



# The Southern Advocate

The Quarterly Newsletter of the  
Oklahoma Division

Sons of Confederate Veterans

<http://oklahomascv.org/>



*"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. Gen. Stephen Dill Lee, Commander General, United Confederate Veterans, New Orleans, Louisiana, 1906)*

Volume 9, Number 1

Winter Quarter

January – March 2017

## Oklahoma Division Convention – April 22

### Commander's Comments

Ken Cook, Division Commander

This has been a good first quarter for the Oklahoma Division. We had a good DEC meeting at McCloud on February 4, and on March 4 – Confederate Flag Day – we had a great Flag Day rally at Shawnee. About 150 Southern patriots from the SCV and UDC, along with a few guests, attended. Confederate flags were in abundance and the attendees were exuberant about waving them, if not a sea of red, at least a lake.

We have a new camp chartered at Ringling. It was made possible by the hard work of Camp Commander Brandon Thompson and Indian Nations/Red River Brigade Commander Virgil Chain. Commander Chain and Compatriot Robert Findley, a member of Camp Col. Jackson F. McCurtain of Moore, are currently working diligently to form a camp at Altus. (Compatriot Findley lives in the Altus area.) They had a table at a gun show at Altus on February 12 and received good response from local men who professed interest in the SCV. Division membership now exceeds 400 and continues to grow.

We are now approaching Confederate Memorial Day season. Some camps already have programs and speakers lined up. We encourage all camps to hold a Memorial Day service or partner with another camp for a service. This is the most important camp level event on the Confederate calendar. There is no excuse or reason for a camp not to hold a Memorial Day service to remember and honor our Confederate soldiers. It requires a little planning effort and an hour or two out of a year of 8,760 hours to attend the service.

The next important date for the Division as a whole is the Convention and Reunion on April 22 at Shawnee. We will meet in the same location we have for the past several years. We ask that every member make a serious effort to attend the Convention. Remember, we are a fraternal organization. It would benefit everyone to fraternize with, and become acquainted with, fellow compatriots from other camps.

The Oklahoma Division Convention and Reunion will be Saturday, April 22, in Reunion Hall South on the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Campus, located at 1702 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, Oklahoma.

Coffee and donuts will be available at 9:00. Brigades will meet at 9:45; the Convention will begin at 10:00.

Every Oklahoma SCV member should make a special effort to attend the Convention and meet fellow compatriots. A convention agenda will be circulated to camp commanders in the next few days.



## SCV National Reunion

N. B. Forest, Camp 215, of Memphis will host the 2017 Reunion of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, July 18-23, at the Memphis Cook Convention Center in downtown Memphis. The primary hotel is the Sheraton (downtown). The overflow hotel is the Crowne Plaza.

The Reunion is within reasonably easy driving distance, which will hopefully enable many Oklahoma Division compatriots to attend. For more information, go to the official Reunion website at <http://scvmemphis2017.org>.

## Dues Proration Period

We are now in the period of the national SCV's fiscal year when a member can be enrolled for a prorated membership fee for the remainder of the 2016-2017 year. Proration is based on the new member paying membership through July 2018. For example, a half-year's prorated fee of \$15, plus the full \$30 fee for the 2016-17 year will pay a new member through July 2018. That's a savings of \$15. This can be an important recruiting tool, and it will commit a new member through July 2018.

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## Calendar of Events

April	– Confederate History Month
April 22	– Oklahoma Division Convention – Shawnee
May 29	– National Memorial Day
June 14	– National Flag Day
July 4	– Independence Day
July 18-23	– SCV National Reunion – Memphis, Tennessee

## Oklahoma Division Website

Please regularly visit the Oklahoma Division website for updates and other contact information on division officers, brigade commanders, camp officers, camps, camp meetings and much more. For membership information, click on the "How to Join" tab on the Home Page. Prospective members may contact Bob Woodall, Jr. at [boba2j@aol.com](mailto:boba2j@aol.com) or 918-704-8782. Also, remember the Division Facebook page, and visit it regularly.

## Altus Recruiting Event

The Oklahoma Division sponsored a gun show at Altus on February 11-12 to determine if there is any interest in the area for an SCV camp. We are pleased to report that we received considerable interest. Jerry Patrick, Division Quartermaster and Commander of Camp Col. Jackson F. McCurtain of Moore, Indian Nations/Red River Brigade Commander Virgil Chain and Camp McCurtain compatriot, Robert Findley, organized the show. Compatriot Findley lives in the Altus area and is very interested in organizing a camp there. He is following-up with the prospects.



Jerry Patrick (R) with an unnamed interested party at the gun show.



Robert Findley manning the recruiting table

## Important Changes in Membership Dues and Dues Proration

On March 15, the SCV Adjutant in Chief issued an important announcement approved by the General Executive Council pertaining to dues renewals and proration. These notices were forwarded to Camp commanders on March 13. The approved changes are effective August 1, 2017.

In summary, the current ninety-day grace period for dues renewal has been shortened to thirty days. Dues proration for delinquent members has been eliminated.

Camp commanders must be sure that all their members are aware of these changes long before the end of the SCV fiscal year, July 31, 2017. Failure to pay dues within the new thirty-day grace period will require a reinstatement fee of \$5 for each delinquent member. Remember, dues must be received by National SCV by August 31, which means member dues must be received by camp adjutants in time for them to mail the dues to National for receipt by August 31. If this change is handled properly, potential confusion should be minimized, if not eliminated.

These changes also place additional responsibility on Camp commanders to begin efforts to contact members about membership renewal as you will no longer have the luxury of ninety days to accomplish this.

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## New Year's Greetings from ATM Councilman Maples

Gentlemen of the ATM,

As we begin a new year, I want to take this opportunity to wish you, your families and the SCV a happy and successful 2017. It seems that attacks on our heritage and our ancestors continues to come at us from all directions and although we sometimes get battle-weary, we fight on. Our ancestors did, and so must we as well.

Over the last several months I've had the privilege and the honor to serve at you ATM Councilman. I must tell you that the work that the General Executive Council is real, and it is pressing. Hardly a day goes by that there is not some form of communication that takes place, dealing with both internal and external concerns of the SCV. It should be said that the men of the GEC take their respective jobs seriously, always being cognizant of what is best of the SCV and what is best in terms of honoring our Confederate Ancestors.

