

THE RAGGED OLD FIRST



The Official
Newsletter of
Hood's Texas Brigade,
Camp #153
San Antonio, TX.

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SOMETIMES IT'S SWEET TO SHOW THE COLORS

By: Dustin W. Seiler



Hood's Texas Brigade, Camp #153 made it into the Poteet Strawberry Festival Parade with many thanks to Camp Commander George Foulds, who as spent two years trying to get our camp into this event with no avail - until this year! So we took this as a heritage defense

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stance. But we did have to meet a condition set by the parade official's: that we would have enough active members participate, otherwise we might have not been invited back. As our camp made the proper preparations for parade on Saturday, April 6th, weather conditions also threatened to derail our efforts until festival and parade officials made the call to continue on as planned and the parade would step off as scheduled, come rain or shine. But lady luck was on our side come the day of the parade as sixteen of our members donned their uniforms, period attire and SCV attire to show the colors.

The parade itself this year consisted of nearly one-hundred and ninety entries from greater San Antonio area, making it bigger than the 2018 Fiesta Flamebaue Parade. And to our surprise, the crowd was very welcoming-which we received zero negativity and judges awarded our float 2nd Place in the Military/JROTC category as well as the parade and festival officials invited us to return next year in both the parade as set up a living history / recruiting camp on the festival grounds. We take this as victory for our camp's heritage operations but from now until December of this year, we still have many events and parades to show the colors. Next parade is the Buc Days Night Parade in Corpus Christi, Texas with the Col. A.M. Hobby's Regiment, Camp #713 on May 4th, 2019. @ 8:00 pm.

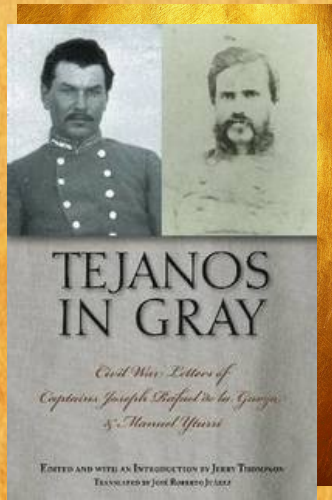


Camp float loaded and ready to pull out into the Parade. Members on the float Texas Division Lt. Commander and camp 153 Chaplain John McCammon, Thomas Gomez, Betty Perkins, Henry Lewis, Camp Historian Leslie Perry, Mrs. Paula Perry, Beck Steiner, James Pauling, Mike Reynolds, TSOCR, Inc. Alamo Rose #4 member Mrs. Katy Reynolds, Camp 153 Commander George Foulds. Not pictured Ed Chevalier, Nina Chevalier, Richard Neely, Judy Neely, and Camp 153 Lt. Commander Mark Riser.



Hood's Texas Brigade, Camp #153 was awarded 2nd Place in the Military/JROTC category in the 2019 Poteet Strawberry Parade. The Officer, Gentlemen & Friends of the Camp would like to thank the Poteet Strawberry Festival Association for allowing us to participate this year and look forward to next year's festivities as we hope to get 1st place.

SCV #153, San Antonio -6th Brigade: Texas Division



HERITAGE MINUTE

An excerpt from **"Tejanos In Gray: Civil War Letters of Captains Joseph R. de la Garza & Manuel Yturri"** edited by Jerry Thompson with translations by José R. Juárez

Submitted by: Rodney W. Seiler, Camp Adjutant

This unpublished, anonymous poem is part of a privately held Yturri Papers. The poem was written in Spanish and is translated into English here by José R. Juárez and Sara Alicia Pompa.

On the Unfortunate Death
Of an Honorable Gentlemen
Let the People Know
He Died Bravely

He enlisted enthusiastically
As a Southern Captain
And at the hands of Northerners
He was killed in Louisiana
Today most Mexicans
Find themselves grieving
At seeing the poor fate
Of a very young lad
Jesus Garza, whose luck
Was truly Unfortunate.

