



COL. E. W. TAYLOR

SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS #1777

NEWSLETTER

Bedford, Texas.....January 2015

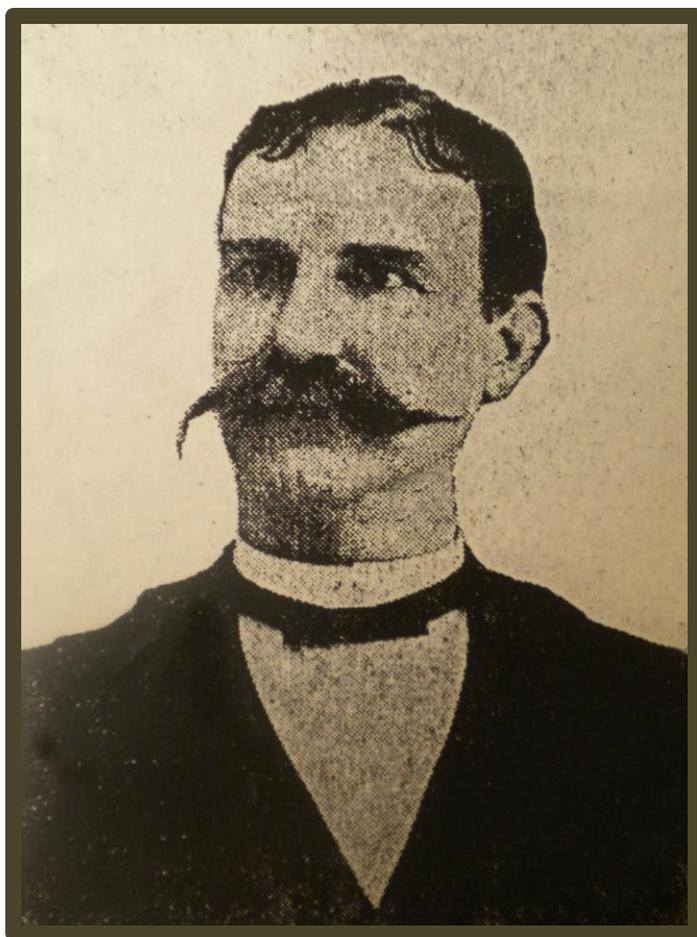
January Program

It's been more than three years since we had a program on Col. Taylor, for whom our SCV Camp is named.

Because we've gained a lot of new members in those three years we thought it was time.

Col. Taylor had only one child who lived to be grown and she had no children of her own. Louise Taylor Connery was active in public life and had a deep interest in history. We've always wondered what happened to her belongings after she died, especially those relating to her father.

We recently discovered she donated a number of them to the museum in Jefferson, Texas. Join us as we take another look at Col. Taylor. Lots of new information and photos will be included.



The Life of Col. Ennis W. Taylor

JANUARY MEETING: JAN. 29, 2015, Catfish and Company, 900 Airport Freeway #110
Hurst, Texas 817-581-3912 Eat at 6:00 Meet at 7:00 Out by 8:30

Our Wreaths for Confederate Soldiers in Arlington National Cemetery Set Dec. 13



You may recall several months ago when we responded to a challenge by Compatriot Bob Ruble and joined other SCV Camps in sending funds to decorate the graves of Confederates in Arlington National Cemetery. We received cordial thanks and an immediate email from Wreaths Across America.

On Saturday, December 27 Mr. Wayne Hanson, Arlington Wreath Project Coordinator, emailed us several photos of the wreaths in place in the Confederate section of the cemetery. We appreciate his kindness in being sure we got the pictures.



ALL ROADS IN TEXAS LEAD TO A PREMIER 19 GUN SHOW 72

Thanks to all the members of several area camps who came to help represent the SCV at the Fort Worth Gun Show on December 27-28. They included Calvin Allen, James Alderman, Kirt Barnett, Floyd Cox, James Floyd, David Nation, Wesley Perkins, and below: George Whitten, and Mike Patterson. We talked to some good prospects.



JOIN US AS WE MARCH IN THE FORT WORTH STOCK SHOW PARADE JANUARY 17

For the last two years the weather has been perfect for men marching in wool uniforms. The Fort Worth crowd loves us!!!

SCV members stage on the vacant lot just across Belknap Street from the north side of the court house. If you're there no later than 10:30 a.m. you'll probably be okay. There's nowhere to sit except the ground so long waits are hard on some of us.

Email Mike Patterson immediately if you think you might like to take part. He's at mfpchat@yahoo.com Mike will email you a liability release form you'll need to sign and return to him. All forms were to be completed by December 31.

If you didn't make the deadline print yourself a copy of the form, put "Third Brigade Sons of Confederate Veterans" on the organization line, and sign it. Bring it with you when you come to march in the parade that day.

For the past several years there has been free parking in the lots surrounding the intersection of Third Street and Pecan Street.

Unloaded black-powder long arms and blades are permitted. No handguns, not even black powder guns in holsters, are allowed.



A GOOD LOCAL OPPORTUNITY FOR SERVICE ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 18



Jack Dyess has asked the Taylor Camp if we might be able to furnish a musket squad on Sunday, January 18 for a brief memorial service at the statue on Soldier's Row in Oakwood Cemetery in Fort Worth. We'd need to be there no later than 1:45 p.m. This event is co-sponsored by the SCV and UDC.

Patterson has some stuff he can loan on a per-event basis: two gray wool kepis, a Richmond Depot II gray shell jacket, a wooljean gray shell jacket, and a gray-brown wool frock coat he can loan if you'd like to come and help. If you don't have a musket, you can carry a flag.

If you have other extra stuff you can bring to the event to let other men borrow for just that day, please bring it.

Stephen Dill Lee Institute Comes to Dallas in Early February

THE REAL RESULTS OF 1865

The Stephen Dill Lee Institute is pleased to announce that in 2015 we will be heading southwest to Dallas, Texas. The Institute will be held at the Double Tree Hotel on February 6-7, 2015 and will be hosted by the Texas Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

The hotel is located near the world famous Galleria shopping center. This is the first time we have held the Institute in the southwest and hope to have a whole new group of Institute followers. As you know there is nothing to compare with our Institute and its special brand of high intellectual content coupled with fun times.

The Double Tree is centrally-located in the Dallas metropolitan area. While in Dallas visit historic landmarks such as the Bush Presidential Library and Dealey Plaza, site of the JFK assassination. The famed stockyards and the Texas Civil War Museum at Ft. Worth are within driving distance of the hotel.



To register, go to the following site and click on “Register Now!”

