



TEXAS DIVISION REPORTER



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The Next Division Executive Council Meeting

Will Be Held

**Saturday,
January 4, 2025**

At


POPPA ROLLO'S
PIZZA

703 N. Valley Mills Dr

Waco, TX

9:00 AM

**All Compatriots in Good Standing
Invited to Attend**



Benjamin Bryant Beard 1840-1915 15th Texas Infantry, Walker's Greyhounds



**Regimental Colors
15th Texas Infantry**

Benjamin Beard was born on 1 August 1840 in Bibb County, Alabama. His parents were Benjamin and Caroline McCullars Beard. He moved to Texas in 1846 when he was six years old—first living in Shelby County before moving to Tyler, TX, in 1852, where he attended local public schools. When the war broke out in 1861, he soon enlisted in the 15th Texas Infantry, Company D, Polignac's Brigade, Walker's Division, Army of the Trans-Mississippi. He saw action in the defense of Texas at the battles of Mansfield, Pleasant Hill, and Yellow Bayou. He served as the Third Corporal of Company D and finally became the color bearer of the 15th Texas Infantry.

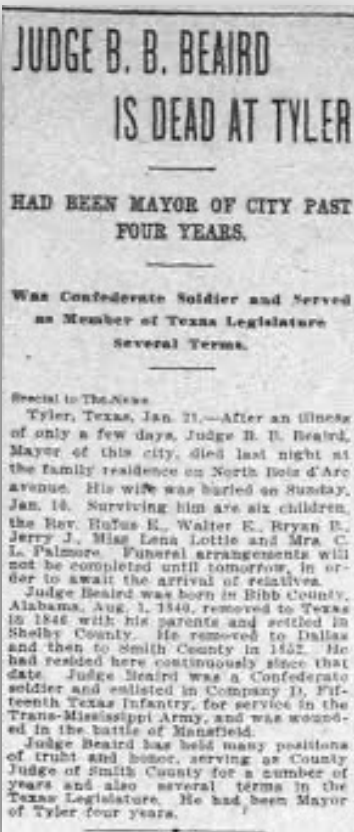


In 1875, he was admitted to the Bar Association, which led to a lifetime of service to Texas. He first served as a school trustee in Smith County. Later, he was elected and served as County Commissioner, County Judge (4 Terms), and Superintendent of Public Schools in Smith County from 1886 to 1894. He was elected as the State Representative of the 24th District (Smith, Upshur, and Camp Counties) in 1894, where he served two terms. He served as Chairman of the powerful Texas House Committee on County Government and Finances. He then served from 1911 to 1915 as the Mayor of the City of Tyler. He was President of the Smith County Fair Association from 1876 until 1909 when the old fairgrounds were sold to the Bergfield family, who eventually developed the property into the Bergfield shopping center on Broadway Ave. A member of the International Order of the Odd Fellows and Marvin Methodist Church of Tyler, TX.

Following the war, on December 14, 1865, he married Mary Ann Adams, daughter of JJ Adams, a well-known farmer in Smith County, at Marvin Methodist Church in Tyler, TX. The Lord blessed them with ten children. He was a devoted family man, and among his children was Walter Beard, who served as a Smith County Commissioner; Rufus Beard, who was the first Pastor of the St. Paul Methodist Church; and Patrick Henry Beard, who served as the Clerk of the District Court of Smith County. Many members of the Beard family remain active in the Tyler community to this day.

In 1866, Benjamin established the Beard farm. In 2000, the Texas Agriculture Department recognized the farm's historic significance of being run by the same family for over 130 years. He owned and edited "The Argent," a weekly newspaper published in Tyler, TX, and maintained an active law practice until he died in 1915.

January 15, 1915, on the day of his funeral, the Tyler Courier Times reported that every business in town closed for the memorial. Public schools were also closed, and his memorial drew a crowd known as one of the largest crowds ever assembled at Marvin Methodist Church. Benjamin and Mary Beard are buried in historic Oakwood Cemetery, Tyler, TX.