Moving forward into this year, I want to offer my pledge to continue to work for you. My heart will always be in this organization - the Sons of Confederate Veterans. As you know, General S. D. Lee passed the torch to us, the Sons... and our responsibility is great. Undoubtedly, many of us will agree and sometimes even disagree about how we maintain the Honor of our Ancestors, and that is to be expected. But

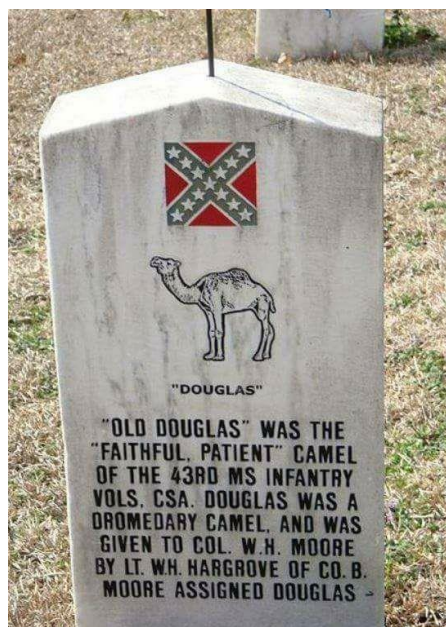
ultimately, we come from the same blood... Confederate blood! We will stand together, fight together and we will persevere together.

So, I ask you now for your continued support and your prayers. I ask you for your willingness to be a "participator" in our glorious organization. And I ask you for your steadfast faith in God and your faith in the SCV. We are the benefactors of a glorious heritage... we are the descendants of Confederate Heroes!

Blessings to you and yours,

Darrell L. Maples, Executive Councilman  
Army of the Trans-Mississippi

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Oak Hill Cemetery – Vicksburg, Mississippi  
(Contributed by Mason Page)

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Confederate Artillery – 45<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Museum  
Oklahoma City

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## DEC Winter Meeting

Ken Cook, Division Commander

The Oklahoma Division's winter DEC meeting was held at Curtis Watson's Catfish Restaurant at McCloud on Saturday, February 4. We had a good turnout of DEC members, along with several non-DEC compatriots and guests. Roger Quarles Mills Brigade Commander Kevin Easterling representing the host Camp, Captain Clem Vann Rogers of Oklahoma City, welcomed members and guests. Division Chaplain, Frank Gilbert gave the invocation and Color Sergeant Steve Stricklan led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance and Salute to the Confederate flag and recitation of the Charge.

The first order of business was to recognize the members of Camp William Price of Ringling, the Division's newest camp. That was followed by the roll call of DEC members. The meeting then got down to business with Commander Cook giving a report on the State of the Division.



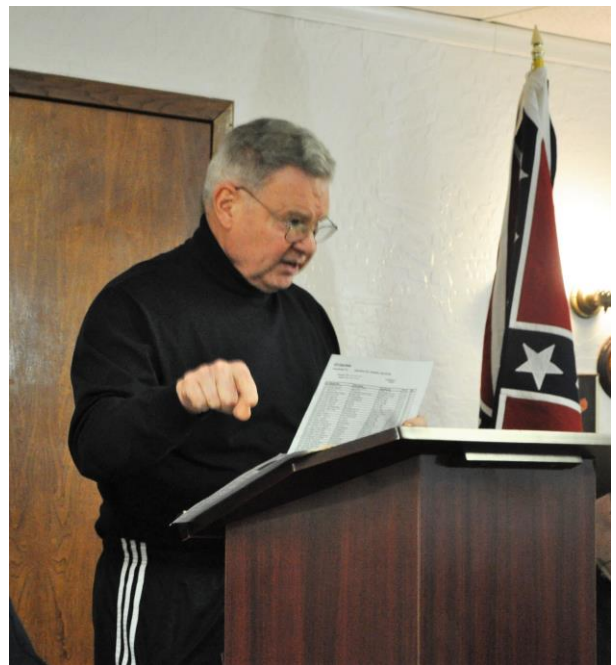
Commander Cook addressing the DEC

Division Lt. Commander Cash, Chairman of the National Reunion Committee, gave a report on the Committee's work regarding the possibility of the Division hosting a future National Reunion. The DEC accepted the Committee's recommendation to put a hold on the project, pending future research for a more favorable site than the ones studied and one that is priced reasonably.

Past-Division Commander Larry Logan, Chairman of the Flag Day Committee, and Committee member, Past-Division Commander Allen Harrison gave a report on the March 4<sup>th</sup> Confederate Flag Day Event. Past-Commander Logan, Chairman of the Harold Tydings Award Committee, presented that committee's report. After discussing several options the Committees offered, members recommended the Committee continue working on the final Award Guidelines, incorporating the revisions decided upon by DEC members.



Lt. Commander Cash reporting to the DEC



Past-Commander Logan reporting to the DEC

Commander Cook read the summation and goals of the Strategic Plan for 2017-18, and DEC members voted to recommend the Plan to the next Convention. The Plan had previously been distributed to DEC members, who had a chance to review it prior to the DEC meeting.

Color Sergeant Stricklan led the group in Dixie. Chaplain Gilbert offered the benediction, and the meeting was adjourned.

## Confederate Memorial Day

Ken Cook, Division Commander

We are approaching the time of year when all across the country, SCV camps will commemorate Confederate Memorial Day. But, how many of us will pause to reflect on the true meaning of the day, other than just the rote response: honoring our Confederate ancestors? That, of course, is true, but maybe there's a deeper meaning. Several years ago, I gave the following address at a Camp McIntosh Confederate Memorial Day service. I believe it's worth repeating here and may contain a deeper meaning for why we commemorate Confederate Memorial Day.

By the summer of 1865, our long and terrible war among ourselves was over. Almost 650,000 American soldiers died during its course. Although the guns were now silent, a large part of the Southern landscape was still literally littered with the war dead. The bones of thousands of fallen soldiers lay unburied on old battlefields. Other thousands were interred in makeshift, often, unmarked graves, some having been hastily buried by their comrades, while others had been dumped into mass graves in hurried efforts to get them underground before the corpses began to decompose. Most of them were unidentifiable, their fate never to be known by their families.

With the war over, the Federal government rather quickly began efforts to locate Union dead in the South, but had no interest in making the same effort to locate and identify Southern dead. Southern soldiers were treated as foreign enemies. Their graves in the North were often desecrated and their families impeded from visiting them or recovering the remains for reburial near their homes. It must be said that many Southerners behaved just as shamefully towards Union soldiers buried in the South. During the five years after Appomattox, Congress appropriated \$4 million to locate and properly re-inter Union soldiers' bodies, but not one cent for Confederates. In April 1866, Congress passed a joint resolution to create a national cemetery system for Union soldiers, what they called the "Nation's Dead". Confederates would be excluded, not considered part of the nation's dead. A thick cloud of bitterness and even hatred hung low over the country after the War. A great many people of the North considered Southerners to be traitors and unworthy of any consideration, particularly the war dead. Southerners regarded Northerners, particularly the soldiers, as invaders and despoilers of their country and their war dead equally unworthy of consideration in the South.

