

Issue 5: May 2019 "SPECIAL EDITION"

THE RAGGED OLD FIRST



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

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To all the veterans that stood when our nation called,
for your service and sacrifice...

Thank you!

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CELEBRATING CONFEDERATE DECORATION DAY!

By: Dustin W. Seiler

"All Veterans are equal!" said Commander Rusty Harris of the Lone Star Grays, Camp #1953 during his oration at the annual Confederate Decoration Day on April, 28th 2019. Historically, Confederate Decoration Day as we call in Texas and Tennessee, but in the rest of Dixie, it's known as Confederate Memorial Day and is traditionally celebrated on April 26th—the anniversary of the Terms of Surrender at Bennett Place in Durham, North Carolina.

Traditionally one Confederate Veterans who are buried within the grounds of the historical Confederate Cemetery in San Antonio. But this year Confederate Cemetery Association who coordinates this event, year after a year decided to honor over 200 Tejano confederate soldiers buried in the area, all though Div. Chaplain Sanford Reed and others still continue to research. There may have been well over 3,300 Tejano confederate soldiers that served in the Confederate Army.

Honor-guard and Color-guard services were provided by the Trans-Mississippi Old Guard commanded by Captain Mike Reynolds with Camp Color Sergeant Bobby Moore on the bugle for the playing of Taps. The Black Roses, Gentlemen Grey and the members of the TSOCR, Inc. Alamo Rose Chapter #4 made the day's services elegant with their silent black rose service as well as a light social after the festivities. The service also continued with the reading of the 200 Tejano confederate soldiers with elocutionist Camp Commanders Rusty Harris of the Lone Star Grays and his wife Rebecca, Charles Thacker of the Medina Co. Grays, Richard Brewer of the Alamo City Guards, Gary Cornet of the Col. A.M. Hobby's Regiment, Past Commander Bill Smith of Hood's Texas Brigade, 6th Brigade Commander Shelby Little, CCA Members Ana & Don Olinger, Major Larry Rivet-US Army, 1st Sergeant Juan Ramirez-US Army, and Dr. Godfrey Garner.

Special Guests included TSOCR, Inc. Director Eileen Lehmberg, as well as Mrs. Pat Crisler who is the Chapter President of the UDC Cross of Honor Chapter from Luling, TX., Mrs. Robin Terrazes, who is the Chapter President of the UDC Sydney Albery Johnston Chapter of San Antonio, TX. Live musical services were provided by Compatriots Dale Schultz of the SCV Alamo City Guard's, Camp #1325 and Piper Bill from the SCV Col. Gustav Hoffman, Camp #1836. The services from the annual Confederate Decoration day were also streamed live over the Confederate Cemetery Association's Facebook page by Compatriot Christian Lee of SCV Alamo City Guard's, Camp #1325. The day would not be complete as the Trans-Mississippi Old Guard and the Hood's Texas Brigade Artillery Crew performed a near twenty-one gun salute and cannon volley. The CCA will have their next meeting in July to start planning for next years Confederate Decoration Day.



Members of the Trans-Mississippi Old Guard under the Command of Captain Mike Reynolds post colors as part of the opening to the annual Confederate Decoration Day on April 28th



Left: "Piper Bill" of the Col. Gustav Hoffman, Camp #1836 played his Scottish Pipes to "The Bonnie Blue Flag" as the colors were being posted.



Right: TSOGR, Inc. Director Eileen Lehmberg of the Alamo Rose, Chapter #4 being escorted by her Gentleman Grey, Camp 3rd Lt. Commander Dustin Seiler through the Strangers Lot in the silent black rose service.



Left: The Hood's Texas Brigade Artillery Crew, commanded by Sergeant Major Bill Manuel prepare to fire.

Right: The Trans-Mississippi Old Guard fire off their black powder rifles at the close of the Confederate Decoration Day.



HERITAGE MINUTE: ORIGINS OF THE BLACK ROSE SERVICE

By: Unknown Author
Submitted by: Mrs. Eileen Lehmberg,

Director of the Texas Society Order of Confederate Rose™, Inc.

With the death of Queen Victoria's husband, Prince Albert and the beginning of the War Between the States in 1861; the stage was set for morning rites that were practiced by all members

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of society.

The grieving fell to the women, wives, sisters, mothers and other family and friends. This was to become a normal part of their lives. Many times death came to those who were far away from home. Local women then took the place of the absent family. They honored the life the soldier had given for the South. Serviced were very simple, flowers were few but the honor given to those brave soldiers were sincere and heartfelt. The Ladies dressed in morning clothes and took a handful of petals to spread on the coffin or gravesite.

Today the Black Rose Society of the Texas Society Order of Confederate RoseTM Inc. continues that tradition by having a silent service for those who gave their service and sometimes their lives during the War Between the States, who we remember and honor today. We dress in period mourning clothes of the 1860s, pause a moment of reflection at the gravesite and sprinkle petals on the gravesite.

Other ladies who would like to honor those who gave their service to the Confederacy, there is a basket with petals being held by a member of the TSOCR. Take some petals from the basket, follow after those in black morning clothes and period clothing to show your respect and honor someone who fought for the Confederacy buried in what we call the "Strangers Lot" (of the Confederate Cemetery). Many buried there we do not know their name, they are just a number or the relatives have not been located.