Congratulations to the W. W. Heartsill Camp #314 Marshall, TX, on winning the Superior Camp Award in the ATM!



2024 Texas Division Awards:
Distinguished Camp Award, Four Star
Camp Award, Community Service
Award, 100% Retention Award, Best
Camp Newsletter Award.



Commander's Address to the Division

I am pleased to provide a report on the successful 2024 National Reunion held in Charleston, South Carolina. The event brought together Compatriots from across the country to honor our heritage and commemorate the sacrifices of our Confederate veterans. The reunion was filled with informative lectures, engaging discussions, and meaningful tributes to our ancestors. Highlights of the 2024 National Reunion included the election of new officers, informative lectures, and guided tours of significant Confederate historical sites in the Charleston area. Additionally, the camaraderie and fellowship among attendees exemplified the spirit of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. We congratulate the newly elected **Commander-in-Chief Donnie Kennedy** and **Lieutenant Commander-in-Chief Tony Griffin**. I also want to thank our **immediate past Commander-in-Chief, Jason Boshers**, for a job well done



over the past two years. I also congratulate our immediate past Texas Division Commander and now **ATM Commander, John McCammon**, on his election to the GEC!

As we reflect on the memorable experiences of the 2024 National Reunion, we look forward to the 2025 National Reunion, held in Houston, Texas, from July 16th to 19th, 2025. The Texas Division is honored to host this important event and is dedicated to ensuring it will be a fitting tribute to our Confederate heritage.

The 2025 National Reunion will offer engaging educational programs, inspiring guest speakers, and a unique opportunity to celebrate our shared history. Attendees can look forward to exploring the rich cultural heritage of Houston and the surrounding region and participating in meaningful discussions on preserving our Confederate legacy for future generations.

I encourage all members to mark their calendars and plan to attend the 2025 National Reunion in Houston, Texas. Let us unite once again to honor our ancestors and strengthen the bonds of fellowship within our esteemed organization.

On A Personal Note:

The third quarter of 2024 was an incredibly eventful, busy, and exciting time for the Hurley family. The quarter began with a beautiful (and exhausting) two-week visit with our grandchildren, who came to Texas from California. This was followed by our daughter Lauren's wedding to Graham Jones over the 4th of July weekend. The wedding was beautiful and joyous, and seeing her so happy was incredibly heartwarming. Three weeks later, Tami and I took a two-week trip to the United Kingdom, a fantastic experience filled with new adventures and cherished memories. It was a whirlwind of a quarter filled with love, joy, and new beginnings.



Scenes from the Texas Division Reunion June 7-9, 2024 San Antonio, TX



*Business
Sessions!*



Division Award Winners!



Brenda Guise - Lucy Pickens Award



Peggy Harvey - Lucy Pickens Award



Award Winners!



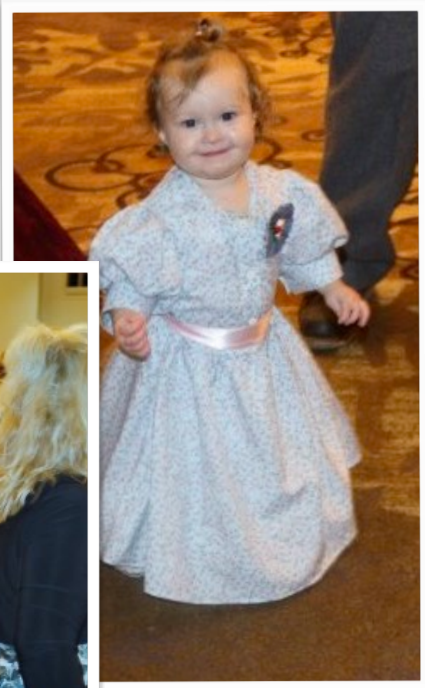


*Awards
Banquet!*





*Southern Heritage
Ball!*



Texas Division Awards Winners 2023-2024

Lucy Pickens Award - Peggy Sue Harvey, Brneda Guise

Texas Growth Award -

Waul's Legion Camp #2130 in Katy, Texas (Large Camp)