The editor of the Richmond *Examiner* was outraged at the idea that the government of a nation that had been forcibly reunited would define Southerners, including dead Confederate soldiers as outside that nation. He proclaimed in one of his blistering editorials that if the Confederate soldier "does not fall into the category of the 'Nation's dead' he is *ours* – and shame be to us if we do not care for his ashes." With

that challenge ringing in their ears, in May 1866, a group of Richmond women met to organize the Hollywood Cemetery Association. Mrs. William McFarland, who was installed as president of the association, proclaimed "in their dying" Confederate soldiers "left us with the guardianship of their graves." With that mandate they got to work. First, they began the repair of the eleven thousand soldiers' graves that had been hastily dug in Hollywood Cemetery during the War. They then began collecting thousands of bodies from nearby battlefields.

Across town, the Ladies Memorial Association for the Confederate Dead of Oakwood undertook similar work for sixteen thousand Confederate graves in Oakwood Cemetery and the Hebrew Ladies Memorial Association dedicated themselves to caring for the graves of thirty Jewish soldiers buried in Hebrew Cemetery. The custom of decorating graves and holding an annual commemoration, which evolved into Memorial Day, began to occur. One of the first was at Magnolia Cemetery in Charleston. Different dates for this commemorative day were established in different states in the South: April 26, the date Joseph E. Johnston surrendered his army, considered by many to be the actual end of the war; May 10, the anniversary of Stonewall Jackson's death; May 30 or 31, because fresh flowers would be abundant; and June 3, the birthday of Jefferson Davis.

Associations similar to the Richmond groups were organized all over the South. Stonewall Jackson Cemetery was created at Winchester, Virginia, where almost twenty-five hundred dead were collected within a fifteen-mile radius of the town and re-interred. Women of Nashville purchased land in an existing cemetery to establish what they called a Confederate Circle for re-burial of Confederate dead in their area. The Ladies Confederate Cemetery Association of Vicksburg oversaw the re-interment of sixteen hundred soldiers. Women of the Confederate Memorial Association of Chattanooga did the same in their area as did similar associations in Atlanta and Marietta, Georgia, Petersburg and Fredericksburg, Virginia and many other places all across the South. Between 1871 and 1873, the Hollywood Cemetery Association oversaw the re-interment of 2,935 Confederate bodies from the Gettysburg battlefield. Most of the bodies collected by the various associations were unknown and from all areas of the South. The Hollywood Cemetery Association early on set the proper tone by declaring that, regardless of where a soldier was from, he "belonged to us". In addition to the work of the various cemetery associations, individual families removed thousands of Confederate soldiers from northern graves and southern battlefields to be re-interred in private cemeteries near their homes. Over 30,000 Confederate dead, mostly prisoners of war, are now respectfully interred in national cemeteries all across the North.

We are not only the sons and daughters of Confederate soldiers, but we are the spiritual descendants of Mrs. William McFarland and the hundreds of other Southern women who took up the task of locating fallen Confederate soldiers and

giving them honorable burials. It is our duty to carry on their work, not of locating bodies of our Confederate soldiers and honorably re-burying them. That work has been done. It is our duty to remember. We all have Confederate ancestors lying far from us, maybe in locations that we don't even know, or among the thousands of the unknown dead. We would all be gratified to know that groups such as ourselves take a little time one day in the springtime of each year to gather to remember them and speak a few meaningful words in recognition of their service.

The Confederate soldiers buried in Oklahoma are mostly not our personal ancestors. Most of them were not born in what would become Oklahoma or fought their battles here. They came here after the war from places far away, far from their birthplaces and far from their families, so they might renew their lives. Other than what's carved on their grave-stones, we know little or nothing of most of them, yet "they are ours – and shame be to us if we do not care for their ashes". We are the guardians of their graves.

Several camps hold impressive and meaningful Confederate Memorial Day services each year. Too many do not. You don't need a cemetery filled with Confederate graves or a monument to hold a Confederate Memorial Day service. You need only one grave. Most, if not all, Oklahoma communities in which a Camp is established has at least one Confederate grave in the community, or nearby. There is no excuse for a Camp not to conduct a Memorial Day service, either by itself, or jointly with another Camp, not just attend, but help organize the service and participate in it. Beginning now, Camp commanders should get busy planning and organizing a Confederate Memorial Day service to celebrate the lives, and honor the service, of our Confederate soldier ancestors. Shame be to us if we do not care for their ashes. They belong to us; we are the guardians of their graves.



*"The living have the cause of the dead in trust".*

Osman White, World War II  
Australian War Correspondent

## Message from the Chaplain

Division Chaplain Frank Gilbert

### STAND TALL

In the Bible, Ephesians 6:13 tells us "Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand." So, as believers we realize that we need the whole armor of God to make our Spiritual stand. But, as Sons of Confederate Veterans what do we need to **STAND TALL** in this time of political correctness and censorship? Here are a few pointers that I believe will help us in our endeavor.

1. We most definitely need the whole armor of God, too. I am fully convinced that as members of the SCV, we have aligned ourselves to be a part of the Lord's army. Read Ephesians, Chapter 6, and it will reveal to you what that armor consists of.

2. Continue to study the truth about the War Between the States. I encourage **ALL** Compatriots to purchase and read the book, "To Live and Die in Dixie." As a member, you can order it for \$10 on [www.scv.org](http://www.scv.org). It's a most excellent book, and it will arm you with truth and knowledge, which are an unbeatable combination.

3. Continue to fellowship with other Compatriots. Make every effort to attend camp meetings and get involved. You will benefit, and your presence will benefit the camp as well. There is strength being around others of like precious faith.

4. Lastly, be courageous. Our enemies would like for us to sit down, shut up, and go away quietly. We need to inform them that instead we will proclaim the truth boldly, and we will **STAND TALL**. That's why **ALL** of us need to make every effort to attend Confederate Flag Day, our Division Convention in April, and other prominent events as they become known. These events give you an extra boldness by attending them that you don't get just sitting behind a computer screen. Get out and about and involved.

By **STANDING TALL** together, we **WILL** make a difference! God bless Dixie, and God bless the Oklahoma Division. If you ever need prayer, to talk, or just a word of encouragement please don't hesitate to contact me. My email is [frankg168@aol.com](mailto:frankg168@aol.com). My cell number is 580-467-5349. If I don't answer right away, please leave me a message, and I will get back with you. It is my pleasure to serve the Lord Jesus Christ, the Sons of Confederate Veterans, and you, my fellow Oklahoma Compatriots.



