



THE Clarion Call



TEXAS SOCIETY, MILITARY ORDER OF THE STARS AND BARS



September 1, 2001

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LAFAYETTE NATIONAL CONVENTION

I drove to Lafayette, Louisiana the first weekend in August to attend the National SCV/MOS&B Convention held at the Hilton Hotel and next door at the Acadiana Hotel. I really enjoyed the convention—outstanding speakers—and the opportunity to make new friends and see old friends.

The ability to browse through the “vendors area” for a couple of days is worth the trip to me. My only “disappointment” was the two resolutions put forward at our MOS&B convention - one to remove all requirements for SCV membership in order to join or belong to the MOS&B - and a second to maintain the requirement of SCV membership to join the MOS&B but no requirement to maintain SCV membership in order to maintain your MOS&B membership.

The first vote - on Resolution #1 to remove all requirements for SCV membership in order to join or belong to the MOS&B - was defeated by a vote of 87 to 80. Of course it required a 2/3 vote and was therefore far short of passage, but it was disturbing to me that almost half present would vote for this. I was further most unhappy when it was evident that our sister Army of the Trans Mississippi states, like Oklahoma, Arkansas and Missouri were really pushing this. Our ATM Dept. Commander, Curtis Hopper of Missouri, spoke in favor as well as Oklahoma and Arkansas representatives. I want you to know that I had two votes as our Texas Society Commander, and I voted NO. Likewise, I believe that all votes from Texas were cast against this resolution.

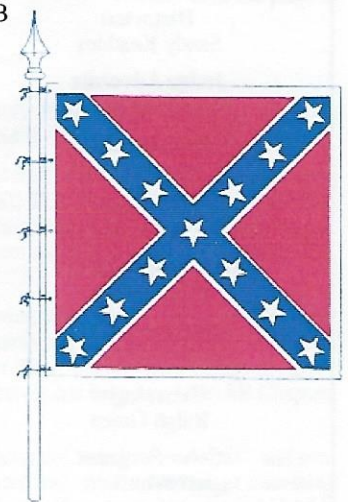
As much as I am honored to belong to the MOS&B and can therefore honor my ancestor who was an officer (just a 2nd Lt. - had been a Sgt.). I think that we all need to remember that we are SCV members first. I know that I feel that way. In the future I think we need to know more about certain candidates running for ATM Dept. offices as well as National offices in the MOS&B. The National Commander stood and said he was for this resolution to disassociate the MOS&B from the SCV. Texas Chapters cast a lot of votes. I intend to be more careful who I support because I have voted for some in the past that I will not support in the future. These are just my personal thoughts regarding what I think was the most significant votes cast at our recent National Convention. The old saying - “United We Stand, Divided We Fall” comes to mind. Regardless of the reasons, such a division would be seen as just that - we would be divided. Don't you know that would make our “enemies” happy. Such a division must not happen.

G. Ronald Aldis, Commander, Texas Society

CLARION CALL NAME— WHY?

The Texas Society of the MOS&B has had a publication for some time entitled “The Gazette” that has been prepared by the Society Commander . I intend to continue this, but to be very honest, I did not like the name “Gazette.” It always left the wrong connotation in my mind. Walter Nass, our previous Society Commander, always told me I had a dirty mind when I mentioned this to him. However, it seems to me when I see “Gazette” on an old newspaper, it was some sort of less than desirable publication. Therefore, I have changed the name of our Texas Society publication to the “Clarion Call.” The name was suggested by two in our Society that I admire and respect. My dictionary says CLARION is a call to action. The word CALL means to announce loudly or authoritatively - to command to come or a request to be present - a request to assemble, etc. I hope that everyone likes the new name. I think it is more appropriate for our publication.