Texas Frontier District Camp #1904 in DeLeon, TX (Small Camp)

Community Service Award - W. W. Heartsill Camp #314, Marshall TX

4 Star Camp Award -

Ft. McKavett CSA Camp #2336, Menard, TX

Albert Sidney Johnston Camp #983, Decatur, TX

W. W. Heartsill Camp #314, Marshall, TX

34th Texas Cavalry Camp #2283, Palo Pinto, TX



Best Division Website Award - 2nd Frontier District Camp #1904, DeLeon, TX

Best Division Newsletter - W. W. Heartsill Camp #314, Marshall, TX

Outstanding Camp Award - Hood's Texas Brigade Camp #153, San Antonio, TX

Superior Camp Award - Albert Sydney Johnston Camp #983, Decatur, TX

Distinguished Camp Award - W. W. Heartsill Camp #314, Marshall. TX

Texas Division Confederate of the Year - Joe "Festus" Alcock

Texas Division Deo Vindice Award - Johnny L. Anderson



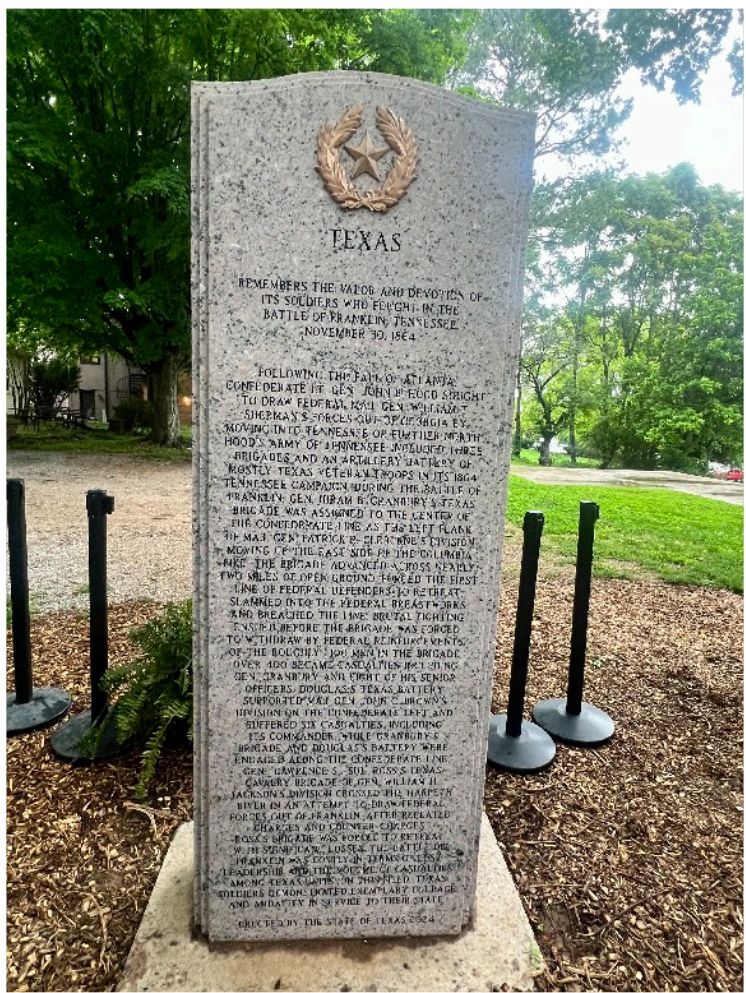
Johnny Anderson
Deo Vindice
Award Winner!