## Mississippi Rifles

Ken Cook, Division Commander

This issue concludes the series of the currently active army units with a direct lineage to regiments that served the Confederacy. Very few of the hundreds of militia units that were organized for Confederate service during the period, 1861-65, have survived to this day. All Confederate and state militia units were mustered out of service or disbanded immediately after hostilities ended in the spring of 1865. In the past several editions of the newsletter, we have reviewed the histories of all known units that have survived and are still active units of various National Guard organizations: Chatham Artillery, Stonewall Brigade, Portsmouth Artillery, Richmond Howitzers, Norfolk Light Artillery Blues, 1<sup>st</sup> Maryland Infantry (The Dandy Fifth), 4<sup>th</sup> Alabama Infantry, 1<sup>st</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> North Carolina Infantry (The Bethel Regiment), 1<sup>st</sup> Kentucky Infantry, 2<sup>nd</sup> Kentucky Cavalry (Morgan's Men), Washington Artillery of New Orleans, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Louisiana Voluntary Infantry, 5<sup>th</sup> Virginia Infantry, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Georgia Cavalry Battalions consolidated into the 5<sup>th</sup> Georgia Cavalry Regiment and Arizona Scout Company.

The West Virginia National Guard's 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 150<sup>th</sup> Armored Regiment descends from colonial militia. During the War for Southern Independence, various companies joined Virginia Confederate or West Virginia Union regiments, depending on their sympathies. The 150<sup>th</sup> Armored Regiment is descended from a mixture of those Union and Confederate companies. Of the fifteen states that furnished troops for the Confederacy, eight – Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Missouri, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas – currently do not have an active guard unit with a lineage from a distinctive Confederate unit. Kentucky and Maryland have existing units with a lineage to both Confederate and Union militia units. The only current Missouri guard unit with a lineage to the War has a Union regimental lineage. The Oklahoma National Guard is descended from the Oklahoma Territorial Guard, which did not include what was then still Indian Territory in the eastern half of the future state.

One of the most historic Southern militia units not organized as a distinctive regiment during the War of Southern Independence was the 1<sup>st</sup> Mississippi Volunteers, "Mississippi Rifles". The 1<sup>st</sup> Mississippi is worthy of mention in this series because it was the regiment commanded by Colonel Jefferson Davis during the Mexican War.

The Regiment was originally organized as the Mississippi Territorial Militia in 1799 for the purpose of defending against Indian attacks. It was active in the 1<sup>st</sup> Creek War and provided men for Andrew Jackson's defense of New Orleans in 1815. During the Mexican War, as the 1<sup>st</sup> Mississippi Volunteers, the regiment, under the command of Colonel Davis, served in General Zachary Taylor's Army in northern Mexico.

The regiment acquired its name, "Mississippi Rifles", because it was the first in American history to have an officially issued rifled musket, the M1841 Mississippi rifle, instead of a

smoothbore musket. The men of the regiment were also distinctively uniformed. They wore red shirts, white duck trousers, and black slouch hats.

It was at Buena Vista that the regiment inadvertently received its motto, "Stand Fast". As it was preparing to receive a charge of Mexican lancers, Davis shouted to his men, "Stand fast, Mississippians". They did, and the American army defeated the numerically superior Mexican army and drove it from the field.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Mississippi Volunteers apparently dissolved into independent militia companies and ceased to exist as an organized regiment after the Mexican War. Several county companies of the old regiment may have formed the nuclei of several Mississippi regiments raised in 1861. The 1<sup>st</sup> Mississippi Infantry organized in 1861 was recruited exclusively from northeast Mississippi and has no known connection to the old 1<sup>st</sup> Mississippi Volunteers.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Mississippi Volunteer Infantry was reconstituted in response to President McKinley's call for volunteers for Spanish-American War service. The regiment saw no combat as the war was over before it could be shipped to Cuba. The regiment returned to Mexico with General Pershing's punitive expedition against Pancho Villa in 1916. In World War I, under the Army's new federalization system, the regiment was designated the 155<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment and fought in France with the 39<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division. During World War II, the Regiment was part of the 31<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division, a National Guard division with units from Mississippi, Louisiana, Alabama and Florida. The Division served under General Douglas MacArthur's command, engaging in extensive combat in New Guinea and the southern Philippines.

During the 1950s, all of the regiment except the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion was deactivated. Today, the 155<sup>th</sup> is a mechanized infantry regiment of the 155<sup>th</sup> Armored Brigade Combat Team. Most recently, the Mississippi Rifles served in Bosnia and has served two tours in Iraq.



Regimental Crest



Coat of Arms

155<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment (Mechanized) "Mississippi Rifles",  
155<sup>th</sup> Armored Brigade Combat Team, Mississippi National Guard



## Camp News and Activities

The Oklahoma Division's newest camp is **Camp Pvt. William Price** of Ringling. Ringling is southeast of Duncan, in the Indian Nation/Red River Brigade. Check their page on the Division website for more information. The Camp has a three Real Grandsons among its membership.

The Division leadership congratulates Commander Brandon Thompson for his initiative in organizing the Camp. The core membership transferred from the Camp at Ardmore, but three of the Camp's founding members are new to the SCV. We heartily welcome these new members into the SCV and the Oklahoma Division.



Pvt. William M. Price's grave in Dixie Cemetery in rural Stephens County



**Camp Shelby's Oklahoma Iron Men** of Duncan has an annual program called *Confederates for Christmas*, in which they place Christmas wreaths on Confederate veterans' graves in the area. The above wreath placement was at Dixie Cemetery. Camp Pvt. William Price Real Grandson, Hamp Baker, is standing with the wreath to the right of his grandfather's gravestone. There are twenty known Confederate graves in the cemetery.

**Camp Pvt. Drury Warren** of Ponca City held its January meeting at the Ponca City Library on Saturday the 7<sup>th</sup>. Featured speaker was Division Commander Ken Cook. Camp Commander Charley Wilson introduced three of the Camp's newest members. The Camp also has a new (and excellent) website: <http://camp2180.okscv.org>.



New members (L to R) Troy Duplissey, Cole Chandler and Theo Floyd with Commander Wilson





Commander Bruce Bishop presenting Compatriot John Killon with his SCV Membership Certificate at Tulsa's **Camp Col. Daniel N. McIntosh's** meeting on January 12.

On Saturday, January 21, **Camp Pvt. Drury Warren** of Ponca City held a camp meeting at Coffeyville, Kansas to accommodate its many members who live in the Coffeyville and South Coffeyville, Oklahoma area. Division Commander Ken Cook was the featured speaker. He spoke on the importance of defending our Confederate heritage, the meaning of the Charge, recruiting and retention. Division Past-Commander Allen Harrison, also a guest at the meeting, spoke on the Oklahoma Division Flag Rally held at Shawnee on March 4.



Some of the Camp's newer members (L to R): Conn Davis, Johnny Dodson, Ted Nations, Gil Rose and Commander Charley Wilson



Moore's **Camp Col. Jackson F. McCurtain's** newest member, Compatriot Bruce Withrow, proudly displaying his SCV Membership Certificate at the Camp meeting on January 17. He is flanked by Commander Jerry Patrick (L) and Lt. Commander Rocky Waddell.

**Camp Captain James J. McAlester** of McAlester held its first meeting of the year on January 21. The meeting included the Camp's Lee-Jackson banquet (shown below). Camp elections were also held, and all current officers were re-elected. The Camp acknowledged their newest, and third, SCV Life Member. Commander Couch presented the program, "Thomas J. 'Stonewall' Jackson".