<http://www.stephendleeinstitute.com/events.html>



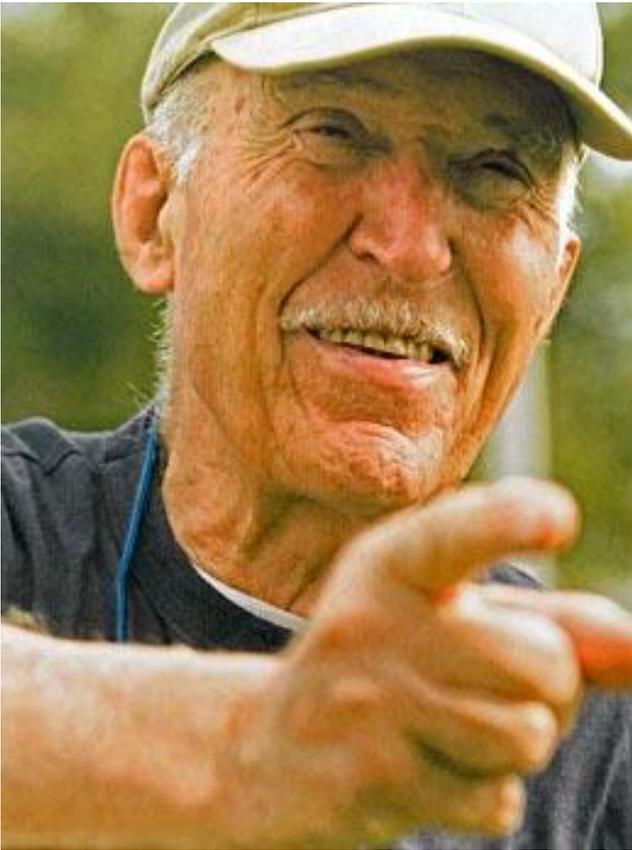
Confederate Symposium

1865 Sesquicentennial

May
8-9
2015

“Successful War, Honorable Peace, and Texas: The End of the Trans-Mississippi Confederacy”

Chatfield, Navarro County, Texas; 55 miles SE of Dallas off I-45



Four prominent WBTS historians have already committed to be at the symposium. The best-known among them is Ed Bearss (above), whose qualifications have never been and probably won't be surpassed by anyone, ever.

In the Spring of 1865 Texas Governor Pendleton Murrah admonished Texans that only by remaining united and steadfast could they achieve “Successful War” or “Honorable Peace.” This symposium will focus on activities in Texas in 1865.

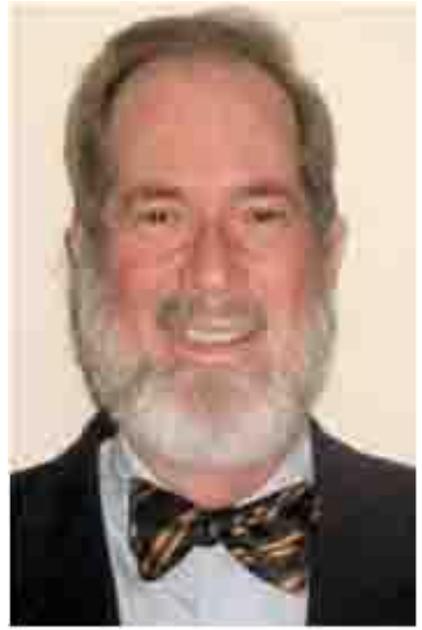
The Shelby Flag, above left, is believed to be a copy of the one which was carried at Chatfield, Texas and was finally buried with dignity in the Rio Grande

Jo Shelby's uniform, now on display at the Texas Civil War Museum in Fort Worth, has been requested for display, but has not been confirmed.

The Oklahoma Historical Society is loaning a copy of the Shelby Flag. Activities are being planned on both Friday and Saturday.

Cont. on next page

Confederate Symposium in May, cont.



Three other eminent WBTS scholars and writers have also sent word that they'll be there. Above, left to right: Dr. Richard McCaslin, Jeff W. Hunt, and Dr. Tom Cutrer. Don't miss the opportunity to meet these men, and others who will doubtless be there.

This event is co-sponsored by the Hodge-Martin-Chatfield Historical Museum, the Sons of Confederate Veterans Texas Division, and the William Henry Parsons #415 SCV.

Friday, May 8 activities include Pre-Symposium student activities, living history, a private dinner with speakers and a special lecture, and the display of Jo Shelby's flag and uniform.

For more information, contact Rob Jones at (903) 654-2066 or email him at shadows1865@msn.com
More information will be released soon.

Saturday, May 9 include activities with renowned scholars Ed Bearss, Dr. Richard McCaslin, Jeff W. Hunt, Dr. Tom Curter, and possibly others. There will also be exhibits, vendors, and a catered lunch.

LATEST NEWS ON TEXAS SCV LICENSE PLATES



WASHINGTON, Dec 5 [2014] (Reuters) - The U.S. Supreme Court on Friday agreed to weigh in on whether Texas officials should have approved a specialty license plate which displays the Confederate flag. It's set to be heard in March with a ruling expected by June.

Take your pick of places on the net to read about this by googling: "Texas Confederate license plate." A good place to start is:

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2014-12-05/confederate-flag-license-plate-case-gets-u-s-high-court-review.html>

MAY DATE SET FOR SCV TO HONOR GRAPEVINE'S CONFEDERATE MOTHERS

On Saturday, May 2, we're planning an event to honor the mothers of Confederate soldiers who are buried in Grapevine Cemetery. This is probably a first for any SCV camp.

When the War began, Sarah (Trimble) Foster, at right, watched five of the boys she'd help raise ride away to fight. Although she was their stepmother, she probably had more influence on some of them than did their real mother who died when they were young. She and her Mexican-War-vet husband, Thomas J. Foster, lived the last part of their lives in Grapevine where they lie buried.

Several other Confederate mothers, and even one Confederate grandmother, lived at Grapevine when they died. We thought it would be fitting, and a good way to let the community get to know us, if we staged a short remembrance service in which we recognized those fine women. We're planning on Saturday week before Mother's Day, so we won't be interfering with anyone's travel plans.

We're inviting some other groups in Grapevine to take part and help us, and the event is still in the planning stages. At the least, we'll have flowers and flags, a musket salute, and a short program in which we'll briefly introduce the pioneer ladies to our attendees. Please keep the morning of Sat., May 2 open.





Four of our folks represented the E. W. Taylor camp at the annual Christmas party cosponsored by the M. T. Johnson SCV Camp in Arlington and the Mid-Cities Bluebonnet UDC Chapter on December 13. They were, at left, Dana Gresham, Ja Ann Alderman, Bob Gresham and James Alderman, the photographer. The keynote speaker was Susan Hathaway of the Virginia Flaggers, shown below and below left.