128th TEXAS DIVISION REUNION
SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS
MINERAL WELLS JUNE 6-8, 2025

hosted by: SCV Camps:
34th Texas Cavalry #2283-Palo Pinto County
2nd Texas Frontier #1904-DeLeon

With the support of
Texas Society Order of Confederate Rose™, INC.
CACTUS ROSE #23 (DeLeon)
PAINTED ROSE #66 (Mineral Wells)



Proudly showing the colors in Tennessee!

The Texas Historical Commission Dedicates Monument to Texas Soldiers at Franklin, TN

May 13, 2024



TX Division Commander Hurley and 1st Lt Commander Shelby Little



In front of monument with Commander in Chief Jason Boshers



130th Annual Reunion
Sons of Confederate Veterans
Houston TX
July 16-20, 2025



Houston Marriott South Hobby Airport
9100 Gulf Freeway, Houston, TX

**Full Reunion Details, Make Hotel Reservations
and Convention Registration Online:**

<https://www.scv130.com>

To Call For Hotel Reservations
713-943-7979

Use Reservation Code:
SCV 2025 National CO

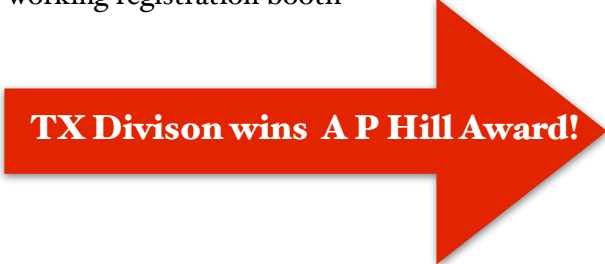
Hosted by the Texas Division SCV



Texas Division Delegation Attends National Reunion in Charleston, SC, July 17-21, 2024



TX Compatriots working registration booth





Alamo City Guards Camp #1325
Commander Christian Lee



Confederate Rifle Squad

November 10, 2024

Tejano
Confederate
Monument
Dedication

San Antonio, TX



Priest Blessing the Monument



Local Girl Scouts Bring In The Colors



November 9, 2024 Members of Texas Division
SCV participate in the Weatherford
Veterans Day Parade



Congratulations to past Texas Division
Commander John McCammon on his election
as our new ATM Commander!

From the Bookcase of Michael Hurley...

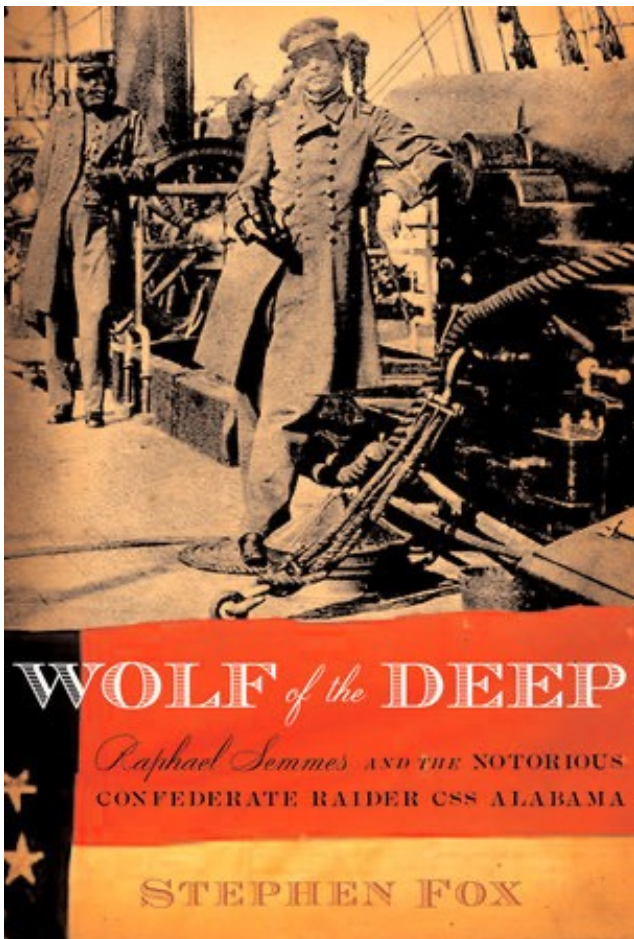
Wolf of the Deep...

