

Issue 6: June, 2019

THE RAGGED OLD FIRST



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

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A NEW CHAPTER STARTS IN TEXAS

By: Dustin W. Seiler

With the completion of the 2019 Texas Division Reunion in Temple, TX on June 1st of this year. The revised edition of the Texas Division Constitution, due to the amount of time and the mishandling of any proposed amendments that where to be presented, the delegates

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voted unanimously to postpone on voting the revisions. The delegates that attended elected by a majority vote Charles Oliver as the Commander of the Texas Division SCV. By a vote of acclamation was Craig Stone as Division Lt. Commander and later by a majority vote Larry "Joe" Reynolds as the Division 2nd Lt. Commander. The delegates later elected Frank Kraweic as the Division 3rd Lt. Commander after a lunch break.

Each elected officer will behave there set duties and rehabilitates as set forth in the Texas Division Constitution. Although Commander Oliver will have overall leadership of the Texas Division as the presiding officer of the DEC, Craig will be in charge of Heritage Defense and Heritage Operations, while Larry is in charge of Membership Recruiting & Retention and Frank will be in charge of Communications (website, social media, e-mail, etc.).

Much to the surprise of some, Div. Commander Oliver announced that he will not be keeping any of the appointed officers from the previous administration. He also announced that he would invite back the Texas Society Order of Confederate Rose, Inc. to work in partnership with the Texas Division SCV. Commander Oliver also announced that all members of the Texas Division SCV were welcome to attend Division Executive Council meetings and give input, however under the Texas Division Constitution-are not permitted to vote.

After a recess, members splintered off into their respective brigades to elect their Brigade Officers. After voting nearly unanimously, Shelby Little who was elevated to 6th Brigade Commander the previous year was elected for a full term. John McCammon who steeped down from Division Lt. Commander after his term was completed was voted by acclamation to Brigade Lt. Commander. Our own Camp Commander George Foulds was also elected by acclamation to Brigade 2nd Lt. Commander.

The following day (June 2nd) was the first Division Executive Council meeting. Div. Lt. Commander Craig Stone announced that training programs for members to become camp officers in the months to come as well as entertaining notions on making the SCV fun again and active for new members. Commander Oliver also announced his intention over his term to attempt to recruit more members into the SCV from younger demographics and have younger members take on Leadership Roles and to modernize the Texas Division.



The 2019 Delegation of Hood's Texas Brigade with the newly elected 6th Brigade Officers.

Editor's Note: While it is wonderful that the TSOCR, Inc. and the Texas Division will be back to working with each other again. It is important to know that both the SCV and the TSOCR, Inc. are both separate organizations and neither one has authority over the other.

HERITAGE MINUTE: A COLLECTION OF QUOTES FROM HISTORICAL FIGURES THAT FIT THE CAUSE.

By: Dustin W. Seiler

I began to collect these quotes in my many travels in this vast electronic library called the internet. While the internet is a marvel to behold, it also a place where like a real physical library you must search for the truth, like a sentence deep with a book waiting to be read. These quotes fit best with the shared common cause that we have with our fellow Confederate heritage organizations. Some may find them offensive, but I found them fitting and inspirational.

I learned a long time before the invention of social media on how to memorize cretin quotes from books, TV, and movies and how to use them against my opponent in debate. But I also knew when to use them as well in order to deliver the most damage. I pass a small sample onto you. Wield them wisely and you will see the look off shock and defeat in your opponent's eyes.

"No one can make you feel inferior without your consent."

—Eleanor Roosevelt

"Those who don't know history are doomed to repeat it."

—Edmund Burke

"I am not a teacher, but an awakener."

—Robert Frost

"A lie can travel halfway around the world while the truth is putting on its shoes."

—Mark Twain

"The only true wisdom is in knowing you know nothing."

—Socrates

"In a time of deceit telling the truth is a revolutionary act."

—George Orwell

"Any fool can know. The point is to understand."

—Albert Einstein

"The truth is rarely pure and never simple."

—Oscar Wilde, *The Importance of Being Earnest*

"Facts do not cease to exist because they are ignored."

—Aldous Huxley, *Complete Essays* 2, 1926-29

"If we do not respect the past, we will find it difficult to build a better tomorrow."

- Robert Crawley, 7th Earl of Grantham (Downton Abby)

"The Northern onslaught upon slavery was no more than a piece of specious humbug designed to conceal its desire for economic control of the Southern states."