Editor's Note: The Black Rose Service has been described as *"...a beautiful part of honoring the brave Confederate soldiers memory"* (-Sanford Reed, TX. Div. Chaplain). Other SCV Camps across the nation that have these kind of memorials that include this black rose service from the Black Rose Society of the their respected individual State Societies Order of Confederate Rose.



OUR LEGACY

A Brief Bio of a Camp Member's Confederate Ancestor

PVT. WILLIAMSON W. DOZIER SCOGIN'S BATTERY/ GRIFFIN LIGHT ARTILLERY, GEORGIA LIGHT ARTILLERY

Williamson Dozier was born on May 10th, 1836 in Columbia, Georgia. By 1860, Williamson moved from Columbia to Pike Co., Georgia. Prior to his enlistment, Williamson's company called the Scogin's Battery was established on April 3rd, 1862 under orders of CSA Secretary of War, George W. Rudolph. Yet lacked the most important pieces of the unit, cannons!

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Despite a letter to Captain O.C. Gibson from Secretary Rudolph authorizing him to purchase harness', horses, uniforms, and payments to the troops. In wartime, the south was stretched thin of materials what with Lincoln's illegal block aid along the Confederate coastline and the nearest foundry-, the Noble Brother & Co. in Rome, Georgia didn't have enough resources to produce the requested eight, six-pound guns. However, in what seemed like a prey's being answered. In an announcement by the editor of the Griffin Confederate writes: *All the churches of Griffin have given up their bells, and the city is having them made into eight six-pound field pieces, at the foundry of Noble Brothers & Co., of Rome, Georgia. Furthermore, the town is also raising a company of 160 men to take those pieces to the field and use them there. The Company is to be under the command of Hon. O.C. Gibson. Now, these proceedings strike us as right and becoming, and they are ahead of Macon.*

The editor wrote a lament the last Sunday, April 5th, 1862 as the bells rang but one last time, but consoles himself with the thought that the bells in a new form will speak with a louder voice in the defense of human freedom, justice, and right. On May 7th, 1862 Privet Williamson W. Dozier reported for duty at Griffin, Georgia he was assigned as the Company's Chief Bugler, but was returned to his wife Cornelia and four children, James, Lula, Jackson, and Edger. By the following day, Pvt. Dozier's Captain reported back to Secretary Rudolph that 123 men had enlisted and the foundry had cast the eight, six-pound guns with the gun-carriages ready by the 20th of the same month. The men where dismissed, subject to call at any day, but desired to remain at their homes without wages till the battery shall be ready.

By late August of 1862, the newly renamed Griffin Light Artillery began to march north with other Confederate troops under the command of Army of Tennessee Commander, General Braxton Bragg for the Kentucky Campaign. By September 17th, the Griffin Light Artillery and the rest of the Army of Tennessee encountered Union forces under the command of Maj. General William S. Rosecrans, commander of the Union Army of Cumberland at the Battle of Munfordville. Bragg pulled his troops back east as to not risk further losses but was engaged again by Rosecrans at the Battle of Bradstown on September 22nd, 1862 during which Pvt. Dozier was mortally wounded. He passed away the following morning and was buried rather hasten with other confederate sliders in the Bradstown City Cemetery, his services were conducted by the local town people and according to local lore, they were honored with an original black rose service by the local women. A cenotaph was erected later in 1903 by the local United Daughters of the Confederacy close to his grave honoring the sixty-seven Confederate soldiers who perished during the War of Northern Aggression. Pvt. Williamson Dozier is survived in spirit by his Great-Great Grandson, our Camp Chaplain Mike Reynolds.



Camp Chaplain Mike Reynolds visiting the grave of his x2 great-grandfather.

GOOD NEWS EVERYONE: OUR JROTC AWARD'S PROGRAM IS ON FIRE!!

By: Dustin W. Seiler

Past Commander Bill Smith is happy to report that over eleven high schools across the greater San Antonio and surrounding areas have participated in the SCV JROTC Awards program. Among the schools that participated this year, cadets of the JROTC program from O'Connor HS, Oliver Wendell Holmes HS, Brandeis HS, L.E.E. HS, Sidney Lanier HS, Ronald Reagan HS, Winston Churchill HS, Wagner HS, Central Catholic HS, Smithson Valley HS, Canyon Lake HS and Gonzalez HS received the H.L. Hunley Award as well as others.

The H.L. Hunley Award recognizes an outstanding JROTC Cadet in terms of their honor, courage, and commitment for their respected High School and is selected by their JROTC instructor. The SCV Texas Division Robert E. Lee Award, however, recognizes a JROTC Cadet for their leadership while the Sergeant Washington Medal recognizes their individual scholastic achievements.