**CHRISTMAS SCV/UDC EVENT
ARLINGTON DECEMBER 13**

Weatherford Christmas Parade

The Taylor Camp was represented in the parade this year by your editor, his granddaughter Katie Lewis, and his grandson, Cadet Compatriot Oliver Patterson. Thanks, too, to our cheering section: Doris and Tammy Patterson, and Sean and Christie Partee.

Dec. 6



Katie

Mike

Oliver

Compatriot Larry Martin, commander of the S. W. T. Lanham Camp, expresses his thanks to all thirty members of the SCV from several camps who took part in the parade.

MORE NEW FACES

TO GO WITH OLD NAMES ON OUR BEDFORD MEMORIAL



DELOS WILLIAM SIMPSON

Whenever you're replotting old ground always keep an eye out for something which has just worked its way to the surface. In late December while we were screening the Grapevine pioneer ladies who were mothers or grandmothers of Confederates, we began to find photos we'd never seen.

One we found was Delos W. Simpson, a Union vet who lived around Grapevine before he moved to Oklahoma and died.

We also found a photo of two brothers from Minter's Chapel: George Burgoon and Henry Burgoon. both of whom joined the Army here. George returned to Missouri. Henry remained here. This photo was probably taken when they were in Iowa attending their brother's funeral service in 1910.



AN ASTOUNDING LEAP FORWARD IN ONLINE LOCAL HISTORY RESEARCH

Early Tarrant County Tax Rolls Now Online!!!

For more than twenty years your humble editor has had his own personal roll of 16mm microfilm of the tax rolls. All he had to do was get to the Grapevine Public Library to use their microfilm reader. He can't count the times he's been challenged for walking out of a library with a roll of microfilm in his hand.

The old microfilm was negative...white writing on black background..., was very low-contrast, and the image was tiny. You had to borrow a microfiche lens and fit it to the microfilm reader. To read it you had to wear strong reading glasses, have a magnifying glass, and sometimes drape a dark cloth over you and the machine to cut out ambient light. It usually made other patrons stare. Once at the Fort Worth Public Library I stopped on the way home from work in my dirty clothes, and a policeman came to see if I was really doing research or was a street person trying to catch a few winks.

Luckily there was a lady there using one of the other machines who'd been at a program I'd given, and she vouched for me. It reminds us of the time Andie Rooney on "Sixty Minutes" told the story about being arrested during his college days for looking weird in the library. He tried to hide when he realized he was attracting attention. He remembered, "They picked me up by the periodicals. Have you ever been picked up by the periodicals?"

But back to the good news. These digitized images are positive...black writing on white paper, and have had their contrast punched up and the entire image lightened or darkened for maximum readability. They couldn't be any better. I have a binder full of paper copies I've made of some entire years, and now I don't need them. Click "Browse" on the following page:

<http://fortworthtexasarchives.org/cdm/landingpage/collection/p16084coll13>

Take a look at the next page. It's a reproduction of one page from the 1854 tax rolls for this county. It'll give you a whole new appreciation for the wealth of someone you already know.

Robert E. Lee SCV Camp in Fort Worth Will Replace Veteran's Broken Marker in Soldier's Row in Oakwood

R. E. Lee Commander Barry Turnage has ordered a blank granite upright from the quarry in Elbert County, Georgia. It'll probably be here on the next granite truck. R. E. Lee's gittin' 'er done.



John Henry Bolling was born in 1844 in Sumter County, Alabama. He married Cornelia Alice Wilson in 1865 in Holmes County, Mississippi. His service was in Co. D, 18th Mississippi Infantry. He told pension officials he moved to Texas in 1871 and to Tarrant County in 1883. His obituary at lower right describes his death in Fort Worth on November. 2, 1905.



When the Lee Camp members dug it out there was a lot more to it than originally thought.

DEATHS

J. H. ROLLING

J. H. Bolling, 61 years of age, a Confederate veteran, dropped dead in his place of business, 205 West Belknap street, Thursday night. At the time of his death his son was sitting near a table and heard his father cry out. He looked around just in time to catch his father, who was falling to the floor. Justice Rowland held an inquest and rendered a verdict of death due to heart failure.

GEARING UP TO GET US IN THE PARADES

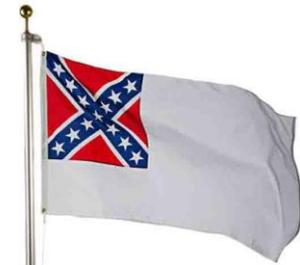
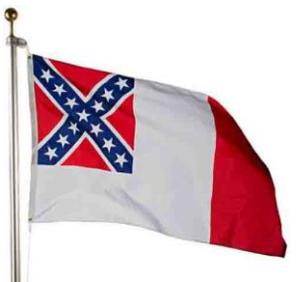
In the last weeks, this page went from an appeal for a trailer to borrow, to an appeal for a pickup and driver to borrow, to this proud announcement of a near fait accompli! That little kick in the britches of being denied a place in the parade in Grapevine has had some far reaching, positive benefits for the SCV.

Since last we met we now have the free loan of an excellent, large, new trailer whenever we need it, thanks to a couple we've known for decades in Colleyville. In fact, the lady (Ann Tinker Waller) is a direct descendant of Tarrant County's first permanent settler and has known this editor every day of his life. She is also a direct descendant of several of the soldiers on our memorial at Bedford.

While we sat at the SCV table at the gun show in Fort Worth on December 27, our own Compatriot George Whitten offered us the use of his pickup whenever we need it to pull the trailer in a parade. All we'll need to furnish is a driver.