Some question why we need to have such a publication? The Sons of Confederate Veterans, and our affiliated organization The Military Order of the Stars and Bars, are involved in important work these days. As the descendants of Confederate military officers and Officials of the Confederate government, I think we need to “stay in touch” with the hope that we can learn from each other, and therefore improve our local Chapters. This organization can be no stronger than our local MOS&B Chapters in Texas. I ask for the help of every member of the Texas Society in this endeavor. If you think your Chapter is less than it could be, why not talk to your officers and leaders and encourage them to take steps to upgrade your particular Chapter. That will help to upgrade our entire State organization. I hope that we can inspire each other in a most positive way. That is my sincere desire and prayer .



G. Ronald Aldis, Commander, Texas Society



"THE CLARION CALL" is published quarterly by the Commander of the Texas Society, Military Order of the Stars and Bars, for members and friends of the Texas Society, MOS&B. Opinions expressed by the Editor or individual writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect official positions of the organization. Any correspondence should be directed to G. Ronald Aldis, Commander, Texas Society, and Editor, 1317 Richelieu Lane, Houston, Texas 77018-1913. E-Mail: graldis@iopener.net - Phone: 713-688-5471.

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Inspector General
Rudy Krisch

Quartermaster
Gary P. Whitfield

Genealogist
Ralph Green

Color Sergeant
Jeff Whitfield

Future Conventions

NATIONAL CONVENTIONS

At our Convention in Lafayette, Louisiana, a vote was held to select the site for the 2004 convention. We always stay 3 years ahead. The locations are:

2002- Memphis, Tennessee (July 30th thru Aug. 3rd), with headquarters at the Peabody Hotel in downtown Memphis. For information, write to:

N. B. Forrest Camp #215
P. O. Box 11141
Memphis, TN 38111

or visit them at www.SCVMemphis2002.org

Registration Fee is \$50 if paid before June 1, 2002. Special SCV/MOS&B convention \$99 rates are available at:

The Peabody Hotel
149 Union Avenue
Memphis, TN 38103

Phone: 1-800-833-2548 direct to reservations, or general #1-800-PEABODY.

2003 -Ashville, North Carolina

2004 - Dalton, Georgia (near Chatanooga, TN)

2002 TEXAS STATE CONVENTION

Our Texas Division SCV/Texas Society MOS&B Convention will be held June 14-16, 2002, at the LaQuinta Inn -Inns & Suites, 825 North Watson Rd., Arlington, Tx 76011 (Discounted rate of \$80 for a standard guest room, King or two Double beds, with deluxe two-room suites at a rate of \$109. -these are supposed to be \$20 discounts per night on each room) There will be receptions and registration available on Friday night, with the other general sessions and meals and Ball to be on Saturday -ending at midnight.

The LaQuinta Inn & Suites is across from Six Flags Over Texas at 1-30 and State Hwy. 360, 8 miles south of D/FW Airport and about half way between Dallas and Fort Worth. I am not sure all of the above has been finalized, but these are the tentative plans at least. Watch the SCV Texas Division Dispatch for late news, forms, etc. It is our intention for the Texas Society, MOS&B, to host some type of Hospitality Room where all at the convention can drop by for a moment of relaxation, and some good "MOS&B Hospitality."

35th Annual Confederate Ball in Houston

The Albert Sidney Johnston Camp #67 35th Annual Confederate Ball in the Houston area will be held this year at the Junior League, 1811 Briar Oaks, just inside West Loop 610 off of San Felipe-Friday night, January 18, 2002. Carriage arrivals will be at 7 pm with the Ball at 8 pm. The honoree this year is Compatriot Donald H. Gaucher, PC of ASJ Camp #67 and a long-time worker who has given much support to this yearly endeavor. The Ball will be "In Memoriam" for Harriet Jenkins. The Chairman is MacLeod Smith, Jr., and his Co-Chair is Page Steele. For information contact the Albert Sidney Johnston Camp #67, P. O. Box 56263, Houston, Tx 77256-6263, or you can call Chairman Mac Smith at 281-373-1356. The proceeds from this Ball have benefitted numerous Confederate Causes through the years, such as the Statue at Anderson erected by the Grimes County Greys Camp #924, the replacement of the Rifle in the Confederate Statue at San Marcos, and Scholarships being awarded to members of the Children of the Confederacy, and the latest being Flag Restorations and the Museum of Southern History in Fort Bend County. This Ball has always been one the real highlights in "Confederate Texas." Mark this date - Friday, January 18th-make your plans to attend if at all possible.

