



Col. E. W. Taylor Camp #1777 **NEWSLETTER**

SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

March.....2022

Lady Spies, with Diane Dyess

March Program.....March 31

Join us at our regularly-scheduled March meeting for some great food and camaraderie and some interesting insights into the roles of some special women in our nation's struggles. Our speaker will be Diane Dyess (below right), the widow of our late compatriot, Jack Dyess. Diane is a member of several heritage organizations, and two years ago was appointed to the Tarrant County Historical Commission.



***Thanks,
Diane, for all
your help
across the
years!!!***



CONFEDERATE LIVES STILL MATTER

Ten years ago this month in this newsletter

On the cold morning of Feb. 11, 2012, five Taylor Campers and one trooper-of-a-spouse met at Oakwood Cemetery in Fort Worth to install one of many headstones our camp has done for area CSA men in unmarked graves.

The vet honored was Pleasant M. Richards, a member of the 4th Missouri Cavalry. Richards died in Fort Worth in 1913. The installers were, l-r Bob Gresham, Ron Parker, David Stewart, and James Alderman; with Mike Patterson kneeling. Patterson's wife, Marilyn, helped with the loading and driving, and took the photo.

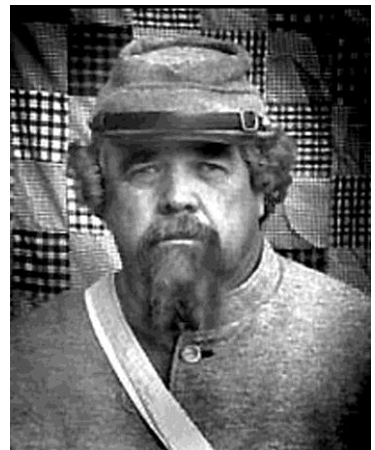
Richards came to Tarrant County about 1876. His wife was Eliza J. Karr, the sister of another of our CSA vets, Jefferson B. Karr, who's buried at Smithfield. They settled on a farm here which was probably near where Davis Blvd. intersects Southlake Blvd. /FM 1709. At the end of his life he was totally blind.

After the death of his wife, Mr. Richards went to live with his son, Benjamin M. Richards on Lake Ave. in Fort Worth. He died June 15, 1913 of old age.



Greetings from your humble editor. He's now nearly through his second Arkansas winter, and it hasn't even gotten down to zero yet. Several snows though.

I miss you all terribly. I think about you every single day. What I'd most like you to do is eat at the Catfish place every time you can and read this newsletter. Stand Up for America.



100 years ago this month in the Startlegram

VETERANS ACT AS PALLBEARERS AT NEGRO'S FUNERAL

By Associated Press.

WINCHESTER, Va., March 18.—Confederate Veterans were the honorary pallbearers at the funeral of "Alf" Whiting, a former negro slave, who died at Ponsey. Whiting, one of the few surviving negroes who served in the Confederate army, attended every Confederate reunion and selected his own pallbearers. He was captured, refused to take the oath of allegiance to the Federal Government and finally was released on bonds of \$6,000 with the understanding that he would not return to Virginia during the period of the war.



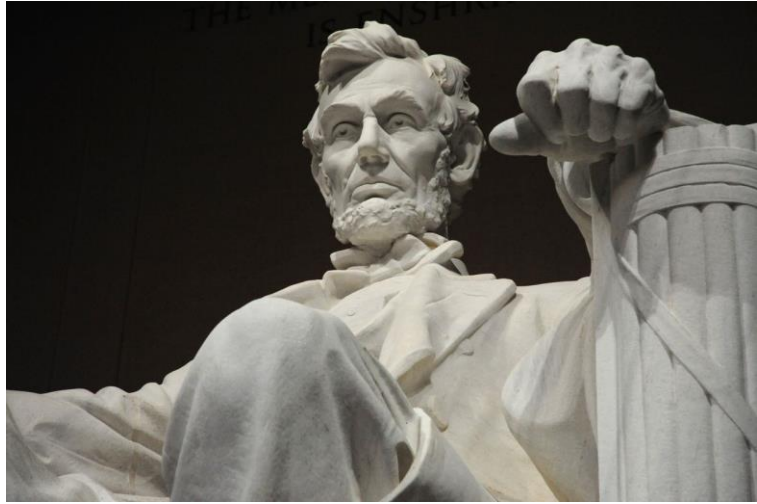
Fort Worth Star-Telegram, Sat. March 18, 1922. Mr. Whiting actually died in Romney, West Virginia and is buried there. Descendants have placed information about him on Ancestry.com and have made him a Confederate headstone. The photo of him at right was taken at a Confederate reunion in Moorefield, W. Va. on October 9, 1912.