On January 21, **Camp Col. Tandy Walker** of Shawnee held its monthly meeting. Ms. Judith Davis, Friend of the SCV, presented the program, "John Caldwell Calhoun". Commander Allen Harrison presented the camp's new member, Com-patriot Donnie Knight, with his SCV Membership Certificate.



Commander Harrison present Donnie Knight with his SCV Membership Certificate



Ms. Judith Davis, a collateral descendant of John C. Calhoun, presenting the meeting program



**Camp Captain James J. McAlester** had a recruiting table at a gun show at the Southeast Expo Center in McAlester on Saturday, February 11. Lt. Commander Patrick Self, Adjutant Steven Ward and Chaplain Bob Pattison manned the table.

The high-light of **Camp Captain James J. McAlester's** meeting on February 18 was the members' approval for the Camp to enroll in the Pride in McAlester's Adopt-A-Block program. The Camp adopted an area of town generally referred to as "Lee Park", established by the United Confederate Veterans in McAlester's early history. The UCV camp was led by Dr. D. M. Hailey, one of McAlester's most notable early citizens. The park swimming pool is named "Jeff-Lee Pool" after McAlester's Jeff-Lee UCV Camp #68 (**Jefferson Davis and Robert E. Lee**). This property is more closely tied to Confederate history than any other in the city. Special thanks to Ms. Stephanie Giacomo, Executive Director of Pride in McAlester, for helping the Camp with the selection of their block.

Adjutant Steve Ward finished creating a Prospective/New Member Camp Manual and presented the first one to James C. Nevals, a prospective member who came to the February meeting after visiting the Camp table at the McAlester gun show a week earlier.

**Camp Col. Tandy Walker** of Shawnee held its February meeting on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Besides the Camp's election, which returned Commander Allen Harrison to office as Commander and Adjutant, the principal item of business was Commander Harrison's report on the Camp's recent gun show participation. The Camp had a recruiting table at the Gands Gun Show in Shawnee on February 11-12. Commander Charley Wilson of **Camp Pvt. Drury Warren** of Ponca City assisted at the gun show. Commander Wilson collected seventeen names and information on Saturday, and Commander Harrison collected

twenty-four on Saturday and Sunday. The Camp has already signed-up one man and has several being researched. Commander Wilson has several in the process of committing to the SCV, in addition to a man he recruited for the Shawnee camp at the Ponca City gun show. The Camp recruiting table was well received by those attending the gun show, and the show operator invited the Camp to the next show in August. Division Lt. Commander Rex Cash presented the program at the February meeting.



Lt. Commander Cash presenting his program, "The Election of 1864"

**Camp Col. Jackson F. McCurtain** of Moore has several activities planned for the months of April and May.

The Camp has organized a guided tour of Honey Springs Battlefield on April 1. The tour will be led by a Battlefield staff member. It will be approximately a two-hour, walking tour. Attendees should gather at the new visitor center which will not be finished, then go past the Blues Club on the Rentiesville Road, and instead of turning north to the monuments, continue straight ahead to the center. The tour starts at 11:00 a.m. and should be over around 1:00. For those interested, the group we will eat at some nearby location after the tour.

On April 6-7, Camp McCurtain will have a recruiting tent at the Single Action Shooting Society Southwest Regionals at the Oklahoma City Gun Club located in northern Oklahoma County.

Camp Moore will hold a Confederate Memorial Day service on Saturday May 27 (Memorial Day weekend) at Naples Cemetery in northern Grady County. They will mark the grave

of the seventeenth Confederate veteran buried in the cemetery, Pvt. Martin Wilson, 15<sup>th</sup> Arkansas Infantry. Indian Nations/Red River Brigade Color Guard will provide the firing party. The service will begin at noon.



Directions to Naples Cemetery: Go west from the intersection of State Highways 76 and 39 south of Blanchard, then go east from Chickasha. Most are dirt roads when you get off Highway 39. All SCV and UDC members are invited to attend these Camp McCurtain events. For more information about Camp McCurtain's upcoming activities, contact Camp Adjutant Larry Logan at [larry\\_logan@hotmail.com](mailto:larry_logan@hotmail.com).



At its monthly meeting on February 21, **Camp Col. Jackson F. McCurtain** of Moore welcomed its newest member, Compatriot Gary Brewster (above), flanked by Commander Jerry Patrick and Lt. Commander Rocky Waddell. Oklahoma Divi-



sion Lt. Commander Rex Cash (below) presented the meeting program, "The Election of 1864".



**Camp Pvt. William Price** of Ringling held its February meeting at the Ringling Community Center on Saturday, the 25<sup>th</sup>. After the opening ceremonies, Division Commander Ken Cook presented the Camp Charter to Commander Brandon Thompson.



Commander Cook presenting the Camp Charter

After presentation of the Charter, Indian Nations/Red River Brigade Commander Virgil Chain administered the oath of office to Commander Thompson. Commander Thompson presented Camp Certificates of Appreciation to three members of the Camp, including two of their three Real Grandsons. (The third Real Grandson was unable to attend.) Division Lt. Commander Rex Cash presented the program on the meaning of the Confederate Battle Flag.



Commander Brandon Thompson and Chaplain Gary Thompson (left) and Real Grandson Hamp Baker with their Certificates of Appreciation



Brigade Commander Chain administering the office of office to Camp Commander Thompson





Real Grandson Guy Kerley receiving his Certificate of Appreciation



Division Lt. Commander Cash presenting the program

Tulsa's **Camp Col. Daniel N. McIntosh** compatriot, Brandon Porter, of White City, Oregon, located and marked the heretofore unmarked graves of Pvt. Angus William Atterbury, 8<sup>th</sup> Missouri Infantry, and his wife and son. They are buried in Mountain View Cemetery, Ashland, Oregon.



Brandon Porter at the grave of Pvt. Atterbury



**Camp Col. Daniel N. McIntosh** of Tulsa, along with the UDC's Sarah Watie Chapter of Tulsa, will hold its annual Confederate Memorial Day service on Saturday, May 20. Guest speaker will be SCV Oklahoma Division Lt. Commander Rex Cash. The service will be at the site of our Monument to the Confederate Soldiers of Indian Territory in Rose Hill Memorial Park, 4161 E. Admiral PL. The service will begin at 11:00 a.m. and last about an hour. All SCV and UDC members are invited. Please contact Commander Bruce Bishop at [littleddixie-works@att.net](mailto:littleddixie-works@att.net), for more information about the service. (Please bring a chair, if you wish to sit.)





At the March 14 meeting of **Camp Col. Daniel N. McIntosh of Tulsa**, Commander Bruce Bishop presented the Camp's newest member, Ryan Christopher Crawford, with his SCV Membership Certificate. Ryan's son Gabe is on the left.