Capt. Ike Turner Confederate Ball in Nacogdoches

The Captain Ike Turner Confederate Ball will be held Saturday, January 19, 2002, at the Fredonia Hotel in Nacogdoches, Texas. Ball Chairman Mark Johnson states that "1860's Dress is required." Proceeds from this Ball will go to the CSS Hunley Restoration. For information contact Mark Johnson, Ball Chairman, 3704 French Drive, Longview, Texas 75604, or at 903-759-5960. He may also be reached by e-mail: batk1tx@aol.com if that is more convenient. The Ball is to begin at 7 pm and end at midnight. The 12th Louisiana Band is to play. Reservations at the Fredonia Hotel can be made a 1-800-594-5323. A rate of \$64. has been quoted for those attending the Ball. All will be most welcome.

General Johnson Funeral in Fairfield

First Sgt. Ronnie Hatfield, Co. A, 12th Texas Infantry, has asked that I remind all MOS&B members about the Funeral for General Johnson in Fairfield on Oct. 26 & 27. Sgt. Hatfield says that they now expect "thousands of folks to attend and participate." For maps, directions, registration slips, and timetables for the event, please contact Hatfield by email - sarge12@flash.net - in order for you to have details and as little confusion as possible. Many reenactment groups have committed to participate. Sgt. Hatfield says "on behalf of the Johnson-Sayers-Nettles Camp #1012, SCV, Teague, Texas, and Co. A of the 12th Texas Infantry, you will honor us with your presence."

CHAPTER FACTS AND REPORTS

Every Chapter Commander and Adjutant in the Texas Society has been written and asked to submit a brief "Report" on his Chapter for this publication. I thank all who have responded. I am disappointed that so many Chapters failed to respond.

ALBERT SIDNEY JOHNSTON CHAPTER #5; HOUSTON

I am happy to report a substantial increase in attendance as well as significant interest in applications for membership. Several are currently being worked on for both the SCV and the MOS&B. We are encouraging our active members to invite inactive MOS&B members, SCV members and other friends who are qualified for our membership. We also invite UDC, SRT, DRT, SAR, DAR, and others that we believe to be sympathetic to our fighting of Heritage Violations. Likewise, we are investigating some fund-raising vehicles. One firm works with non-profit organizations to allow members and friends of the organizations to receive various services (long distance, cell phones, security, internet access, etc.) at competitive rates, and cause a commission to be paid to a sponsoring organization which will in turn forward to the non-profit, hopefully in a non-taxable status. This is still in the investigation only stage for our Chapter.

As a part of our recent initiatives we are assembling a cadre of local legal counsel to assist Kirk Lyons and the Southern Legal Resource Center in the preservation and defense of our Southern Heritage. Our meetings are held Quarterly, the 2nd Thursday of Aug., Nov., Feb., & May at Rudi Lechner's Restaurant, 2503 South Gessner (1 block north of Westheimer). Cocktails at 6:30 pm with dinner from the menu and meetings at 7 pm. We invite you to join us for our next meeting November 8, 2001. *Submitted by James D. "Jim" Giuffre, Commander, Chapter Adjutant is Walter P. Nass.*

GASTON GREGG CHAPTER #68; DALLAS

This Chapter, located in Dallas, meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month with the local Gaston Gregg SCV Camp #1384. The current Commander is Curtis Flatt. The MOS&B Chapter presents one program each year at the SCV meeting. *Submitted by George Perry, Adjutant, Gaston Gregg Chapter #68 Chapter Commander is Curtis Flatt.*

HALEY-HOLT CHAPTER #121; MIDLAND

No Report submitted. *Gary E. Bates is Commander, J. Evetts Halev, Jr. is Adjutant*