He was highly esteemed
By all his people
Today, the bullet from the barrel of a gun
His body has devoured

After cold bullets
Hit him directly
Yet with great fury
He fought like a brave man
I let all the people know
About a gentlemen of honor.



OUR LEGACY

A Bio of a Camp Member's Confederate Ancestor

JEFFERSON FINIS DAVIS, PRESIDENT OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA



Jefferson F. Davis was the 10th and last child of Samuel Emory Davis, a Georgia-born planter of Welsh ancestry who had fought in the American revolutionary war and was named in honor of Thomas Jefferson, the author of the Declaration of Independence. Jefferson was born on June 3rd, 1808 in Christian Co. Kentucky and at three years old, he relocated with his large family to the Rosemont plantation in Woodville, Mississippi.

By the time he was seven years old, young Jefferson was sent to the Dominican boys school in Kentucky. By the time he was thirteen, he started attending the Transylvania College in Lexington, Kentucky where he met his soon to be, long time friend and compatriot Sydney Albert Johnston. Jefferson also went on to attend the famous and

prestigious United States Military Academy at West Point. During his time there, in a class behind him was future confederate General's Robert E. Lee and Joseph E. Johnston. In 1828, he was commissioned as a Lieutenant and served under then Colonel and future President Zachary Taylor during the "Black Hawk War" of 1832. At some point, either coincidental or through formal means, Lieutenant Davis was introduced to Colonel Taylor's daughter and his 1st future wife-Sarah Knox. By 1835, Jefferson had resigned his commission from the US Army and settled on land near Vicksburg, Mississippi that was given to him by his wealthy eldest brother, Joseph shortly after marrying Sarah.

In a contemporary description during his late twenty's Jefferson Davis was considered "handsome, witty, sport-full and all together creative ; qualities that served him well in his future political career. Sadly, only three short months after their marriage, Sarah died from a malarial fever and for seven years afterwards, Jefferson was grief stricken and secluded himself. He went on to create a plantation out of the wild surrounding his home, reading prodigiously constitutional law and world literature.

By 1845, Congressman Davis of Mississippi was elected to the House of Representatives and remarried. This time with Varina Howell, an aristocrat of Natchez, Mississippi-who was eighteen years his junior and the daughter of the former governor of New Jersey. However by the time of 1846, shortly after Texas joined the Union; the Mexican-American war broke out and Congressman Davis resigned his seat in the house and was commissioned a Colonel in the 1st Mississippi Volunteers where he became a National Hero after winning the Battle of Buena Vista. After returning to Mississippi wounded, he was elected to the Senate and join the Military Affairs Committee. Although he lost the election for the Office of Governor of Mississippi in 1851, President Franklin Pierce appointed him to the cabinet as Secretary of War in 1853. During his term as Secretary of War, Secretary Davis expanded the US Military forces, fortified the coastal defenses and commissioned three expositions for railways to the Pacific. He was also a strong vocal advocate for the Gadsden Purchase.

In 1857, President Franklin Pierce left office and Secretary Davis returned to the Senate. But during the administration of President James Buchanan Jr., Senator Davis spoke widely in both northern and southern states-urging harmony between the now polar opposite sections of the nation that was only less than a century old. By the 1860 Presidential Elections, Senator Davis opposed Senator Stephen Douglas of Illinois during the campaign for popular sovereignty and joined Vice President John C. Breckenridge in demands of federal government protection of established institutions in the US territories. When the State of South Carolina officially seceded from the Union, Senator Davis still was opposed to states secession, but was a firm believer that states did have the constitutional right to do so. When Abraham Lincoln was elected as President in 1861, Senator Davis believed Lincoln would coerce the southern states that would lead to disastrous effects. On January 12th, 1861, Senator Davis resigned his seat on the US Senate as his home state of Mississippi seceded, but eloquently pleaded for peace during his speech.