At the March meeting on Tuesday, March 21, **Camp Col. Jackson F. McCurtain** Commander Jerry Patrick presented new member, Robert Findley, Jr., with his SCV Membership Certificate.



(L. to R.) Robert Findley, Sr., Commander Jerry Patrick, Robert Findley, Jr., Lt. Commander Rocky Waddell

The guest speaker at the March 18 meeting of **Camp Captain James J. McAlester** was Past-Division Lt. Commander and retired U.S. Coast Guard Commander, Harold Tydings. His presentation was entitled "On the Other Side of the World", the story of CSS *Shenandoah*. (Photo below.)



**Camp Col. Jackson F. McCurtain** held a Cross of Honor dedication for Pvt. Joseph M. White, 1<sup>st</sup> Mississippi Cavalry, at Connerville Cemetery in Johnston County on Saturday, March 25. Several family members, including great-grandson Joe White, a member of Camp McCurtain, attended.



Oklahoma Division Quartermaster and Commander of Camp Col. Jackson F. McCurtain of Moore has volunteered to fill out the term of former **Fort Washita Brigade** Commander Doug Ridner. Commander Ridner resigned from the position because of work conflicts.

Commander Patrick will be visiting the camps within the Brigade over the next few months. He will be available to assist camps any way he can, including helping with gun shows or other camp recruiting activities.





## Heritage News

### Victory at Charlottesville

Contributed by Charley Wilson – Courtesy of the Virginia Flaggers



The City Councilman behind the effort to remove the Robert E. Lee memorial in Charlottesville has resigned from his position as a teacher at Albermarle High School. This follows community outrage after a Charlottesville author exposed numerous vulgar tweets on Bellamy's "Vice-Mayor" twitter account containing sexist, racist, homophobic and misogynistic comments, and comes just weeks after Virginia Governor, Terry McAuliffe, forced Bellamy to resign from the State Board of Education last month, after McAuliffe commented that he was "horrified by the content" of the tweets.

Wes Bellamy was placed on administrative leave by the Albermarle County School Board shortly after the vile tweets surfaced, and his resignation comes after outrage from parents and the community, and in spite of efforts by the Albermarle-Charlottesville NAACP to influence the school board's decision. In a letter sent to the Albermarle County School Board earlier this month, NAACP President Rick Turner urged Bellamy be taken off administrative leave and returned to the classroom.

In contrast to swift action by the Governor and the Albermarle School Board, Charlottesville City Council members have refused to ask for his resignation from City Council, expressed their devotion to Bellamy, and vowed to stand behind him. At a City Council meeting earlier this month, Charlottesville councilmen, instead of condemning Bellamy and calling out his openly racist, homophobic and sexist comments and behavior, chose instead to launch vicious personal attacks against the man who exposed the tweets, as well as anyone who dared to speak out and call for his resignation.

As we reported last week, City Councilmen will meet in January to discuss the recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Commission on Memorials and Race, a commission that was formed solely based on the prejudicial demands of Wes Bellamy and Kristen Szakos to tear down the Robert E Lee monument and rename Lee Park. Based on the revelation of the true character of Mr. Bellamy, and the obvious racist intentions behind the entire stunt, the logical next step would be to abandon any and all discussion of monument removal or

alteration. Since City Council has made it clear that they intend to move forward instead of stepping back, removing Bellamy from office by recall is the next logical step, and would serve as a strong statement to others who may be tempted to make similar attempts, across the Commonwealth and beyond.

### Update

Wes Bellamy's motion to move the Robert E. Lee statue failed 2-2 vote, at their regularly scheduled on January 16, with Bellamy and Szakos voting to move the monument, Galvin and Mayor Signer voting to keep it in place, and Fenwick abstaining. Kristen Szakos, the woman who first called for removal of the monument, has announced she will not run for reelection.

At a Council meeting on February 6, members voted to 3-2 to go forward with the removal of the statue. The matter will now move to the courts. The victory is not quite secured.



Susan Hathaway, Virginia Flaggers

### SCV Historical Celebration

"A historical celebration hosted by the Sons of Confederate Veterans will take place at the Connerville Cemetery on Saturday, March 25, starting at 1 p.m. The program will feature the dedication of the Southern Cross of Honor for Private Joseph M. White of the 1<sup>st</sup> Mississippi Cavalry. The firing party will be provided by the Indian Nations/Red River Brigade. Family members will be in attendance, and the public is welcome to attend. The event is sponsored by Col. Jackson F. McCurtain, SCV Camp 513 of Moore."

*Editor: The foregoing was published in the Johnston County Capital Democrat at Tishomingo in advance of the Cross of Honor dedication. Not all newspaper publishers are hostile to us.*

## Letter to the Editor

The publisher of the Shawnee *News-Star* published an editorial in the March 5 edition of his newspaper “justifying” his decision not to publish any announcement of the Oklahoma Division’s Confederate Flag Rally held on March 4 at Shawnee, or to cover the actual event. His “justification” was the usual tripe about how the flag is offensive, represents racial hatred, bigotry and so on. Oklahoma Division Lt. Commander Rex Cash responded with the following letter to the editor.

Sir,

It doesn’t trouble me you didn’t cover the Sons of Confederate Veterans Rally. As you say, it’s your paper. What does alarm me is your unjust and unprincipled argument for not covering it. You claim your decision was “based on my belief the Confederate Battle Flag is a symbol of racially based hate” and your “core beliefs” therefore prevented you from covering the rally. Surely then they also dictate you not cover stories involving the U.S. Flag as it has a much longer and bloodier history with any offense you dare level at the Confederate Battle Flag.

How do you reconcile your “core belief” with the fact it was the U.S. flag, not the Confederate Battle Flag, that presided over notoriously racist government policies like the Supreme Court decisions in 1857 and 1896 that ruled blacks were not citizens, had no rights and upheld the constitutionality of segregation? It was the U.S. Flag that flew over the infamous Tuskegee syphilis experiments, a segregated military until 1947 and segregated public school system until 1954. But you teach your child the Confederate Battle Flag is the symbol of racial hatred!

The KKK didn’t hijack the Confederate Battle Flag until about 1950. There have been 4,742 lynchings in the U.S. All but 13, or 99.8%, occurred before 1950. Prior to that, the one and only flag of the KKK was the US flag. But you teach your child the Confederate Battle Flag is the symbol of racial hatred!

Perhaps, it is best you didn’t cover the rally. There was hatred and bigotry there. It was brought there by protestors so blinded and enslaved by political correctness they can’t see the facts. Adopting the tactics of the KKK, some hid their faces under masks while others stooped to derogatory names and malicious insults clearly intended to injure. On the other side were the Confederate Battle Flag supporters, gathered peacefully and respectfully to honor the noblest of human qualities, devotion to duty, courage, sacrifice and love of family. It might be difficult to reconcile to your readers that reality with your “core beliefs.” It would be even more difficult to explain to one’s child that the former group was good and represented fairness, and the latter group was bad and represented hate. Yes, I can see why you didn’t put yourself in that position.