Alabama omits Civil War president Abraham Lincoln in President's Day holiday

This holiday was first set aside to honor George Washington, who had died the year before. It was an unofficial holiday until the 1870's, and was expanded to the entire country in 1885, after having been celebrated only in Washington D.C. until that time.

Several of the states have a non-traditional take on observing this holiday. Both Texas and Arkansas are among them.



<https://www.al.com/news/2022/02/alabama-omits-civil-war-president-abraham-lincoln-in-presidents-day-holiday.html>

Thanks to Compatriot Clay Fitzhugh for sharing this item. Be sure to plow through the interspersed advertising and read the whole article.

Catfish and Company

900 Airport Hwy. #110 in Hurst

Cajun-style seafood & other hearty Southern fish dishes are the focus of this fine, close-in down-home eatery.



For many years this unparalleled restaurant has been one of the Taylor Camp's most supportive friends. We need them!!!

For a variety of reasons, only four people attended our January meeting. The weather was so bad it just wasn't safe to have our February meeting.

Beginning with the onset of Covid in this area in 2020 this restaurant and all others began to take some serious hits. They, like every one of us, have been hurt by inflation and higher fuel prices, and with problems finding dependable help.

Every one of us needs to attend every meeting possible. Take your family and friends there for a night out on a non-meeting night, and be sure to let the manager see your group and tell him/her you're a proud member of the E. W. Taylor Camp!

“What Took Us So Long?”: Black Caucus Members Propose Awarding 200,000 Black Civil War Vets Congressional Gold Medal

Two politicians, descendants of enslaved African-Americans, are proposing that hundreds of thousands of Black people who fought for the nation during the Civil War be honored. The legislators state that these soldiers should receive “the recognition they deserve.”

Del. Eleanor Holmes Norton (U. S. House, D-D.C.) [and proponent of DC statehood] and Sen. Cory Booker (D-N.J.), both members of the Congressional Black Caucus, introduced a bill on Friday, Feb. 4, that [proposes](#) to posthumously award approximately 200,000 Black men the Congressional Gold Medal. These fighting men, though all not legal citizens, took up arms to protect the Union both in the Army and the Navy and fought for the liberation of millions of people of African descent living under the conditions of slavery in the South and Midwest.



“What took us so long?” Norton stated. “Since it’s taken us, what is it, 150 years after the Civil War, Black History Month is a good time for the House and the Senate to honor these soldiers and sailors, 200,000 of them, who served in the Civil War.” Go to the link below to read the whole article (4 minutes) from Yahoo! News. There are also some musings about the project on the next page.

https://news.yahoo.com/took-us-long-black-caucus-173800443.html?soc_src=yahooapp

Thanks to Compatriot Clay Fitzhugh for this one, too.

200,000 Union vets proposed for gold medals

Hopefully, you've taken the time to read the Yahoo! News article referenced on the preceding page. If not, please do.



For starters, we're not talking about the Congressional Medal of Honor, shown above. The Medal of Honor is the United States government's highest and most prestigious military decoration that may be awarded to recognize American soldiers, sailors, Marines, airmen, guardians, and coast guardsmen who have **distinguished themselves** by acts of valor. In the history of our country only about 3,500 have been awarded,

The Congressional Gold Medal is something else...an award bestowed by the United States Congress.



Each medal is specifically designed for the person or event being honored.

Charles Lindbergh received the one shown at left in 1930.

200,000 Union vets proposed for gold medals, cont.

The Congressional Gold Medal is Congress's highest expression of national appreciation for distinguished achievements and contributions by individuals or institutions. The practice began in a limited way during the American Revolution. Later the practice was extended to individuals in all walks of life and in the late 20th century and also to groups.

Congressional Gold Medals are considered non-portable, meaning that they are not meant to be worn on a uniform or other clothing, but rather displayed.

The Congressional Budget Office estimates that it costs between \$30,000 and \$35,000 to create each Congressional Gold Medal. In recent years, the number of gold medals awarded has “soared from four or five per decade for most of its history to an average of almost twenty in the 1980s, 1990s, and 2000s.”