JOHN H. REAGAN CHAPTER #127 AUSTIN

No Report submitted. *John B. Meadows is Commander, Dr. Gregory T. Hector is Adjutant.*

LONE STAR CHAPTER #137; DALLAS

Lone Star Chapter was proud to lead a successful fight at the 2001 General Convention to defeat the ill-advised proposed amendments to the MOS&B Constitution. These amendments which had been proposed for petty personal reasons would have removed the requirement for a member of the MOS&B to be a member of the SCV. The proponents of these amendments will undoubtedly try again in the future. We urge all members to be vigilant against such efforts. *Submitted by Ralph Green, Adjutant, Stephen J. Lucas is Commander.*

ROBERT E. LEE CHAPTER #175; LONGVIEW

The membership of this Chapter is currently below the limit required, but Adjutant William Michael Hurley is working and planning how to proceed to re-activate this old Chapter. Michael Hurley is a Minister of the Gospel (Church of Christ in Longview) and is working as his time permits. The Texas Society is going to work with him to get this Chapter alive again.

LAWRENCE SULLIVAN ROSS CHAPTER #184; SAN ANTONIO

No Report submitted. *John Thomas Fargason is Commander, Rudolph C. (Rudy) Krisch, Ill, is Adjutant.*

TEXAS CHAPTER #186; CONROE/HOUSTON

No Report submitted. *Frank T. Harrowing is Commander, Michael F. Harrowing is Adjutant.*

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NEW AND REACTIVATED CHAPTERS

As this is being written in late August, I have only today received some lists of suspended members from various Texas Society MOS&B Chapters. With this list I intend to write a number of them personally and see what it will take to get them back in our organization, and in some instances also the SCV. People drop by the wayside for a number of reasons. Perhaps we can recover some of them. That is our plan. Likewise, we intend to contact the At-Large members residing in Texas to see what it would take to get them involved with one of our Texas Chapters. In fact this issue of The CLARION CALL is being sent to these At-Large members, and I invite them to contact me. We need them as a part of the Texas Society.

A NEW CHAPTER is definitely in the works at ORANGE. Allen Connel is working on this and I fully expect this to come to pass this Fall. Allen is serious about this—even considering some names for the new Chapter; There should be no problem getting sufficient members to start. We probably could use another new MOS&B Chapter in the Golden Triangle area, which includes Beaumont, Port Arthur, Nederland, Port Neches, Groves, and Vidor, plus the fast growing areas north of Beaumont such as Silsbee and Lumberton.

GALVESTON is another city where we need a NEW CHAPTER. They

have an active SCV Camp and surely there are sufficient members in Galveston County to have a fine MOS&B Chapter.

Compatriot Mack Neal of the Ike Turner Camp #1275, SCV, has expressed a real desire to REACTIVATE the IKE TURNER CHAPTER, MOS&B. I am sending Mack Neal a listing of their former members. He feels certain that he can obtain more than a minimum number to get this Chapter back in active status.

AUSTIN is one of the fastest growing areas in the nation and now has about a million people. We could certainly use a second MOS&B Chapter in that Austin portion of the 1-35 corridor. There are two SCV Camps in Austin now plus another in San Marcos. We surely can have two MOS&B Chapters in that area.

Any place you look, regardless of potential, requires some one - and usually it is one person - one to step forward and take the lead to get something like a new Chapter accomplished. I invite ideas from any of our MOS&B members in Texas. I would love to hear from anyone who has an idea or is willing to step forward to help this organization grow and prosper.