Last year only seven schools chose to actively participate in the SCV Awards Program, this year we gained more and hope to gain more over the years. Some schools we approached either declined for various reasons but this year the from what we were told by Judson HS that the Air Force JROTC program across the State of Texas chose not to

participate in any heritage award programs, including the Sons/Daughters of the American Revolution, Sons/Daughters of the Republic of Texas, Sons of the Union Veterans and even the Military Order of the Stars and Bars. One such reason was that "they [the various heritage organizations] are not diverse enough in their membership..."

Perhaps next year they will change their minds. With the conclusion of the JROTC Award session, our camp will start prepping for next year in hopes to gain more schools in the program. Fingers crossed!

THE PREPETUATION OF A DAMN YANKEE LIE!

By: Camp Adjutant, Rodney W. Seiler



Touching back on the subject of the distortion of history that was broached by my son, Dustin in the previous issue of this newsletter; I want to set the record straight on my ancestors -Samuel James McColloch Jr. and his two sons that fought for the Confederacy William and Lewis.

The picture shown above has been...pardon my language ladies; bastardized too many times by the mainstream media, the History Channel, The Blaze-TV and even museums across America as a "family of slaves living in destitution/slave quarters". But the family of Samuel McColloch Jr. lived in the fare opposite of destitution. In fact, the McColloch Family was emancipated in 1830's Abbeville, South Carolina by their father Samuel James McColloch Sr. prior to immigrating to Mexican controlled Texas in May of 1835. Also, according to the Texas Land Commission, Sam Jr. received one-league (three miles) of land along the banks of the Medina River, just fourteen miles southwest of the San Antonio in 1837 for his service during the Texas Revolution as he was the first to shed blood for Texas Independence at the Battle of Goliad on October 9th, 1835.

Contrary to what most liberal uneducated people would think, his son's William and Lewis mustered into the Confederate States Army as "free black men" according to their enlistment papers from late 1861 and according to their statements why they enlisted into

the CSA, *"Tired of being starved out by Lincoln's illegal block aid."* Which means they were also educated and kept informed of current events. Further proof that the family could afford their children an education and was not destitute. William and Lewis served in the 2nd Texas Cavalry and aided their cousin Sanford R. Lindsey, Jr of the 8th Texas Regiment in defending the shores of Texas at the Battle of the Bay at Corpus Christi, TX. and later the three men served in the retaking of Galveston.

In my son's words, this is another example of historical distortion. I suppose the only way someone who was uneducated about my ancestors found that William and Lewis were black Confederates and surmised under the new line of thinking that was generated by the "Reconstruction of the South" that William and Lewis where "promised" their freedom if they enlisted. Talk about spinning the truth, which is far from the original story says according to what history records.

CAMP DEPLOYMENT'S (EVENTS CALENDAR)

May 31st-June 2nd 2019

Sons of Confederate Veterans: Texas Division Convention

Hosted by the Major Robert M. White, Camp #1250 -Temple, TX.

June 13th , 2019 -Monthly Camp Meeting: 7:00 PM -8:30 PM

Chester's Hamburger Company - 1006 NE Loop 410 San Antonio, TX.

Guest Speaker: Our fellow compatriot, Joe Owen

Program: Hood's Texas Brigade at Eltham's Landing May 7, 1862, and Gaines Mill June 27, 1862

June 15th, 2019

Berges Fest Parade -Boerne, TX.

June 29th, 2019

Watermelon Festival Parade -Luling, TX.

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

New Members

New Friends of the Camp

Div. 1st Lt. Commander John McCammon

EDITORIAL

Dustin W. Seiler

To my fellow Texas Division Compatriots,

It is no secret that the past two years have been taxing on everyone, none more so than the us-the membership of the Texas Division SCV. Over that time, a few have acted in a manner, and on occasions used language, unbecoming of southern gentlemen that would cause a lady to faint in a state of shock. Especially since some with questionable motives and characters have had shall we say, disagreements with their fellow members on various subjects. Which begs the question gentlemen, are you truly emulating the virtues of your ancestors?

Our ancestors went to war to defend their God-given unalienable rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. They banded together laying aside their differences to combat tyranny, political oppression, and unlawful taxation. What would they say if they saw as we are now? We are only more than a week away from our Reunion and with this year being an election year for Division and Brigade Officers, already there is a list of possible candidates with a playbook of their planes until 2021 to bring new life to the SCV Texas Division. Hopefully this year we will not have a repeat like what happened last year in Nacogdoches. I would hate to see words spoken at each other in such a way it would remind me of a gorilla at the zoo flinging it's...well you get the idea.

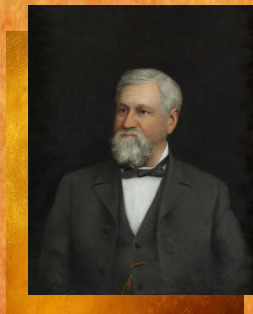
As we are about to go into that convention hall to take care of business, here's a little advice. Rather than finger point or name calling; set your ego's and whatever preconceived self-serving planes for yourself aside and let us work on the common goal we have before us. Already we have much good news to celebrate in the way of heritage operations thanks to the ongoing efforts of our SCV Camps working in cooperation with their local MOS&B, UDC, and TSOCR chapters. Let us not spoil what progress we have made by showing a united front with our brother & sister Confederate organizations.

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.

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