Raphael Semmes and the CSS Alabama

by Stephen Fox

This book is one of my favorites, I have read it twice in the last couple of years! The book details the electrifying story of Captain Raphael Semmes and the famed CSS Alabama. The Alabama was a Confederate naval vessel that destroyed Union ocean shipping and took more prizes at sea than any other raider in naval history.

In July 1862, Semmes received orders to take command of a secret new British built steam warship, the Alabama. At it's helm, he would become the most hated and feared man in the yankee ports up and down the Union coast.



Stephen Fox does a masterful job of mixing both the story of the men who manned the Alabama, with just the right amount of detailed information as it relates to the ship's cutting edge technology and innovative design, which made the Alabama so fast and feared.

You get the vivid sense of the excitement and danger of the time, as Fox tells the story of the ship and crew's remarkable wartime exploits. From vicious naval battles off the coast of France, to plundering the cargo of Union ships in the Caribbean, this is a thrilling tale of an often overlooked chapter in the war of Northern Aggression.

I give it 5 stars!



James E. Bozeman Texas Division Chaplain



Dear Compatriots and Friends,

On behalf of the Texas Division, I wish you all a very Happy Thanksgiving!!

We are Southerners, and our Confederate forefathers had great Christian values that they instilled in us and that we still live by today. These values run in our blood.

That said, I find it very sad that this great country of ours has set aside only one day a year to give thanks when we should be giving thanks to God every day of our lives. Even so, this great day of Thanksgiving has become a day of gorging ourselves on turkey and watching football. Even the stores have forgotten about it. The commercialization of Halloween and Christmas makes Thanksgiving all but forgotten. Think about it – the store shelves are full of Halloween decorations, costumes, and candy; then, on November 1st, the store shelves are stocked with Christmas decorations and gift ideas. I remember when I was young, you could find Thanksgiving decorations on the store shelves between Halloween and Christmas, but that is nearly completely gone now. Other than food items, such as turkey, ham, cranberry sauce, and stuffing, Thanksgiving is an afterthought.

So, I urge you to remember that we should be thanking God for all of the blessings He gives us on a daily basis, and not just once a year. Every day He gives us is another blessing.

“In every thing gives thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.”

1 Thessalonians 5:18

May God bless you and your family now and in the days, months and years to come.

In Christian Service,

James E. Bozeman
Texas Division Chaplain

**Top 10 Reasons
To Bring A Friend To The Next SCV Meeting**
By W. Michael Hurley

1. Our camp's future depends on our recruiting the members and leaders of tomorrow.
2. Many of our neighbors and friends are descendants of brave Confederate soldiers and are not aware.
3. Inviting new members fulfills our duty to defend the historical truth of the reasons our Confederate Grandfathers fought.
4. The S.C.V. is the oldest and most influential defender of the Confederate soldier's good name. Growing the organization strengthens that defense.
5. Your Camp does a lot of good in our local community. More can be done when others join us.
6. New members add ideas, energy, and talents to your camp.
7. Hundreds of Confederate graves lie in cemeteries all over Texas. Growing the camp helps ensure those brave men are not forgotten.
8. The fellowship and friends we enjoy within our camp enrich our lives.
9. We need your help. If you do not help the Texas Division grow... **Who will?**
10. Just as our forefathers answered the call to defend Texas, we, their sons and grandsons, must be willing to answer the call to duty.



The Texas Division is Growing!!