—Charles Dickens, on the Emancipation Proclamation of 1863



OUR LEGACY

A Bio of a Camp Member's Confederate Ancestor

PVT. TIMOTHY O'FLYNN Co. F, 16TH REGIMENT MISSISSIPPI INFANTRY

Timothy O'Flynn was born on August 27th, 1818 in County Limerick, Ireland. At some point at least prior to the 1860s, Timothy immigrated to America in search of opportunity and a new life. By June 8th, 1861, Timothy enlisted in the CSA leaving his wife Sarah, and his 4 children with one on the way behind at the homestead. He served in Company F of the 16th Regiment Mississippi Infantry under the Command of Capt. James J. Shannon; which was part of Timble's Brigade. He was one of 940 men to enlist. By August of 1861, the 16th Regiment set up camp near the 21st N.C. Regiment, the 15th Alabama Regiment, and the 21st Georgia Regiment. But by then the 21st N.C. Regiment had an outbreak of the measles in its ranks and the Pvt. O'Flynn and the 16th Mississippi was relocated in mid-September to Camp Toombs.

During the reorganization on April 28th of 1862, Pvt. O'Flynn witnessed his Captain be

elected to the rank of Lt. Colonel-skipping the rank of Major. By May, Pvt. O'Flynn and the rest of the 16th Mississippi were reassigned to Thomas Jackson's Army of the Valley of Ewell's Division during the Jackson Valley Campaign. There Pvt. O'Flynn fought in the 1st Battle of Winchester and later in Cross Keys-Port Republic which the regiment lost only 6 and 48 were wounded, but not mortally. Timble's Brigade later made its mark in history in participating in the Battles of Gaines' Mill and Malvern Hill along with Hood's Texas Brigade. The regiment lost 15 killed, 51 wounded, 19 missing during the Seven Days Battle, but not Pvt. O'Flynn.

By July of 1862, the 16th Regiment was transferred to Featherstone's Brigade of Wilcox's Division. By next month, August Pvt. O'Flynn survived the ill-fated Battle of Sharpsburg, where the 16th Regiment was under to command of Captain Abram M. Feltus and lost 114 men. Captain Feltus described in a letter to Colonel Posey that the losses were attributed from Yankee Artillery that used a combination of grape shoots, canister shoots, and shell shoots and as the regiment pushed on. Leaving on 84 men by nightfall. After the Battle of Sharpsburg, Pvt. O'Flynn and the rest of the 18th Regiment marched north and on December 13th, 1862, fought in the Battle of Fredricksburg. By December 20th, Lt. Colonel Shannon had resigned his commission due to health reasons, replacing him was Captain Feltus, who was elected Lt. Colonel. Colonel Posey was promoted to Brigadier General.

In May of 1863, Pvt. Timothy O'Flynn and the 16th Regiment participated at the Battle of Chancellorsville where the regiment lost 76 men. Next month under the command of Colonel Nathaniel Harris, the 16th Regiment was reassigned to Posey's Brigade as part of the newly reorganized Army of Northern Virginia's Third Corps, Anderson's Division. After an infusion of new recruits, Pvt. Timothy O'Flynn witnessed first hand the most bloody and yet famous battles of the War of Northern Aggression...The Battle of Gettysburg, arriving on June 2nd. After Gettysburg and the loss of only 3 men and 16 wounded, Pvt. O'Flynn didn't see action again until May of 1864 at the Battle of the Wilderness, Battle of Spotsylvania Court House, and the Battle of the Muleshoe. The last engagement Pvt. O'Flynn and the remaining 16th Regiment participated in was the raid on Weldon Railroad. Next year, on April 9th, 1865 the remaining members along with Pvt O'Flynn surrender at the Appomattox Court House along with General Lee's Army of Northern Virginia. At the end of the war, only 4 officers and 68 men survived. Timothy O'Flynn returned home to Jasper Co., Mississippi where he had 5 more children with Sarah. Timothy O'Flynn lived out the rest of his days with his children and grandchildren until he finally crossed the river to lay under the shade of the tree on February 15th, 1905. He is survived in spirit today by his x4 great-grandson, Cadet Cale Reid Cavarra.



THE SUPERIOR CAMP OF TEXAS!

Dustin Seiler

Hood's Texas Brigade, Camp #153 was recognized this year at the 2019 Texas Division Reunion and awarded the 2019 Superior Camp Award! The Superior Camp Award is presented to one of the top 3 exemplary camps in the Texas Division out of 97 camps, as determined by the total scoring of all the various categories that cover membership growth retention, and a number of other characteristics of an active, energetic camp. Our Camp retained over 90% of our membership from the previous year and had the second highest growth in the Texas Division. As well as participating in over 64 events from the year before.

In addition, our camp also received the 2019 4-Star Camp Award for having gone above and beyond the contributions, as stated in the Charge of General Steven D. Lee, retained over 90% of our membership from the previous year and actively cooperated in events, parades and education programs with other SCV Camps and Confederate Organizations. Hood's Texas Brigade also received the 2nd Place Award for Best Website and 3rd Place Award for Best Scrap Book out of 97 camps in the Texas Division.

Also, we would like to Congratulate the following camp members and friends who were individually recognized.