Predictably, In the 20th and 21st centuries, Congress continued to broaden the scope of Congressional Gold Medals to include recognition of excellence in such varied fields as the arts, athletics, aviation, diplomacy, entertainment, exploration, medicine, politics, religion, and science. Can you think of anything left out?

The medals themselves are 90 percent gold, and were worth about \$3,600 in 2007 dollars (when the price of gold averaged \$696.00). With the March 2022 price of gold at about \$1,700 per ounce, one of the medals today should be worth about \$8793.00. Many of them are about 3” in diameter. By comparison, a US \$20 gold piece is about 1-1/3 inch in diameter and a silver dollar is 1.5 inches.

For one to be awarded in principle, each recipient must be co-sponsored by two-thirds of the membership of both the House of Representatives and the Senate before their respective committees—the House Committee on Financial Services and the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs will even consider it. In the US Congress of 2022, that shouldn’t take more than a few decades per medal.

To say the least, this project faces some uphill problems...financial, genealogical, public relations, etc. One medal for each of the 200,000 soldiers? ...and if so, which descendant gets it? (Those 200,000 soldiers could each easily have 625 living direct descendants). Can the sponsors name the 200,000? If each descendant gets a medal, that’s 125,000,000 medals. A rough estimate of the cost of that many would be 125,000,000 times \$32,000 or \$4,000,000,000,000. (\$4 Trillion). Add to that the probability that most people who are descendants of one of the black Union soldiers are probably the direct descendants of more than one.





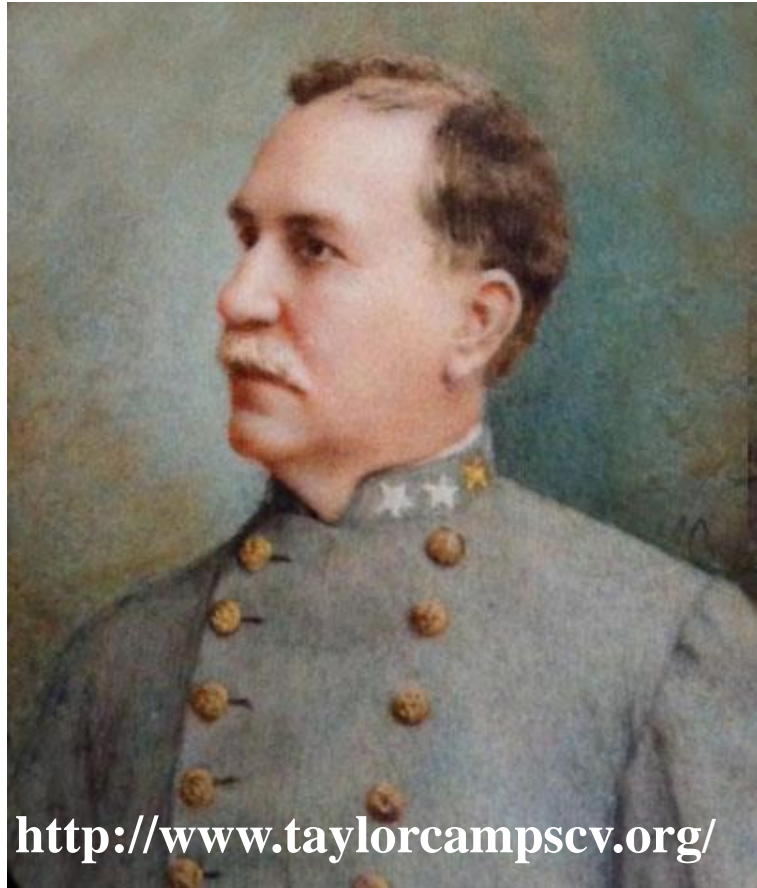
"You guys are both witnesses. ... He laughed when my marshmallow caught on fire."

Who are we? We are the Col. Ennis Ward Taylor Camp #1777

Our meetings are on the last Thursday of each month, except November and December when we don't meet because it would always conflict with the holidays. We eat at 6:00, meet at 7:00, and adjourn by 8:30.

Each month's program announcement is always on the first page of this newsletter.

We meet at the Catfish and Company restaurant in Hurst, Texas, along the north side of the Airport Freeway and on the access road west of Precinct Line Road.



<http://www.taylorcampscv.org/>

Go to our website and start looking at our newsletters, beginning with the most recent and working back. For our website: The user name is TaylorCamp and password is SCV1777EWTaylorCamp