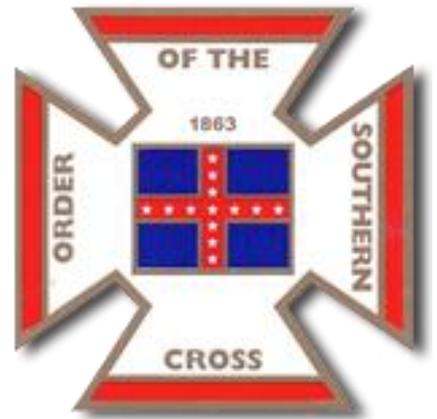
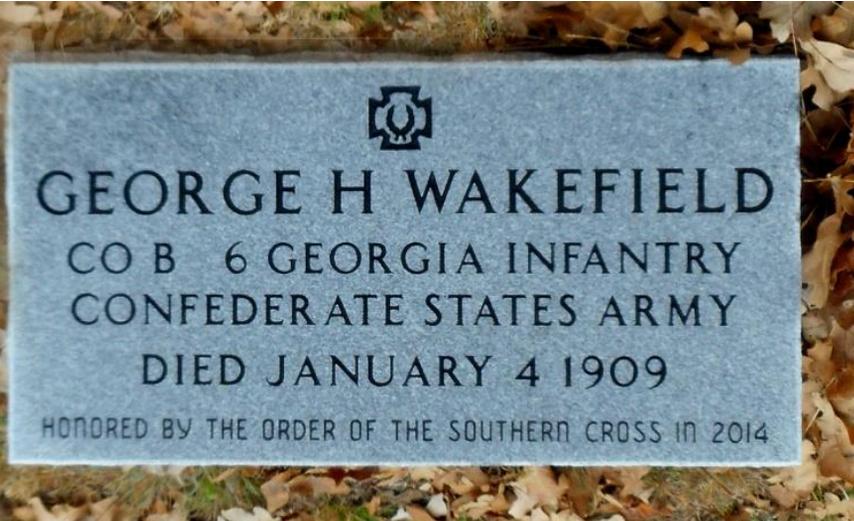
So we're almost set. We're working on having a banner for each side of the pickup and one for each side of the trailer; three of the four are now in hand. We're also getting a complement of flags for the trailer and the pickup, including a hand-sewn unique Grapevine Mustangs flag to use when we proudly ride down Main Street in the 2015 Grapevine Veterans Day Parade!!!

We don't have a cannon, but don't be surprised if we have a full-sized authentic cheval de frise by that time.

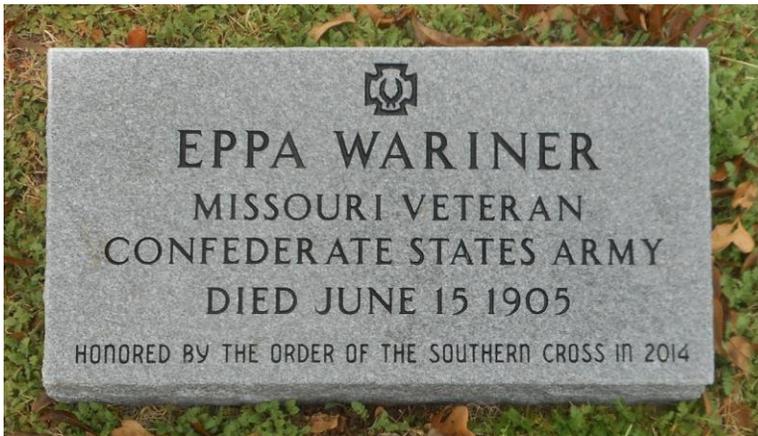
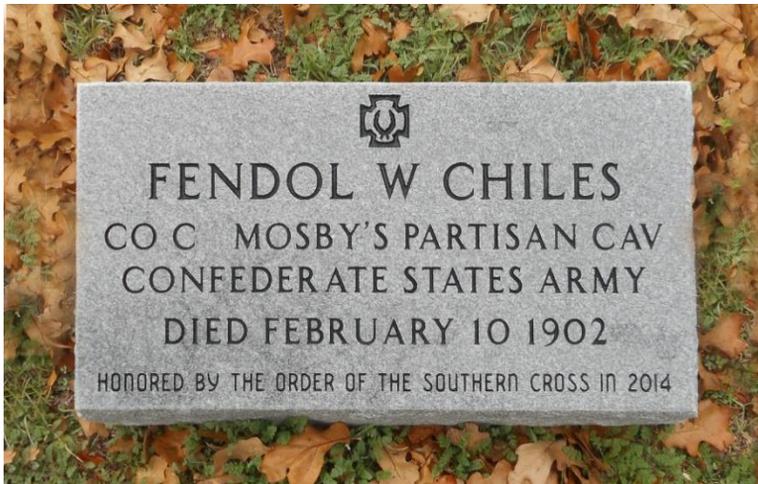


THREE MORE OAKWOOD VETS GET STONES, THANKS TO THE ORDER OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS

On the foggy morning of December 9 four of us installed numbers twelve, thirteen, and fourteen in our series of stones financed by the Order of the Southern Cross.



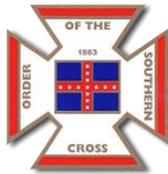
December 19th installs at Oakwood, cont.



We met at 9:45 a.m., and within one hour we were finished and on our way. Thanks to the installers... below left...Kent Mathews, Mike Patterson, and Commander-elect Bobby Gresham. Marilyn Patterson was the driver and the photographer.

For short biographical sketches of these three veterans, please refer to our December 2014 newsletter.

Our January installations will be in Mount Gilead Cemetery in Keller, then we'll be back to Oakwood for another round. Our continued thanks to the Society of the Order of the Southern Cross for making these stones possible.



FIVE KELLER VETERANS TO BE RECOGNIZED IN MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE AT MOUNT GILEAD

For several years now we've been invited to take part in the Memorial Day observance at historic Mount Gilead Cemetery in Keller. This year there'll be more Confederate flags there than before.

When Robert Wright died near Keller in 1877 his family laid him to rest beside his wife who had been dead only about six months. His family somehow got hold of two blank marble slabs and got a very talented amateur to engrave them. The years and vandals took their toll, and both rocks have been broken and lying flat for decades. As usual, Robert's broke across one of the date lines, which are an old stone's weakest point. Within a few years his death date will be

unreadable. We decided to make him a new stone and include his Confederate service in the inscription.

Wright enlisted at Denton and served in Co. A, 29th (DeMorse's) Texas Cavalry. About the time the War ended he married Lucinda Hill, whose two soldier-brothers also lie buried in Mt. Gilead Cemetery. After their parents' deaths all the Wright children went to live with various relatives and friends in the area.



Taylor Camp members during the Memorial Day service at Mt. Gilead in 2014.

Mount Gilead Veterans, cont.

The four other veterans are Robert Fondran, Thomas W. McCain, John A. Price, and James Miles Ladd. All four served in Texas units.

Thomas McCain and his veteran brother, Robert I. McCain, lived northwest of Keller but used this cemetery in the years before Bourland Cemetery was established closer to their homes. The McCains came to Wood County, Texas from Mississippi about 1857. Thomas' last service was in 2nd Co. D, 13th Texas Infantry. After living for a time in McLennan County, they came to this community. Thomas died about 1898.

Robert Fondran was also born in Mississippi, and came to Texas soon after 1850 with his widowed mother and siblings. They settled first in Navarro County but by 1860 had moved west to the extreme frontier in Young County. There in 1861 his mother was married a third time, to David Allen. Indian troubles soon forced them to

move back from the frontier, and they settled near Keller.