## GENERAL HEADQUARTERS Sons of Confederate Veterans “Historic Elm Springs”

Compatriots,

Attacks on our Heritage continue. As most of you are aware, a recent 3 to 2 vote by the city council in Charlottesville, Virginia has resulted in an approval for removing the monument to Robert E. Lee. The State of Virginia has a law in place that protects historical monuments, and it is evident to us that the actions by this city council are in direct violation of that law.

Commander in Chief Strain has been in contact for the last couple of days with the Virginia Division Commander, and a plan of action is being formulated in response to this atrocious attack on our Heritage, our history and our hero, General Lee. Litigation by the Sons of Confederate Veterans is a certainty if this decision is not reversed immediately and Commander Strain has pledged the full support of the SCV to the Virginia Division in this impending legal battle.

If Camps in your Divisions wish to assist financially in these efforts, you can send donations to SCV Headquarters in Elm Springs with a notation that it is for the Virginia litigation fund and we will ensure that the money gets to the proper channels.

Deo Vindice,

Carl Jones  
Chief of Heritage Operations  
Sons of Confederate Veterans

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## OBU Removes Confederate Flag Pane from Stained Glass Window in Chapel

Late last year, Oklahoma Baptist University President, Dr. David Whitlock, announced that he had ordered the removal of a pane that featured the Confederate Battle Flag from the university’s Raley Chapel’s stained glass window.



Ms. Carla Hinton is the Religion Report for *The Oklahoma*, Oklahoma City's principal newspaper, with the largest readership in the state. On December 8, she published her initial article on the subject. She reached out to the Oklahoma Division for comment. She contacted Division Commander Ken Cook and Division Past-Commander Larry Logan. Commander Cook asked Division Chief of Heritage Operations Bryce Hill to

respond. Compatriots Logan and Hill were articulate and to the point in enunciating our position

Ms. Hinton's follow-up article is shown below. We believe her article is balanced and fair. We appreciate her balanced reporting, something we don't usually see around the country. See her article below.

2D SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2016

# Symbols resonate in different ways



Carla Hinton  
chinton@  
oklahoman.com

RELIGION EDITOR

My stained glass window story in a recent edition of *The Oklahoman* had so many different facets to it that there's still more information to share.

The story on Thursday focused on Oklahoma Baptist University's decision earlier this year to remove an image of the Confederate battle flag from a stained glass window on campus. In an interview, David Whitlock, the university's president, said the image was removed because it was a source of distraction, and some on campus were troubled by it because it has connotations of racism.

Whitlock said he received little criticism over the matter, but that censure was mainly aimed at him because he is a descendant of a Confederate soldier who happened to be at two historic engagements, the Battle of Gettysburg and at Appomattox, with Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee.

I reached out to members of the Sons of Confederate Veterans Oklahoma Division to get their comments for my story, but we didn't talk in time for their views to be part of the article.

Once I did talk to two members of the group, they did have viewpoints



Stained glass windows are featured in Raley Chapel on the campus of Oklahoma Baptist University in Shawnee. (PHOTO PROVIDED)

they wanted to share.

Metro-area resident Larry Logan, immediate past commander of Sons of Confederate Veterans - Oklahoma, said an Episcopal church in Richmond, Virginia, took images of Confederate Gens. Lee and Stonewall Jackson off their stained glass windows several years ago, and he is as disappointed with OBU's decision as he was with the Virginia church's.

"It is their decision to make, but it's disappointing to us because we take a great deal of pride in being descendants of Confederate soldiers," Logan said.

Logan and Bryce Hill, of Tulsa, the group's chief of heritage operations, said openly racist groups like the Ku Klux Klan and neo-Nazis have misappropriated the Confederate flag so much so that many people have linked the flag to racism.

Hill said the organization's national headquarters sends "cease and

desist" letters to such groups in attempts to curb this misuse of the flag.

Logan said these groups unfortunately seem to get all the media attention.

Hill said he was disappointed that an institution of higher education did not understand the flag's history as a "soldier's flag," and one with a religious connection. He said the Confederate battle flag was developed using a version from the Scottish flag, the flag of St. Andrew.

"It was a religious flag and it was carried by soldiers," Hill said, some of them black and American Indian, as well as white.

Logan said the group will continue to stand by their ancestors and the flag they fought under.

"Whenever a Confederate symbol or a flag or something is removed, it does bother us a great deal. We understand why people are doing it because it's the politically and socially correct thing to do, but we're

going to stand in support of our ancestors," Logan said.

"We lost the war. We're one country today. But we didn't lose who our ancestors were; they're still our family, we still love them and we haven't lost who we are. We're descendants of Confederate soldiers, and we're real proud of that."

## More going on

What's interesting about all of this is that the image removal project at OBU is not an isolated incident.

In September, the Washington National Cathedral in Washington, D.C., site of the annual National Prayer Breakfast, replaced two images of the Confederate flag in stained glass windows.

In other parts of the country, statues of Confederate leaders and heroes have become a bone of contention in recent years.

One last footnote: While the Washington National Cathedral removed the images of the Confederate flag from stained glass windows there, the cathedral's leaders have said they think a suggestion to remove images of Confederate Gens. Lee and Jackson in stained glass windows should be discussed further.

All of these situations lead me to this conclusion: Symbols resonate in different ways, with different people.



## Pointers on Manning a Recruitment Table

Commander Charley Wilson

If you're interested about recruiting for the Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCV). Here's are some questions and answers that might help:

*Is it better to have a table against a wall, or an island table?*

I'm not sure which is better; however, I prefer a wall to put up another Confederate flag(s) or banner. The facility might have rules against using the wall.

*– Beside flags and books, are there other items used for display?*

I like the book *The South Was Right!* and/or *The Real Lincoln*. They're easy to see and some men know of these books. A framed SCV Certificate is a good item to display on the table for show & tell. A "Confederate Veteran" magazine or two. An SCV logo. An SCV cap. A few brochures are good, except I'm kinda stingy with 'em. I don't always have the same ole stuff on the table at a Gun Show and one doesn't really need a whole lot of things – but we really must sell 'em on their Confederate ancestor and that the SCV which was established by "their" Confederate ancestor. The SCV is for them – not as a history club, but we stand for the true history.

*– Is there a key person to contact at the SCV IHQ for brochures, flyers, etc. to hand out? I assume it's necessary to have membership application forms and family lineage chart forms (with clipboards).*

It's not necessary to have Application Forms or Lineage Chart Forms at Gun Shows unless you want to. Bryan Sharp is the man at IHQ. He's the membership coordinator.

*– Any special phrases used to get people's attention?*

Learn this: "Do you have a Confederate ancestor? By the way, don't say SCV. Say and use the name Sons of Confederate Veterans.