Texas Division Gold Cross of Meritorious Service

Compatriot Bubba Check Past Commander William "Bill" Smith Genealogist Stanford Reed

Texas Division Silver Cross of Meritorious Service

Color Sergeant Bobby Moore Lt. Commander Mark Riser Chaplain Mike Reynolds

Texas Division Bronze Cross of Meritorious Service

Surgeon Beck Steiner Compatriot Richard Neely Historian Darryel Perry

Texas Division Honor Award

Mrs. Paula Perry TSOCR, Inc. Treasurer, Mrs. Jo Ann Seiler

Commander's Note: *There are more members of our camp that are deserving of being decorated by the Texas Division but regrettably the Awards Committee can only authorize a limited amount to a camp. Also some are required to have a full year of service in the camp prior to receiving an award but hey will be recognized at the 2020 Texas Division Reunion.*

GOOD NEWS EVERYONE! **THE TEXAS SOCIETY ORDER OF CONFEDERATE ROSETM, Inc.** **IS VERY MUTCH ALIVE AND WELL!!!**

By: Dustin W. Seiler

For the past two years, the Texas Society Order of Confederate Rose, Inc. was not treated as kindly as in the years past. In fact, some within SCV Texas went as far as to say that the TSOCR, Inc was dissolved entirely because the there charter was revoked. Well, I hate to say you're wrong, but the TSOCR, Inc. is in fact very much alive. So much so that at their Annual Meeting in Temple, TX. the members of the Society elected new officers to their Board of Directors. Even more so that Camp Commander's from all over the SCV Texas are asking "How do we start a Rose chapter?"

We know it's alive and well because our camp works closely with the members of TSOCR, Inc. Alamo Rose Chapter #4; which THE only rose chapter in the entire 6th Brigade. Even the Office of the Texas Secretary of State and Internal Revenue Service acknowledges the TSOCR, Inc as an active non-profit 501(c)3 organization. I have also been told the charter of the TSOCR, Inc. was in fact granted to the organization by the State of Texas and not the OCR Confederation of State Society. Which means that the TSOCR, Inc. has more legitimacy then others would care to acknowledge. We also know its alive because they still operate the Marilyn Sweeney Scholarship, which is awarded to graduating High School seniors that will be attending a University, State College, Community College or a Trade School.

It is also important to know that the Texas Society Order of Confederate Rose, Inc. is a separate organization with it's own governing documents and not under any authority or subject to the Texas Division SCV. With that being said, they are our allies in the shared common goals to protect our southern heritage and should be treated as such!

CAMP DEPLOYMENT'S (EVENTS CALENDAR)

June 29th -Luling Watermelon Thump Parade: Luling, TX.

4th of July - Castroville's 4th of July Parade: Castroville, TX.

July 6th -Leaky Freedom Parade: Leaky, TX.

July 11th -Monthly Camp Meeting
Chester' 1006 NE Loop 410 San Antonio, TX. 78209
Guest Speaker: James Earl and his program, The True Grey

July 20th -Yesteryear Heritage Festival, hosted by the Longhorn Museum: Pleasanton, TX.

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

New Life Members

Brian Lee Nolan

Texas Division & SCV National Life Member

Hugh J. Caraway

Texas Division & SCV National Life Member

New Members

Eiler Richard "Dick" Weitzel, II

EDITORIAL

Dustin W. Seiler

I hope it is not vulgarer of me to suggest that some people should put aside their personal scruples and work within the spirit of the charge to the SCV. Now more then ever as we now have a new command staff in the Texas Division we need to be focusing on working cooperatively with other camps and brigades. For some, this means having to deal with people of a questionable character. Though it can be taxing one must remember the seven Christian virtues that were emulated by General Robert E. Lee: Purity, Temperance, Charity, Diligence, Kindness, Humility and above all Patience.

Yet in spite of ourselves, there those that would put themselves and their ego's ahead of the common goals we all share as the caretakers of our southern heritage. To that end, sometimes it's best to leave it up to those in a higher authority to deal with the unpleasantness. And by a higher authority, I mean the man upstairs that made us all in his image! Another point to remember is this. A wise woman told me once, "Attitude is everything." It is important to remember that keeping a positive attitude is the best way to deter conflict and help promote cooperation. Remember to call something to their attention in a kind manner, generally, that will solve the problem.

All though at times some people like to ding their hooves into the mud like a stubborn donkey and keep on with there self-serving attitudes, try to remember the serenity prayer. ***"Good, give me the grace to accept with serenity the things that cannot be changed. Courage to change the things which should be changed, and the Wisdom to distinguish the one from the other."*** -From A Book of Prayers and Services for the Armed Forces, By Reinhold Niebuhr.

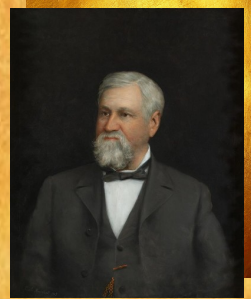
At the end of it all, we can only do so much, and when those people of a questionable character still want to dig in his heels and not want to cooperate in any way because they still want to put their own objectives ahead of it all. As I say "Oh go sit on a cactus!"

Charge to the Sons of Confederate Veterans

"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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