Fondran served in two regiments, lastly in Co. D of the 21 (Speight's) Texas Infantry. He died about 1873, and was buried at Mt. Gilead near his step-father, David Allen.

James M. Ladd was born in Kentucky and settled in Parker County, Texas about 1859. Like so many other families, about 1861 they moved back east into Tarrant County to escape the Indian depredations.

Along with one of his sons, Mr. Ladd joined Capt. William W. McGinnis' Company of the 20th Brigade of Texas Militia. The Ladd's lived a short distance to the southeast within earshot of the cemetery. The elder Mr. Ladd died about 1862 and his widow then married John T. Hill. She lived until 1886. The Hills also lie buried at Mount Gilead.



Keller's historic Mt. Gilead Cemetery was established in 1851. It has lots of "character" and is a good place to take a leisurely walk and eat your fill of pecans in the fall.

Mount Gilead Veterans, cont.



John A. Price was born about 1828 in North Carolina. By 1840 his father had moved the family to Ray County, Missouri. John's father died in the early 1850's, and John probably came to the Keller area with his older brother, William W. Price, shortly before the War.

John and his brother served in Capt. William W. McGinnis' Company of "Mounted Volunteers or Rangers," a local group who chased bushwhackers and deserters. Many men in this area who were too old or too young for regular Confederate service were members of this company.

The brothers lived west or southwest of the old downtown area of Keller, south of what is now Golden-Triangle Boulevard and east of Beach Street. Another brother, Thomas Washington Price, remained in Missouri and served in the Union army before finally coming to this community.

John A. Price last appears in the tax lists here for the year 1863, so it seems likely he died about that time. We have found no records of anyone who appears to be one of his children.

All three brothers lie buried near each other in Mount Gilead Cemetery. We made Thomas a rock a few years ago at the request of his granddaughter.

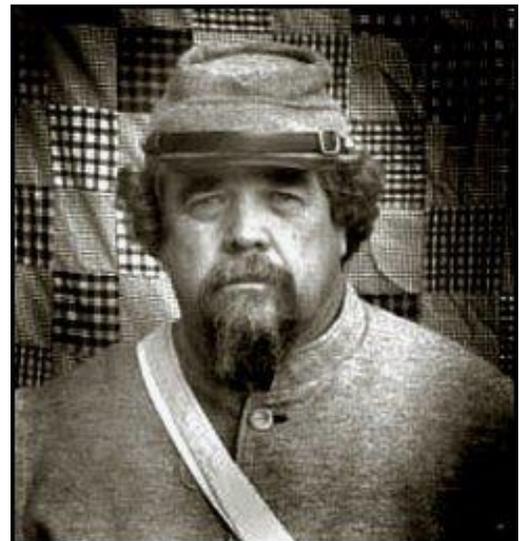
Two years ago when you chose me as your commander I promised you'd see few of these. If you read our newsletters and checked your emails they weren't necessary.

I want to thank you and all the members of your families who have supported our activities these past two years. Thank you for coming to meetings, riding in parades, presenting programs, driving all over the place, setting gravestones, helping with musket salutes, and supporting us with your finances.

It has been my pleasure to serve as your commander. We have gotten a mountain of work accomplished which will assure that many of our local veterans will never be forgotten. Our discoveries and work will go on as before.

As I know you'll do, let's get behind Compatriot Bobby Gresham as he begins his term as your new commander. He's an experienced SCV member who has shown his dedication and willingness to work.

Mike Patterson



**A Short Message
from the Commander**



TENNESSEE NOW HAS ITS CONFEDERATE PENSION FILES ONLINE FOR FREE

When you get to the step at familysearch.org, you'll have to create an identity for yourself along with a password, but it's free and they won't contact you with ads or anything else unwanted.

Tennessee Pension Board Members *Standing*: Gen. John P. Hickman, Col. Harry Rene Lee. *Sitting*: Gen. R. C. Crouch, Col. N. L. McKay. I'm glad I didn't have to ask Col. McKay for a furlough.

To search these files you'll first need to go to get the vet's file number, with a prefix of S or W (soldier or widow) at <http://www.tennessee.gov/tsla/history/military/pension2.htm>

Then for the files go to <https://familysearch.org/search/image/index#uri=https://familysearch.org/recapi/sord/collection/1874474/waypoints>



THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO CAME OUT IN 2014 AND GOT THEIR HANDS DIRTY TO HELP US MARK CONFEDERATE GRAVES AND HONOR OUR VETERANS.

Kent Mathews
James Madewell
James Alderman
Bob Gresham
David Stewart
Ron Parker
Stephen Parker
Jimmy Reynolds Sr.
Jimmy Reynolds Jr.
Sarah Biles
Boone Eustace
Jack Eustace

Kirt Barnett
Dixon Barnett
Chuck Marks
Richard Leech
Allen Hearrean
Tom Trawick
Bob Nichols
Lynn Nichols
Allan Gay
Pati Wallace
Wesley Massey
Barry Turnage

Kelley Hinson
Alan Egerton
Mike Borah
Paul Stephens
Lynn Watson
Vann Cunningham
Jerry Puckett
Dan Hays
Sandy Pike
Nathan Pike
Toby Pike
Steve Huckabee

Dana Gresham
Kyle Sims
Helen Parker
Oliver Patterson
Tammy Patterson
Doris Patterson
Marilyn Patterson
Mike Patterson