Before reaching his home of Briefield plantation, The former Senator found himself serving a Major General of the Mississippi armed forces and prepaid for it's defense. However in two weeks at the Confederate Convention in Montgomery, Alabama; Jefferson Davis was surprised to learn he had been selected as the provisional President of the Confederate States of America. But unlike his fellow southern leader, President Davis was the only one in the room with military and war experience. In his inaugural address of February 18th 1861, President Davis said, *"I enter upon the duties of the office to which I have*

been chosen with the hope that the beginning of our career as a Confederacy may not be obstructed by hostile opposition to our enjoyment of the separate existence and independence we have asserted, and which, with the blessing of Providence, we intend to maintain.

In his first act as the Confederacy's President, he attempted to send peace commission to the White House to prevent a armed conflict but Lincoln refused them and one month later send armed forces into Charleston Harbor to resupply Ft. Sumpter. As a response to Lincoln's illegal act of war, President Davis ordered the bombardment of the fort, which marked the beginning of the War of Northern Aggression.

"I worked night and day for twelve years to prevent war, but I could not. The North was mad and blind, would not let us govern ourselves, and so the war came.

Two day's later Lincoln called for 75,000 volunteers, a move that lead to the secession of Virginia, and then later Arkansas, North Carolina, Tennessee and the Arizona Territories.

President Davis faced dire crisis; with only one-fourth of the population of the continental US, a small fraction of the manufacturing capacity, a military force that was outgunned and maned five-to-one, inferior railroads, and a lack of arms and equipment, yet the Battle of Bull Run bought the infant nation time. Soon after words, President Davis inspirational appointed his old West Point classmate, General Robert E. Lee as the Commander of the Army of Northern Virginia in 1862, he wisely gave Lee wide scope in conducting the war over the next three years. Davis had innumerable troubles during his presidency, including a squabbling Congress, a dissident vice president, Alexander H. Stephens, and the constant opposition of extreme state's rights advocates, such as North Carolina Gov. Zebulon Vance, who objected vigorously to the conscription law he had enacted over much opposition in 1862. But despite a gradually worsening military situation, unrelieved internal political tensions, a continuing lack of manpower and armament, and skyrocketing inflation, he remained resolute in his determination to carry on the war, and Lee remained both his most valuable field commander and his most loyal personal supporter. Even during the siege of Petersburg, when General Lee's army was immobilized and starving, Davis asserted to an audience in Richmond on February 6th, 1865.

he and his cabinet moved south, hoping to reach the trans-Mississippi area and continue the struggle until better terms could be secured from the North. At dawn on May 10, 1865, President Davis was captured near Irwinville, Georgia and was imprisoned in a damp casemate at Fort Monroe, Virginia, and was put in leg-irons. Though outraged Northern public opinion brought about his removal to healthier quarters, President Davis remained a prisoner under guard for two more years. Finally, in May 1867, he was released on bail and went to Canada to regain his shattered health. Several notable Northern lawyers offered their free services to defend him in a treason trial, which Davis longed for. The government, however, never forced the issue—because, many believed it feared that such a trial might establish that the original Constitution gave the states a right to secede. The case was finally dropped on December 25, 1868.

President Davis was by nature a benevolent aristocrat. He made five trips to Europe in an effort to regain his health, and for a few years he served as president of an insurance company in Memphis, Tennessee. In 1877 he retired to Beauvoir, a small Gulf-side estate near Biloxi, Mississippi. President Davis crossed the river to lay under the shade of the tree in 1889-New Orleans of a complicated bronchial ailment. At his temporary interment he was recorded the greatest funeral the South had ever known, almost Presidential and a state level function. On May 31, 1893, he was buried permanently in Hollywood Cemetery in

Richmond by his wife, Varina Howell. President Davis is survived in spirit by his great-nephew, George Foulds.

EDUCATING YOUNG SKULLS FULL OF MUSH WITH THE TRUTH OF THE SOUTH!