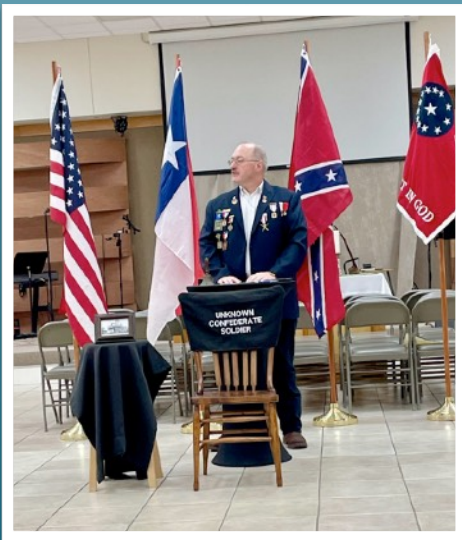


New Camp Chartered in Boerne, TX!



New Boerne Camp Commander Chuck Hand

**Two New Camps Chartered
in the Texas Division...**



**New Lampassas Camp
Commander Michael Oliver**



New Camp Chartered in Lampassas, TX

Texas Division Erects New Monument at Historic Oakwood Cemetery in Richmond, VA



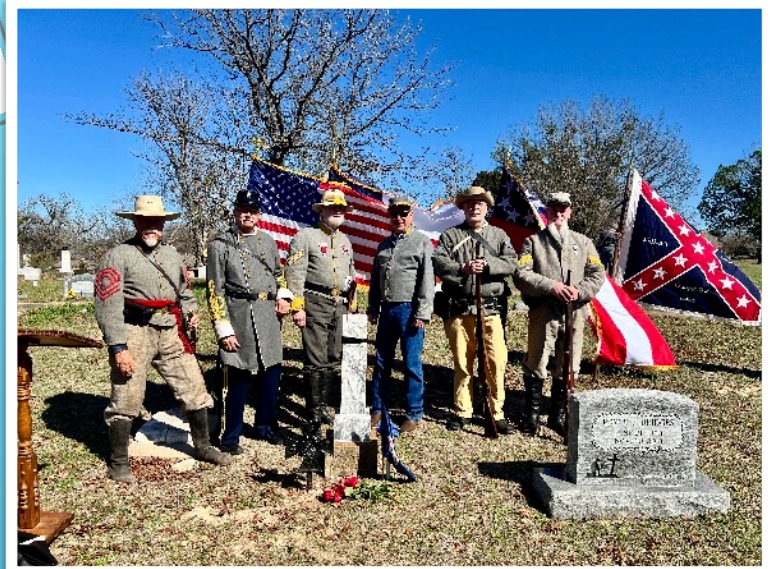
November 15, 2024. Assisted by several members from the Virginia Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, we erected a replacement monument dedicated to Texas soldiers buried at historic Oakwood Cemetery in Richmond, Virginia. The original monument, a symbol of their bravery, was established in the 1910s by the local Ladies Memorial Association. For unknown reasons, the monument disappeared over 60 years ago, but the dedication of the **Texas Division Sons of Confederate Veterans** has brought it back to life.

Thanks to the members of the Texas Division Sons of Confederate Veterans. Your annual dues to the Division funded the monument that, once again, proudly stands over the graves of our brave Texas soldiers.