**Please excuse us if
we left anyone out.
It was entirely
unintentional.**

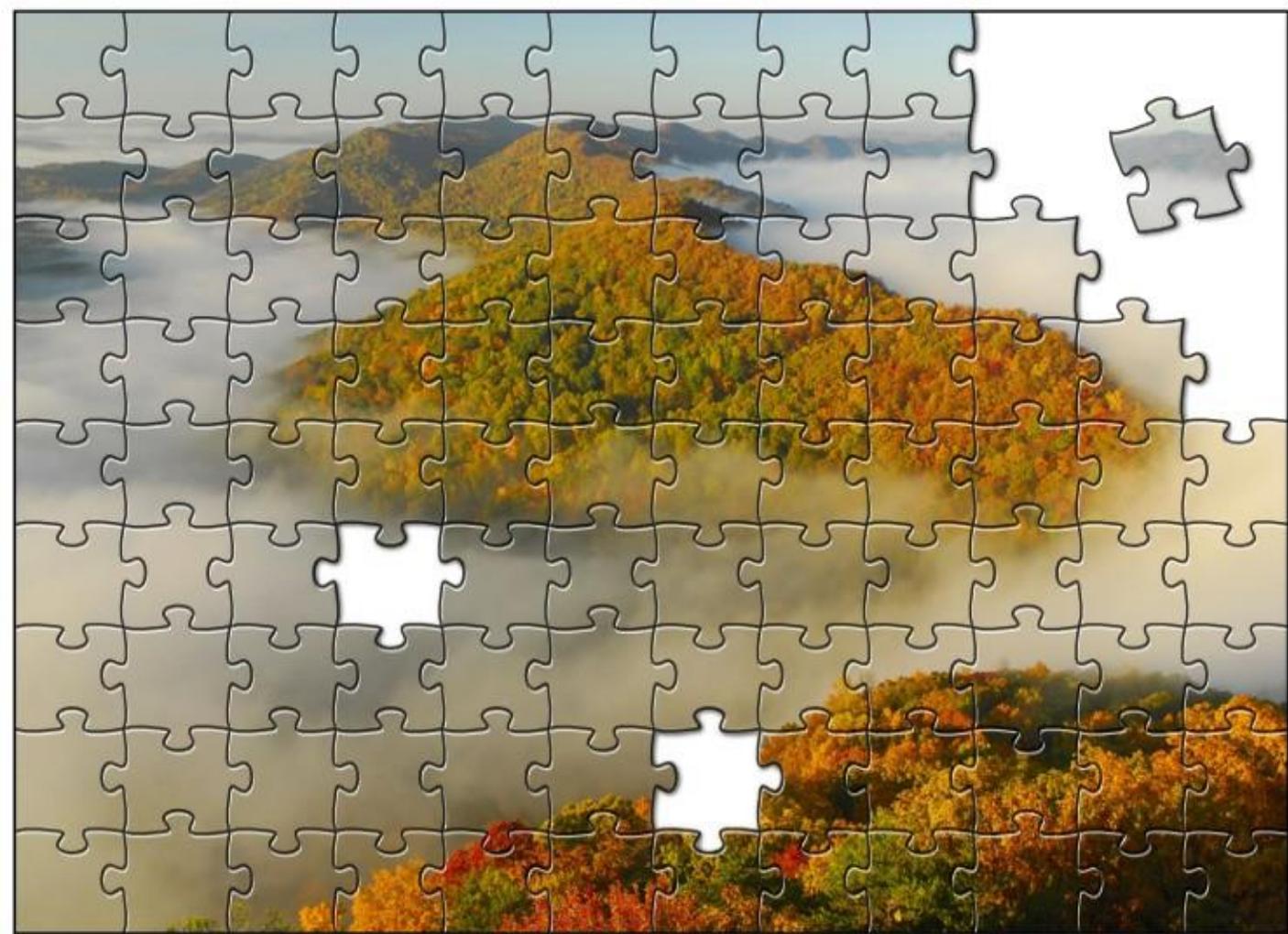
Another little public service project on the agenda at Oakwood



Quite a while back Marion Matkins's VA stone was broken in half, and the top is sitting loose on the bottom part now. A new one was ordered years ago and has been sitting in the shed at Oakwood. We'll get the new one, install it, and make two flats from the old broken one.



Sarah Biles and Bobby Gresham take a walk to check on the status of Matkin's broken rock.



This Month's Puzzle

Cumberland Gap, where Tennessee, Kentucky, and Virginia come together, was known to untold thousands of our ancestors as they moved West. Here you can walk and know you are in exactly the spot where Daniel Boone walked, and all those who followed him. It's beneath the thin left-to-right line of clouds separating the peak in the foreground and the one in the middle of the photo. Go to the puzzle online at:

<http://www.jigzone.com/puzzles/05168002145?m=81250DB2B.B.091686&z=6>

When you're at the puzzle site, choose a skill level which challenges you and git after it.

OUR ANCESTORS' LIFE AND TIMES

Way back in 1796 our new mint at Philadelphia produced our first silver dimes. We resisted the urge to title this installment "Our ancestors' life and dimes."

George and Martha Washington donated some of their household silver to get the mint operating. They were there to inspect them when the first dimes dropped out of the dies. Those first coins were minted only two blocks from where the mint still operates. After the city of Washington D.C. was built, the mint stayed put because there wasn't sufficient money to move it, and it was working very efficiently right where it was. What a concept!!!

When our Confederate veterans could get them, they knew five basic patterns...draped bust dimes (1796-1807), capped bust dimes (1809-1837), seated liberty dimes (1837-1891), Barber Dimes (1892-1916), and Mercury Dimes (1916-1945).

A tiny handful of veterans probably saw the Roosevelt dimes we know, beginning in 1946. Interestingly, even though they no longer contain any silver, in 2011 it cost 5.65 cents to make one.



DIMES





Kudos n' Tanks*



...to the installers who came out to help at Oakwood Cemetery on December 9: Bob Gresham, Kent Mathews, Marilyn Patterson, and Mike Patterson



...to Tammy Patterson for dropping us off at Worthington's at 0630 on December 18, and to Marilyn Patterson for coming to get us and a truckload of markers and taking us to Mount Gilead to drop them off later that morning.



...to a cheerful, helpful young lady named Katie Bush who was at work on New Year's Eve at the Oklahoma Historical Society. Unable to find a photo we needed, she spent a half-hour on the phone with this editor trying to help him get one page of this issue out of an email and into the newsletter. Eventually she found the flag photo we needed, but we gave up on trying to get the pdf out of our email.

*Your editor's wife says it's "Kudos and Thanks" but what does she know?



**December 18, 2014:
Five granite markers about to
enter the maelstrom.**

One of the perils of getting older is that sometimes we're not as patient as we once were.

Your editor usually spends two or three hours each *day* helping other people document their lineages, or researching and posting historical information which the public can access and use. He always has at least one or two projects in the works for individuals or families when it's necessary for them to answer questions, give him feedback, etc., usually via emails. No money ever changes hands.

Often after we've spent several hours on a project the recipient simply stops responding, even after we've tried several times to keep the email stream flowing.