By: Rodney W. Seiler, Camp Adjutant



Members of Hood's Texas Brigade, Camp #153 with members of the TSOCR, Inc. Alamo Rose, Chapter #4 where on hand at the Tejeda History Fair to educate the next generation of historians. From L to R: 3rd Lt. Commander Dustin Seiler, Past Commander Bill Smith, Bill Manuel, Mrs. Joyce Manual, Mrs. Jo Ann Seiler, Adjutant Rodney Seiler, (kneeling) Mrs. Phyllis Tausch.

Past Commander Bill Smith was on hand with a series of replica's of hand guns, a black powder rifle, various bladed weapons and uniforms to demonstrate Texas' involvement in the War of Northern Aggression. Several students even asked "Why did Texas secede from the union?" and "What was Texas' role in the Civil War?". This put Commander Smith in his element as a retired school teacher as he explained the history these kid's haven't heard. But what got everyone excited about confederate history was when the three lbs 1776 revolutionary cannon went off every hour maned by the cannon crew, Bill Manuel, myself and my son, Dustin.

I also had a interesting conversation with a young man at the history fair. It was about be racism in the 19th century. He was twenty-one year old, nice gentleman but had lots of questions for us. The question that he had for me was "Is being racist determined by color?". Interesting way to frame a question. So my answer is, "No". He had a surprised look on his face. He had been taught that racism is a matter of color ,and apparently color was the only factor. So when I said no, it puzzled him. I said racism is a matter of personality. You can be racist towards anybody and color had nothing to with it. If one thinks one is superior to another that is racism. He had never pondered it in such a way . He had only been taught

that a white man was the only race that could be racist.

GOOD NEWS EVERYONE: TEXAS SB1663 WENT INTO COMMITTEE!

By: Dustin W. Seiler



In a nutshell, both SB1663 and it's companion HB3948 will give state level protection in preserving ALL Confederate Monuments in the State of Texas. Which would make it fare more difficult for City Governments in removing them from public view and furthermore, will force City Governments in restoring those that have been previously removed, be put back up and not stored in warehouses like the Cenotaph that was unethically removed from Travis Park in San Antonio, but will not be placed back in the same original location unfortunately.

But as usual, anything related to the confederacy has opposition. The opposition says as long monuments like these stay up *"they will allow people to 'white wash history' by claiming falsely that slavery was not the major cause of the Civil War."* Yet in the Library of Congress the Crittenden-Johnson Resolution of July 25th, 1861 second clause stated the war was fought not for **"overthrowing or interfering with the rights or established institutions of those States,"** but to **"defend and maintain the supremacy of the Constitution and to preserve the Union."**

SB1663 was filed on March 6th, 2019 and according to it's summery...
"Recent attempts across this nation and even in the State of Texas to remove valuable piece of the past from the public show a deliberate disdain for our state's unique history. Texas should not shy away from our history, we should learn from it. S.B.1663 will open up the Texas Preservation Trust Fund Account to be used for the erection of additional monuments as well as create a process for which monuments, cenotaphs, structures, plaques, statues, etc. may be altered, removed, or relocated. As proposed, S.B. 1663 amends current law relating to the removal relocation, alteration, or construction of certain monuments or memorials located on public property."

As of yet, after the public hearing that was held on April 11th, in Austin; The Natural Resources & Economic Development committee that is overseeing this bill withdrew to the senate floor to debate it on the floor but as of now, SB1663 remains in committee.

To follow & learn more about SB1663's process, click on the link here:
<https://capitol.texas.gov/BillLookup/History.aspx?LegSess=86R&Bill=SB1663>

CAMP DEPLOYMENT'S (EVENTS CALENDAR)

April 27th, 2019 - Medina Co. Museum Heritage Festival: 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM - Medina Co.
Museum 2202 18th St. Hondo, TX. 78861

April 28th, 2019 - Confederate Decoration Day 2:00 PM
The Confederate Cemetery S. New Braunfels Ave and Commerce

May 4th, 2019 - Buc Days Night Parade
(with Col. A.M. Hobby's Camp #713): 8:00 PM - Corpus Christi, TX.

