school and college, the very next day, to be first in line to volunteer. Nowhere in the nation was this overt show of patriotism more illustrated than in the Southern states. That patriotism and honor may be glossed over and shelved today, but I believe it is still there, as strong and as fervent as ever. One has only to visit the regions of the nation where it has always been present at optimal strength: America’s South.

A simple bit of research will attest to the fact that throughout history, though pockets of patriotism and devotion to duty could be found in every region of America, such feelings have virtually blanketed the southern states and do so today. For instance, today, the highest number of military reservists and National Guard membership among state citizens can be found in the states of Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, and Alabama.

According to Forbes, today, the 'South' contributes more than its fair share of military personnel, and the northeast part of the country largely lags. Texas and Florida produced the largest number of volunteers as of 2016. Rounding out the top five included South Carolina, Georgia, and Virginia.

During WWII, Korea and Vietnam, the highest number of volunteers (excluding draftees) came from the southern states (all of them), a tradition that most historians trace back to the American Revolution. Today, Texas, Alabama, and Louisiana rank in the top ten in terms of producing military volunteers, and those three states (including other Southern states at various times) have been in the top ten historically.

The idea that most volunteer soldiers of all ethnicities came, and still come today, from the Southern states is rarely disputed. The 'why' may be a little murkier and, of course, by nature, must rest in speculation, but many point to an endearing respect, among the youth, for authority and responsibility. The love of country and sheer patriotism, though difficult to measure, can always be seen more profoundly in the South. There just seems to be an abiding recognition in the South that our history, our heritage, and our American way of life are all important and, through the volunteer soldier, must be protected at all costs.

Now we see military installations renamed because Confederate-named facilities are "offensive," my question is, offensive to whom? Those who want to destroy our nation's history and heritage while denigrating the region whose youth disproportionately contribute to the defense of the nation? Or, how about this one: the Reconciliation Monument was removed from Arlington National Cemetery because the "political elites" in Washington, New York, Chicago, and on the left coast can claim a pseudo-political win at the detriment of staffing our military. Broadcasts over recent years featuring; Dr. Sebastian Gorka and Dr. Victor Davis Hanson lambasted politicians and pseudointellectuals for the grand insult of the South over renaming installations and removal of a significant and highly symbolic statue in Arlington sculpted by a Jewish Confederate Veteran, while the nation relies on young Southerners to largely staff our national defense effort. Both men agreed this was a foolish and insulting move, while Washington whined about having deficiencies in military recruitment.

Just a few weeks ago, members of our Camp, along with fellow Camps, and like-minded heritage and historical organizations honored those Southern men who stepped forward to defend their homes. Let's be realistic, facing an impending invasion and the necessity of defending the homeland was the ultimate cause for these men. With an enemy at the doorstep ravaging the countryside, socio-political issues take a back seat. These were men in extraordinary times and under the most challenging circumstances who had led rather mundane and difficult lives working and supporting families in the unforgiving, harsh environment of the era. We honored them and their sacrifices, sacrifices that endured for generations, as we all realize.

With the Memorial Day, Commemorations, we honor all American Veterans of all our nation's wars who died in service, among those men we honor include the Confederate soldiers. Hundreds of thousands of those we honor in the present day are descendants of Southerners who wore the gray and butternut rags of the Confederate forces. While our Camp motto contends that "all Veterans are equal," we must remember that simple slogan too bad most of our society does not.

The undisputed fact is, men from the South have disproportionately served their country throughout the history of this great nation and still do today. Disproportionately, America's greatest protectors and defenders have always and will always be found in the Southern states of our nation. All the South wants is some respect without political correctness or "wokeness."

**Note:** Compatriot Garner is retired from the US Army Special Forces and is a two-tour Vietnam Veteran and a veteran of two more tours of duty in Afghanistan. He is currently a professor of Criminal Justice, Terrorism, and Insurgency Studies at Mississippi College, Tulane University, and Belhaven University. We are grateful for his editorials in the newsletter.

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



**CHARGE!**