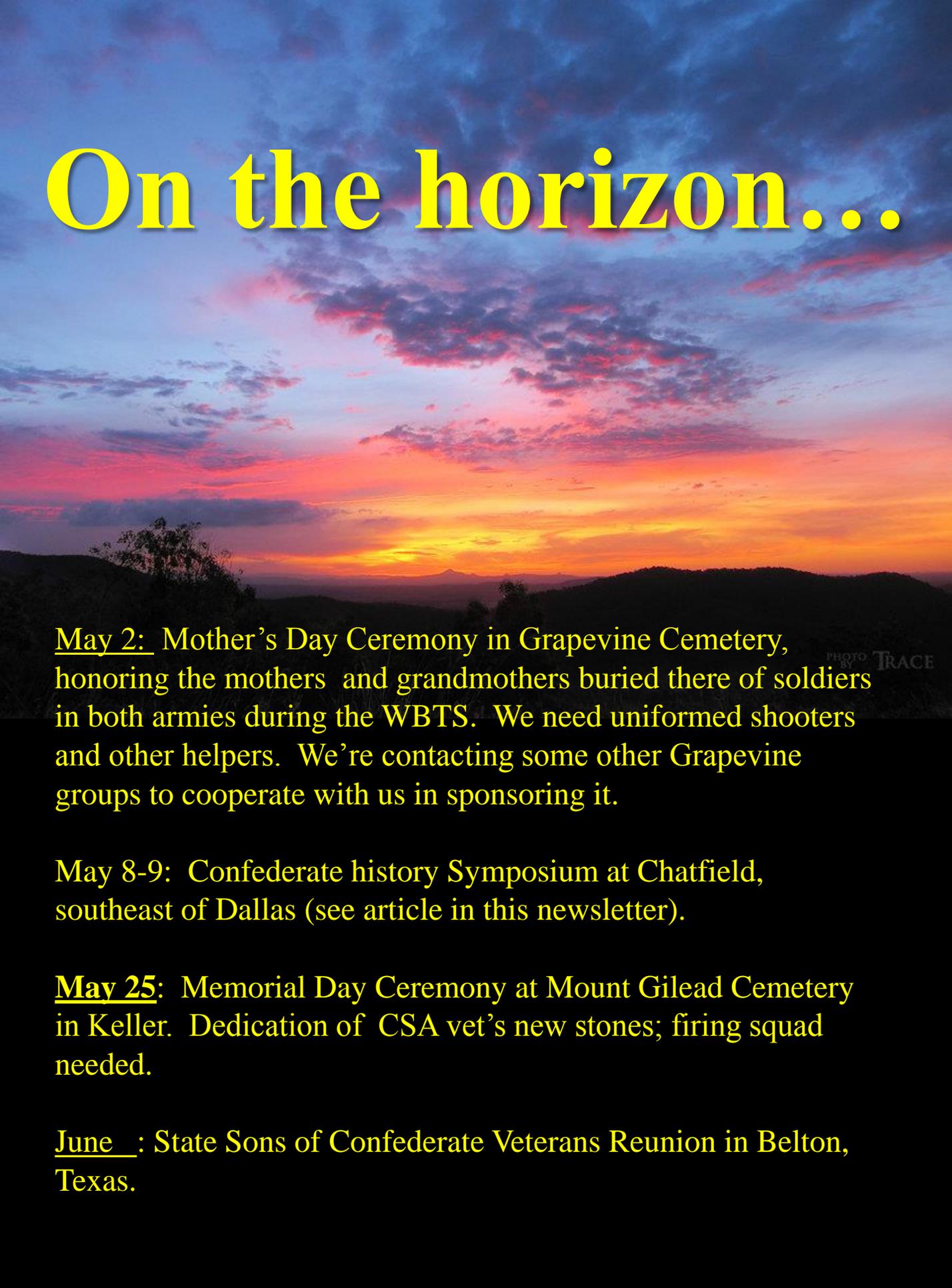
After being counseled by someone whose advice we respect, in the future if communication stops, so does work on that



project until we hear from the recipient of the free help. This most often occurs when we're trying to get the documentation together to help someone join the SCV.

We're always happy to help, but some questions just can't be answered from internet sources and we need the living, breathing person involved to give us one bit of data so we can continue. Hrumph and good night.

On the horizon...

