

August 2, 2016

Upshur County Patriots Camp 2109

Minutes from meeting held July 5, 2016

Members present: Dick Brassell, Mark Davis, Phil Davis, Kim Duffey, Jamie Eitson, Larry Harper, Archie Hass, Mark Hass, Ronnie Hill, Jared Jones, Justin Jones, Ron Jones, George Linton, Chris Loyd, Don Loyd, Mack McLendon, Tom Mitchell, Austin Moss, Joseph Moss, Milt Ojeman, Bill Palmer, David Palmer, Michael Pepper, Eddie Pricer, Thomas Ray, Mathew Roach, Bill Starnes, and Larry Bruce Swinney.

Guest: Ben Adkison, Brent Davis, Jacob Gearhart, Caleb Hill, Billie Johnson, Karla Jones, Esther Linton, Rex McGee Joe Reynolds, Cory Todd, and Rick "Bear" Umfleet.

Regular meeting was called to order by Commander Phil Davis.

Greeting to members and guests. Request for thoughts and prayers for the Mac Overton family (death) and Rickie Gipson (illness) by Commander Phil Davis.

Introduction of guests by Commander Phil Davis.

Opening prayer led by Chaplain Larry Harper.

Pledges to U.S. & Texas flags and salute to Confederate flag led by Color Sgt. Justin Jones.

Reading of the Charge by 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. David Palmer along with information regarding the change in the format of the "Charge".

Third Lt. Cmdr. Bill Starnes introduced the speaker for the evening, Past Commander Mark Vogl. Mark began by discussing deceased Compatriot Mac Overton and his impact on our Camp, his defense of the Constitution and Laws. He further related that Mac was traditional reported and newsman, reporting his stories without biases or political slant. Mark then discussed how we are losing our country, incrementally and compared Mac's funeral to the Hershey Orphanage where Mark spent many years and how each was sadly impacted by the politically correct and elitist views on how we the masses should live our lives.

Mark then provided the Camp with a much shortened version of his symposium on God, Christianity, and the Forming of this Nation. He related how God worked through Christianity to shape and mold this nation. Mark discussed how Providence was in daily use and cited a number of writings by founding fathers as well as other influential people of the time. He stressed how

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Providence has all but been erased from our government and public life. He said, "God has a plan, providence is Gods will."

Mark then went on to say sovereignty was the right to rule. He related that Alexis de Tocqueville in his study and writings on democracy in America discussed how religion and politics worked here because of the "disconnect" between church and state. De Tocqueville cited the fact that no one person was over both religion and the political faction of the federal government. This was not to say that religion did not play a part in the government that we empowered.

Next, Mark demonstrated that religion was a state right and referred to several documents that enumerated that right of the states. The current view by many does not meet the standard of states' rights, but is once again evidence of the erosion of our religious and political system.

Lastly, Mark talked on the "Liberty of Conscience," which meant that you did not have to be a Christian in the state within which you resided, but you still had to practice Christian forbearance. This meant that you had to treat each other properly and respectfully. The choice of being Christian was between you and God.

To illustrate the importance of religion in the founding of our nation, after George Washington was sworn in as the 1<sup>st</sup> President of the Nation, the entire body went to church to consecrate the land. They then returned and President Washington gave his inaugural speech.

Mark then answered a few questions and received a well-deserved ovation.

Break

Business meeting called to order by Commander Phil Davis.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read by Eddie Pricer and approved as amended.

Financial report was read by Eddie Pricer and approved.

Old Business:

Commander Davis led a discussion on the Sam Davis Youth Camp, its importance as well as funding and fund raising and associated camp expenditures. He named Bailey Loyd, Joseph Moss and Austin Moss as those to attend the Sam Davis Youth Camp.

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New Business:

Commander Davis discussed the upcoming National Reunion in Richardson Texas. Delegates were identified and approved by the membership. Delegates – Phil Davis, George Linton, Tommy Orms, Kim Duffey, and Mack McLendon. Commander Davis then led a discussion regarding the Camp's wishes on who the delegates should cast their ballots for the post of the Commander of the Army of Trans Mississippi. Johnnie Holley was selected unanimously over Rudy Ray.

Commander Davis then opened discussion on fund raising and named Eddie Pricer as chairman of the committee. The discussion covered several areas of fund raising activities and the Camp approved the expenditure of funds when needed between meetings with the approval of the Executive Committee.

Brigade 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Commander George Linton provided information on upcoming events.

A report on OCR activities regarding fund raising for the Sam Davis Youth Camp was provided by Chapter President Esther Linton.

Commander Phil Davis provided a Guardian Report update.

A Texas Division Award (Silver Cross) was presented to Mark Hass by Commander Phil Davis. Commander Joe Reynolds of the Lt. David R. Reynolds Camp in Mt. Pleasant presented 3<sup>rd</sup> Lt. Commander Bill Starnes with a Purple Heart Medal.

Commander Davis then mentioned that a flag would soon be made, so get in your requests.

Quartermaster Joseph Moss conducted the door prize drawing.

Closing comments were made by Commander Phil Davis.

Benediction was provided by Chaplain Larry Harry.

Singing of Dixie was led by Jamie Eitson.

Donations: Door Prize \$22.00, Jar \$22.00, Sam Davis Camp \$89.00, Purple Heart \$42.00

Eddie Pricer, Acting Adjutant