*Do you have any hecklers or naysayers? If so, how did you handle them? Ignore them? Challenge their knowledge?*

I've never had a heckler but once in a while a socialist or Republican/Yankee will say something. Counter them with the truth. I talk to blacks, whites, Indians – all kinds. I've recruited a half Eskimo, half Japanese, a Mexican who was raised in Mexico and living in USA, and a black in Oklahoma City.

*Anything else I should know?*

You can get a gray (or whatever color) cloth for the table at Hobby Lobby or Walmart. Just find what you want and have them cut it to length. Twelve feet or four yards should be enough to use at Gun Shows or any other type shows. I have a rule that no drinks or food are allowed on the table. It's messy, besides we're there to recruit, not to have a picnic. Stand up when manning an SCV table. You don't want guys there sitting around in chairs, shooting the bull and watching you and the people passing by. I've been on my feet for entire shows. Dress appropriately. You don't need a uniform. We're not re-enactors. Have clear tape, push pins, stenographers tablet, pen(s), business cards. Duct tape is good to have on hand. You'll be writing down names, telephone/cell numbers, email address, grandparents etc. I do genealogy so that's why I do it like that. I don't think most men want to fill out forms at a Gun Show. They're not familiar with the form, and you really don't have that much time to take with prospects. Last year, I had only two (2) men who pulled out their billfold with the money to join right there. One didn't know his ancestor and the other did, but afterwards we had to research for Confederate service and verify, so I never go to a Gun Show expecting to sign up any man that day. We're looking for prospective members at Gun Shows (Of course, it's good public exposure too). You can make your own 'handout' about your Camp and contacts. Make it on Word. Make copies. Try to keep it simple, with not much stuff. Two men manning the table is enough, or a show by yourself. We need more recruiters in the SCV, and we need leadership that strives to keep the SCV as right as they can. This is the organization that our Confederate ancestors established. Our Confederate ancestors were right.



Commander Wilson, **Camp Pvt. Drury Warren** of Ponca City and Compatriot Steve Sanders, **Camp Col. William Penn Adair** of Bartlesville at a Gun Show at Dewey Oklahoma, 2016.



Inauguration of Jefferson Davis as Provisional President of the Confederate States of America – Alabama State Capitol – February 18, 1861.

## Formation of Confederate Government

Contributed by Division Historian Bently Couch

On February 22, 1862, the permanent Confederate government was formed. The date was chosen to correspond to the birthday of George Washington, another Southerner who fought for independence. Until this date, the government had been a provisional government. President Jefferson Davis was sworn in as president at Richmond, Virginia.

In his inaugural address, he said, “The experiment instituted by our revolutionary fathers, of a voluntary Union of sovereign States for purposes specified in a solemn compact, had been perverted by those who, feeling power and forgetting right, were determined to respect no law but their own will. The Government had ceased to answer the ends for which it was ordained and established. To save ourselves from a revolution which, in its silent but rapid progress, was about to place us under the despotism of numbers, and to preserve in spirit, as well as in form, a system of government we believed to be peculiarly fitted to our condition, and full of promise for mankind, we determined to make a new association, composed of States homogeneous in interest, in policy, and in feeling.

True to our traditions of peace and our love of justice, we sent commissioners to the United States to propose a fair and amicable settlement of all questions of public debt or property which might be in dispute. But the Government at Washington, denying our right to self-government, refused even to listen to any proposals for a peaceful separation. Nothing was then left to do but to prepare for war”.



Statue of General Robert E. Lee – Statuary Hall – U.S. Capitol  
Placed by the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1909

“The interests of the State are therefore the same as those of the United States. Its prosperity will rise or fall with the welfare of the country. The duty of its citizens, then, appears to me too plain to admit of doubt. All should unite in honest efforts to obliterate the effects of war, and to restore the blessings of peace. They should remain, if possible, in the country; promote harmony and good feeling; qualify themselves to vote; and elect to the State and general Legislatures wise and patriotic men, who will devote their abilities to the interests of the country, and the healing of all dissensions. I have invariably recommended this course since the cessation of hostilities, and have endeavored to practice it myself.”

Gen. Robert E. Lee August 1865

(Contributed by Division Historian Bently Couch)



## Oklahoma Division Flag Rally

On Saturday, March 4, at Veterans Memorial Park in Shawnee, the Oklahoma Division held its second annual Confederate Flag Day Rally. The theme of the Rally was "It's Personal with Us, Here's Why". The weather was a little less than expected, but easily endurable. The Flag Rally Committee – Larry Logan, Rex Cash and Allen Harrison – did a superb job organizing and executing the Rally. Camp Col. Tandy Walker of Shawnee hosted the Rally. Camp Commander Harrison opened the event by welcoming the attendees and reading a statement advising anyone in attendance to leave if they were there to promote racism or racial superiority or any other such belief. No such person was in attendance. After opening ceremonies, which included posting the colors, invocation, salute to the Confederate flag, reading the Charge to the Sons of Confederate Veterans and the singing of "Dixie", Commander Harrison turned the rally over to Division Lt. Commander Rex Cash, who served as Master of Ceremonies. Division Commander Ken Cook read the SCV Flag Resolution adopted by the SCV in 2010. This was followed by several speakers who spoke on why the flag was personal to them. The Rally was closed by an eighteen-gun rifle salute to the Confederate Flag by the Indian Nations/Red River Brigade Color Guard, the singing of "Dixie" and the benediction. About one hundred-fifty or so Southern patriots turned out for the Rally. Twelve of the Division's camps were represented. We had a few hecklers, often loud and screechy, but otherwise orderly. We thank the Shawnee Police Department and the Pottawatomie County Sheriff's Office for their presence to ensure an orderly event.



Allen Harrison, Commander  
Camp Col. Tandy Walker



Rex Cash, Lt. Commander  
Oklahoma Division



Arlene Barnum  
Friend of the SCV



Kevin Easterling, Commander  
Roger Quarles Mills Brigade



Compatriot Andrew Duncomb



Frank Gilbert, Chaplain  
Oklahoma Division





Larry Logan, Past-Commander  
Oklahoma Division



Bryce Hill, Judge Advocate and  
Chief of Heritage Operations  
Oklahoma Division



Members of Camp Capt. James J. McAlester  
proudly displaying their Confederate flags



Indian Nations/Red River Brigade Color Guard




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*The Southern Advocate* is the voice of the Oklahoma Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, a non-profit organization of patriotic, historical, sectional and genealogical orientation, as a service to its Compatriots and their friends. Opinions reflect the views of the writers and are not necessarily a statement of the Division, SCV or their policies. Contents may be reproduced only when in the best interest of the SCV. Please direct articles, photos, comments, suggestions, etc. to the Editor at [khcook@cox.net](mailto:khcook@cox.net).

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