May 9th, 2019 - Monthly Camp Meeting: 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM
Chester's Hamburger Company - 1006 NE Loop 410 San Antonio, TX.
Guest Speaker: Commander Rusty Harris, SCV Lone Star Gray's, Camp #1953
Program: The Tejano Confederates

May 31st - June 2nd 2019
Sons of Confederate Veterans: Texas Division Convention
Hosted by the Major Robert M. White, Camp #1250 - Temple, TX.

WELCOME TO THE SCV HOOD'S TEXAS BRIGADE, CAMP #153

New Members

New Friends of the Camp

New Cadets

EDITORIAL

By: Dustin W. Seiler

With trying to acknowledge & respect everyone's 1st amendments rights, and in keeping with Confederate History Month...lets talk about the elephant in the room. The distortion of the history of the War of Northern Aggression. This subject has been the center of a heated debate since the Reconstruction of the South from 1863-1877. Yes yes, I know "history is written by the victors" yet there are a number of examples from this part of American history that prove what modern popular ideals are saying other wise. One of the most common historical misconception is that "The Civil War was fought over slavery!".

Yet according to the 37th Congressional Records in the Library of Congress: the Crittenden-Johnson Resolution of July 25th, 1861 second clause stated the war was fought not for **"overthrowing or interfering with the rights or established institutions of those States,"** but to **"defend and maintain the supremacy of the Constitution and to preserve the Union."**

This resolution was almost unanimously passed by a democrat controlled house. So to paraphrase, "No! The War of Northern Aggression was no fought over slavery."

However this historical distortion about the war was over slavery has turned into a (excuse my language ladies) "damn yankee lie". Another historical distortion is the glorification of the song "Battle Hymn of the Republic", which was written to inspire the Union soldiers who were facing death in their effort to prosecute Lincoln's war of aggression against the Southern Confederacy. I.E the lyric "make men free." That is the way Mrs. Howe, as an Abolitionist, wanted to portray the goal of the War--to end slavery. However, if anyone thinks the North waged war on the South in order to end slavery and that the South was fighting to preserve slavery, then I suggest visiting the Library of Congress' website or Dr. Richard L. Montgomery's website: <https://livinginthelandofcotton.com>.

These "damn yankee lies" have been the cause for those in local elected positions to take it upon themselves to remove from public view symbols and monuments that help us remember the men that never came back and the reasons why the war was fought. It's a dark notion, but some would say by removing these monuments we would forced to forget our history so that we forget the fundamental principals that created this county in the first place. Other would also say that removing them, we are doomed to repeat history.

Charge to the Sons of Confederate Veterans

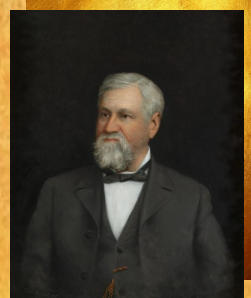
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"To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will commit the vindication of the cause for which we fought. To your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate soldier's good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, 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."

Lt. General Stephen Dill Lee,

Commander General - United Confederate Veterans,
New Orleans, Louisiana, April 25, 1906.



<http://www.hoodstexasbrigade.net> Find us on Facebook: @HoodsTexasBrigade153

All friends & members of the Son's of Confederate Veterans are welcome to submit articles, heritage minutes and ancestor's bios for this newsletter. Articles and events that endorse political figures are not allowed and will immediately not be considered for publication. To submit articles for this newsletter, contact 3rd Lt. Commander, Dustin Seiler: dw.seiler85@gmail.com

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Help us further the noble cause of vindicating the confederate soldiers good name and to continue to guard the true history of the south! Donate to our PayPal account as one time contribution or as a monthly gift. All proceeds go towards the ongoing efforts of the camp and to future projects in development.

[Click here to donate to the camp.](#)

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