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WAUL'S TEXAS LEGION CHAPTER #194; FORT WORTH:

No Report submitted. *William Richard Morris is Commander.*

MAJOR CHATHAM ROBERDEAU WHEAT CHAPTER #224;
PLANO

No Report submitted. *Gilbert H. (Sandy) Keathley is Commander, Christopher R. Tankersley is Adjutant.*

CAPTAIN CHRISTOPHER CLEBURNE CHAPTER #241;
CLEBURNE

No Report submitted. *James W. Dark is Commander, Phil E. Johnson is Adjutant.*

CAPTAIN DAVID WHITFIELD SNODGRASS CHAPTER #254;
FORT WORTH

We meet at the discretion of the Commander. However, we have met at least once quarterly. We have met in conjunction with Waul's Texas Legion Chapter at Rick's On the Bricks, a restaurant here in Fort Worth. This meeting was to celebrate Jefferson Davis' Birthday. We will continue to do this event and make adjustments so that it does not conflict with our State Conventions. We are planning other combined celebrations with Waul's Texas Legion Chapter and perhaps a Metroplex combination of Chapters for either a celebration or a memorial.

Our most important event is the annual trip to Trickham, Texas in Brown County. That is where our Chapter's namesake is laid to rest. We tend to the grave and one member will read from Jerry Betsill's paper written on the life of Captain Snodgrass. We go in the late winter or early spring as these are the choicest times as far as temperature and weather are concerned. Capt. Dave Snodgrass was born July 16, 1833 and died March 15, 1886. He was in Company D, Whitfield's Legion, 27th Texas Cavalry. *Submitted by Gary P. Whitfield, Commander, Jeffrey Jack Whitfield is the Adjutant.*

COLONEL RICHARD BENNETT HUBBARD CHAPTER #261;
TYLER

The Col. Richard B. Hubbard Chapter #261 is meeting Quarterly and con-

tinues to grow. By-Laws have been established and a planning session was held in the summer for future projects and events. A project already underway is a highly successful school program presented in school assemblies to Junior High students. We have done this at Fruitvale and at Hawkins. Each event has included uniformed members and their ladies of the MOS&B and the SCV from Tyler and Sulphur Springs Camps. Included were a demonstration of uniforms, weapons, period dress, and southern history that narrates the causes of the WBTS.

We are currently working on a Speakers' Bureau to provide short programs/talks of 20 to 30 minutes to Lions, Kiwanis, Rotary and such civic groups to inform them who we are and what we are all about. The programs will stress what the Battle Flag for example means to us contrasted to that of the KKK, skinheads, and other such hate-monger groups -that these groups do not represent the SCV or MOS&B in any manner and that we have no use for these groups. Heritage issues will be discussed in detail.

Our Chapter has also adopted the grave of our namesake in Tyler's Oakwood Cemetery and those of four CSA generals buried in Marshall with a view to maintenance, beautification, and placement of CSA markers.

MAJOR JOHN LOUDERMILK CHAPTER #264;
COMANCHE/DELEON

This Chapter was officially chartered on July 21, 2001. Major Loudermilk served as Commander of Company D, 36th Georgia Volunteer Infantry, Army of Tennessee. He was killed in action at the battle of New Hope Church in June of 1864. G. Ronald Aldis, Commander of the Texas Society, MOS&B, officiated at the Charter Ceremony and presented Certificates to the new members and administered the oath of office to the Officers of the Chapter. Gary Whitfield, 3rd Lieut. Commander, Texas Division SCV and Commander of the Capt. David Whitfield Snodgrass Chapter #254, MOS&B, was the guest speaker.

The new Chapter is located in DeLeon, Comanche County, Texas and plans to solicit members from the west central Texas region. The Chapter also plans to take advantage of today's technology and hold some of its meetings via the internet. This will allow recruitment of members from throughout the State. Regularly scheduled meetings will normally be held in conjunction with the 2nd Texas Frontier District Camp #1904 of the SCV, the Camp with which the Chapter is closely associated. The Chapter already has two new members completing their applications and one "at-large" member is requesting transfer to our Chapter.

"We look forward to a bright future and to working with all the fine people in the SCV and MOS&B" *Submitted by Gary Loudermilk, Commander, Royce Lesley is Adjutant.*

A Supply of Certain MOS&B Forms Available

National Headquarters has forwarded a limited supply of various Forms utilized in the MOS&B. The following Forms are readily available. Just write or e-mail the Commander of the Texas Society.