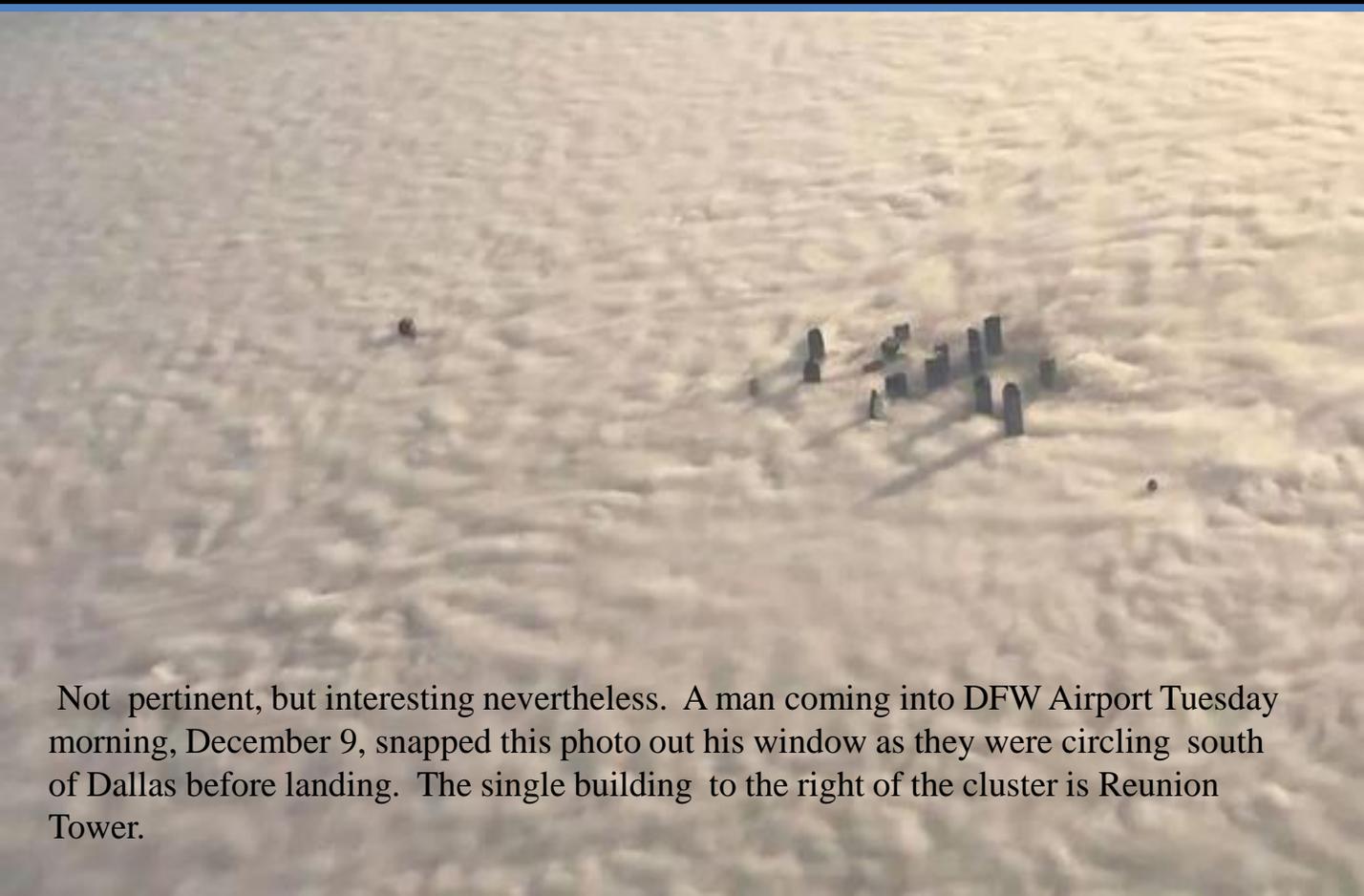


May 2: Mother's Day Ceremony in Grapevine Cemetery, honoring the mothers and grandmothers buried there of soldiers in both armies during the WBTS. We need uniformed shooters and other helpers. We're contacting some other Grapevine groups to cooperate with us in sponsoring it.

May 8-9: Confederate history Symposium at Chatfield, southeast of Dallas (see article in this newsletter).

May 25: Memorial Day Ceremony at Mount Gilead Cemetery in Keller. Dedication of CSA vet's new stones; firing squad needed.

June : State Sons of Confederate Veterans Reunion in Belton, Texas.



Not pertinent, but interesting nevertheless. A man coming into DFW Airport Tuesday morning, December 9, snapped this photo out his window as they were circling south of Dallas before landing. The single building to the right of the cluster is Reunion Tower.

Don't

JUMP
THE
GUN



EDITORIAL

One morning around Christmas I got an email which suggested one of our old cemetery's associations had decided to ignore the First Amendment.

Last week, the word on the street was that one of the local old cemetery associations had said no flags would be allowed except U. S. flags. Any others would be removed. Of course, I assumed the whole deal was aimed at Confederate flags.

I called the caretaker, whom I've talked to a few times. I got the impression he thought the same thing. A couple of other people with ties to the cemetery had heard the same thing. There was no online information about how to call an association member.

While I was aggravated that they'd pick up a Confederate flag I might leave there, I was more concerned that no Texan, no Army veteran, no Navy vet, no Marine, no Native Texan, no Christian...the list goes on....could have a flag.

When this action is taken against Confederate veterans it's usually a knee-jerk reaction by someone who is misinformed and immune to learning.

Anyway...I got started emailing and calling and writing. This editorial has gone through many drafts. I contacted the National SCV and submitted a Heritage Violation. I emailed fifty-odd descendants of the Confederate veteran who gave the land for the cemetery and whose name the cemetery bears. I submitted a news tip to the Star-Telegram's local section.

After several emails back and forth, one line in one decision maker's response took me aback. It said any flags bought (purchased) by families could stay put until they became faded, tattered, or torn. That's the very same treatment which should be accorded to all flags, flowers, and other things people leave in cemeteries and then never go back to clean up.

I took the time to ask for clarification and got the same message. I apologized, and said I'd do everything I could to defray the criticism about to come their way.

I think I got to nearly everyone before they'd contacted the association. I gave the association my home phone, wife's cell phone, and email. If asked them to contact me and I'd respond to complaints.

The actual rule was that the cemetery would **buy** only American flags to decorate the cemetery on July 4, Veterans Day, and Memorial Day. They **would not buy** Confederate flags or any other flags.

Maybe this has gotten fixed without any long-lasting vitriol. I sure hope so. ***No local cemetery association should be forced to buy anything it doesn't want.***

For that matter, no Texan should be forced to buy anything he doesn't want. The State of Texas finally felt forced to make a law that everyone who drives a car in Texas must buy liability insurance. Still, your chances of being hit by someone who has no business being here, let alone driving a car, are pretty high. Chances are also very high that he hasn't obeyed the law and bought liability insurance, so you and I still pay "uninsured motorist" insurance.

So far, the only thing Americans as a whole have been forced to buy against their will is health insurance. Hopefully, that too will only be a temporary part of America's own Babylonian Captivity our grandkids will read about in the history books.

Michael E. Patterson



“The trouble with many Americans isn’t that they’re ignorant...it’s just that they know so much that isn’t true.”



Jeff Foxworthy

You May Live in a Country Founded by Geniuses But Now Run By Idiots:

If you can get arrested for hunting or fishing without a license, but not for entering and remaining in the country illegally.

If you have to get your parents' permission to go on a field trip or to take an aspirin in school, but not to get an abortion.

If you must show your identification to board an airplane, cash a check, buy liquor, or check out a library book and rent a video, but not to vote for who runs the government.

If the government wants to prevent stable, law-abiding citizens from owning gun magazines that hold more than ten rounds, but gives twenty F-16 fighter jets to the crazy new leaders in Egypt.

If, in the nation's largest city, you can buy two 16-ounce sodas, but not one 24-ounce soda, because 24-ounces of a sugary drink might make you fat.

If an 80-year-old woman who is confined to a wheelchair or a three-year-old girl can be strip-searched by the TSA at the airport, but a woman in a burka or a hijab is only subject to having her neck and head searched.

If your government believes that the best way to eradicate trillions of dollars of debt is to spend trillions more.

If a seven-year-old boy can be thrown out of school for saying his teacher is "cute" but hosting a sexual exploration or diversity class in grade school is perfectly acceptable.

If hard work and success are met with higher taxes and more government regulation and intrusion while not working is rewarded with Food Stamps, WIC checks, Medicaid benefits, subsidized housing, and free cell phones.

If you pay your mortgage faithfully, denying yourself the newest big-screen TV, while your neighbor buys iPhones, time shares, a wall-sized do-it-all plasma screen TV and new cars, and the government forgives his debt when he defaults on his mortgage.

If being stripped of your Constitutional right to defend yourself makes you more "safe" according to the government.

Adapted from a FarSide cartoon by Gary Larson.



After Little Bennie Butler read Shelley's 1818 version of *Frankenstein*, he entered his "scientist" phase.



**Jan. 17
Fort Worth
Stock Show
Parade**



**Jan. 18
SCV/UDC Memorial
Service
Oakwood
Ft. Worth
2 p.m.**



**Jan. 29
Taylor
Camp
Meeting**



**Feb. 5-7
S. D. Lee
Institute in
Dallas**

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. Remember, it is your duty to see that the true history of the South is presented to future generations.