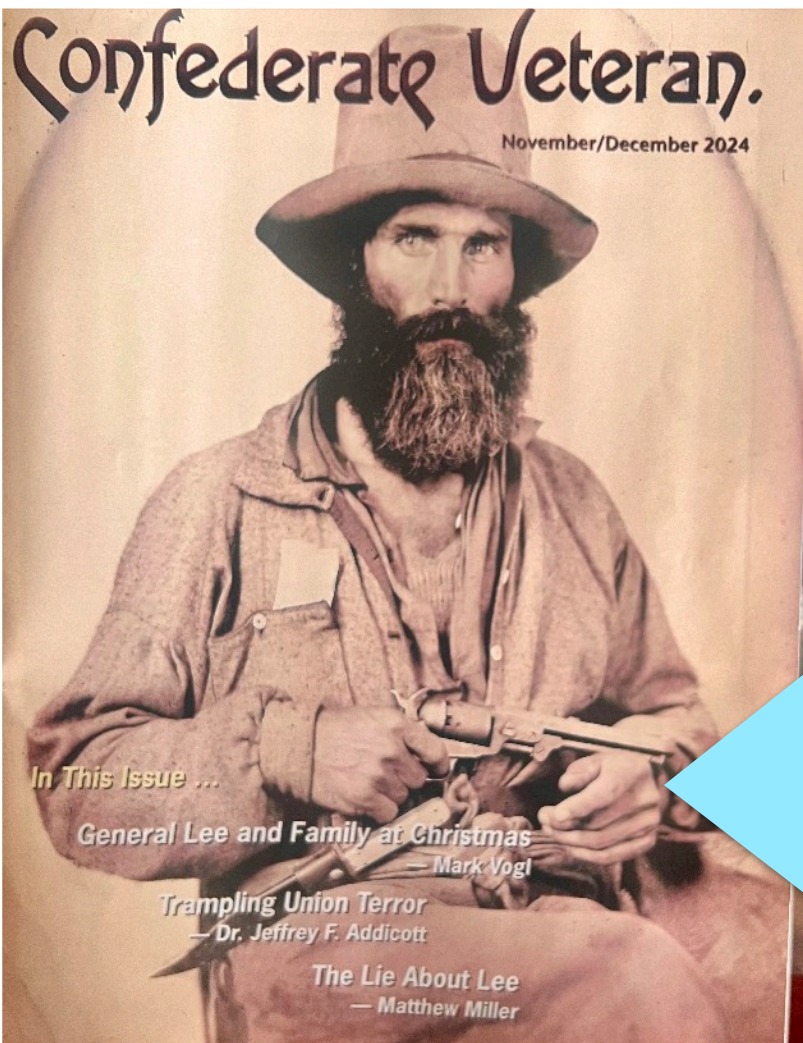
Commander Hurley with Vice-President of the Texas Division Children of the Confederacy

Mary Page Jones



From (L-R) Compatriots Calvin Allen, Billy Pribble, Shelby Little, Jim Cox, Allen Hearrean, and Festus Alcock take part in the Iron Cross Ceremony for

**Pvt Edwin Stone Collins,
Staunton Hill (VA) Light Artillery**



In This Issue ...

General Lee and Family at Christmas
— Mark Vogl

Trampling Union Terror
— Dr. Jeffrey F. Addicott

The Lie About Lee
— Matthew Miller



Lest We Forget - Confederate Monument located on the Courthouse lawn at Corsicana, TX

Congratulations Mark Vogl!!

Texas Division Compatriot Mark Vogl recently had an article published in the latest issue of the Confederate Veteran!



- ◆ **January 4, 2025** - Texas Division Executive Council Meeting, Waco, TX
- ◆ **January 18, 2025** - Ft Worth Stock Show Parade
- ◆ **January 19, 2025** - Confederate Heroes Day, Official Texas State Holiday
- ◆ **January 25, 2025** - Robert M White Camp #1250 Lee Jackson Dinner, Temple, TX
- ◆ **April 19, 2025** - Texas Wide Confederate Heritage Month Celebration at the Confederate Reunion Grounds, Mexia, TX
- ◆ **June 6-8, 2025** - Texas Division Reunion in Mineral Wells, TX
- ◆ **July 16-20, 2025** - 130th Annual National Reunion, Houston TX



How Do I Join The Sons of Confederate Veterans?

The SCV is the direct heir of the United Confederate Veterans. Organized at Richmond, Virginia in 1896, the SCV continues to serve as a historical, patriotic, and non-political organization dedicated to ensuring that a true history of the 1861-1865 period is preserved. Membership in the Sons of Confederate Veterans is open to all male descendants of any veteran who served honorably in the Confederate armed forces. Membership can be obtained through either lineal or collateral family lines and kinship to a veteran must be documented genealogically. The minimum age for full membership is 12, but there is no minimum for Cadet membership.