- - "Application for Membership"
- - "Instructions for Chartering a Chapter" of the MOS&B
- - "Application for Chapter Charter"
- - Application for Transfer of Membership (from one Chapter to another)
- - "The Last Commission" (a form to be completed by each Chapter on the Death of a Member)
- - "Reporting Change of Command" (to be completed when the Officers of a Chapter change - for any reason - such as by Election, by Resignation, by Removal from office, by Death

SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION RECEIVED

At the recent National Convention in Lafayette, I had an opportunity to meet many new friends from all over the Confederation. It is always an important part of the convention. I met one younger member who was attending his first National Convention. He is active in a Texas SCV Camp and involved in Reenactments. In talking to him I mentioned that I intended to publish a Quarterly MOS&B newsletter - The Clarion Call. Day before yesterday I received a \$10 check from him to help pay for postage with the request that I put him on the mailing list. He also said "I am working now to get the data on an ancestor who was an Officer. I know that I have one out there." I got to thinking - with our Texas Society dues of on \$2 per year - the postage to mail each member this Quarterly publication will take more than 2/3 of each members dues, and that doesn't talk about paper and printing, etc. Luckily I have a good friend who is well qualified and is making it possible for us to have this first-class publication. It occurred to me that some of our members and some of our friends might wish to make a special donation to help the Society publish this newsletter. It is certainly not required nor expected. A few SCV Camps publish fine newsletters and I have contributed to one or two. They list the names of special contributors. I am not sure if I should do that here, but if anyone has a few dollars to spare, any check made payable to the Texas Society, MOS&B, and marked for "The Clarion Call" will be accepted and used. Unless you say otherwise, I will include your name in a brief listing of "contributors." I thank everyone for their good wishes and I sincerely hope that these newsletters will help our Society prosper both in numbers and in activities. for the good of our purposes. G.R.A.

A Suggestion to each MOS&B Chapter in the Texas Society

As the Texas Society Commander I realize that each Chapter is independent regarding their activities and programs. There are no requirements in the Society Constitution and By-Laws about how often each Chapter should meet or how their individual meetings should be conducted. I realize that some Chapters in this Society do not meet - at least not very often - and it is probably a fact that a few never meet. Other Chapters meet in conjunction with a SCV Camp. Some do meet independent of an SCV Camp and have their own regular meetings. It is not my intention to try and dictate to any Chapter. However, I do want to make some suggestions.

Military Order of the Stars and Bars membership would be enhanced significantly if the MOS&B Chapters did meet on their own. My thought is that a Chapter should consider Quarterly meetings - perhaps including the wives and children and other family members - perhaps at some Restaurant. A good brief program involving something of interest to our members, and a good meal, with each member ordering on his own and paying for his own bill. That way the person can have as much or as little as they desire. It is not that we are "elite" or "superior" to any other group - SCV - or whatever, but if we are to remain a part of the SCV/MOS&B organization, and be something other than just a group to carry an additional card, then we need to "find our spot" and work hard to be a success and improve our organization. Therefore, the following is another suggestion.

A Request to each Commander of a MOS&B Chapter in Texas

I ask each Chapter to plan and host a special program to be held in early March of 2002, and hopefully each year thereafter. I selected March because it is before the beginning of summer when both State and National Conventions are held. Also, there are some important dates that this special program can be built around:

March 2, 1861, Texas was admitted to the Confederacy (Of course, March 2nd is also "Texas Independence Day" which ought to be a big holiday in our State, but unhappily it is not the big event it once was).

March 4, 1861, is the date when Miss Letitia Christian Tyler, granddaughter of former U. S. President John Tyler, raised the First National Flag of the Confederate States of America.

March 11, 1861, the Confederate Congress adopted the Constitution of the Confederate States of America.

My thought is that each MOS&B Chapter would have a dinner meeting, with family and guests invited. The program, should be planned by each Chapter Commander, or by his appointed Program Chairman for this meeting. I am asking that a Rededication Ceremony be held where each MOS&B compatriot present will renew his vows taken at his Initiation at the time he joined the MOS&B. If for some reason your Chapter has not used this very brief Initiation Ceremony, this will be a good opportunity for your members to take their special obligation.

Another part of this program can include an Honor Roll Ceremony for our ancestors. I realize that many SCV Camps have wonderful programs such as this, but our smaller group can allow for much solemnity and

make it all more personal and add importance to the ceremony. Each member can "light a candle" (or candles) in honor of his ancestor(s). In addition to the ancestors of the members of the Chapter, special candles can be in the program for President Jefferson Davis, General Robert E. Lee, Generals Jeb Stuart, Albert Sidney Johnston, Nathan Bedford Forrest, etc. One to definitely be included is the namesake of your Chapter should it be named for an Officer. If possible, or practical, the use of a bugler to play taps can add to the program.

I will be happy to provide each Chapter in Texas a suggested program, including instructions, proper wording, etc., if requested. I sincerely ask each Chapter Commander to give this Request serious consideration. If you have any questions, or if any MOS&B member, not a Chapter Officer, has any questions, please feel free to contact me by mail or e-mail or telephone. Even if some of our Chapters do not regularly meet as a separate and distinct organization, such independent meetings as mentioned above can give the Military Order of the Stars and Bars a renewed purpose and indicate our separate requirement, that of being a descendant of a Confederate Officer. Our organization being very small when compared to the SCV, can give our special programs the feeling of a "special family" - a group where we can support and honor our ancestors in a small solemn and sincere service.

In certain large metropolitan areas, it could be that more than one of our MOS&B Chapters can join together for such a program as that suggested. It might be easier, but there is nothing wrong with a small group meeting independently. Some of our MOS&B Chapters are small, and they can have as fine a program as a larger Chapter, or group of Chapters. Be sure to include family, including children, and friends. If you have SCV members with Officer ancestors who are not yet members of the MOS&B, perhaps such a meeting might be just what is needed to make them decide to join with us.

I have suggested that this program include both a Rededication Ceremony and a Honor Roll Ceremony for our ancestors. If a Chapter desires, and really wants to work they could have two separate meetings - about six months apart. However, for this first time in 2002 - in early March, 2002 - I would hope and I do request that all Chapters will follow the suggestions and include both ceremonies at the Special Early March Meeting.

Our ancestors battle of life has been fought and he has been relieved from his post of duty as an Officer and leader in the War for Southern Independence. He has crossed over the river to rest under the shade of the trees. Now we need to join the battle with an unfaltering resolve to do our duty to commemorate and honor the services of leadership these men rendered in the cause of fundamental American principles of self-determination and states' rights. Compatriots, I thank you for your best efforts as we move to improve our Texas Society of the Military Order of Stars and Bars. With your help and support we cannot fail. I am counting on you.

G. Ronald Aldis, Commander

Texas Society, Military Order of the Stars and Bars

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Children of the Confederacy

The "Children of the Confederacy" (C of C) was organized in 1954 by the "United Daughters of the Confederacy" (UDC) and remains closely affiliated with the UDC. However, it is for both boys and girls. The Texas Division of the C of C is one of the largest with about 20 active Chapters and several hundred members. Those of documented Confederate ancestry are eligible for membership from birth to age 18. C of C Chapters work throughout the year and hold an annual Convention in June. Other Division activities are held throughout the year, along with meetings held in conjunction with the UDC General Convention. The C of C Conventions are a week-end of fun and friends - tons of fun, but also the members know when and how to get down to business. To join, there are forms that must be filled out, signed and documented. Without many correct "papers" it can be difficult, but if a parent or grandparent is in the UDC or is a member of the SCV/MOS&B, and therefore must have documented historical information, joining should not be difficult.

Virginia Tagliabue is the current President of the Texas Division of the C of C. She has recently turned 18 (was still 17 when elected) and is a Freshman at The University of Texas in Austin, going through Sorority Rush

this fall and entering the College of Communications. She plans to major in Corporate Public Relations with a Business Foundation. Virginia is from Houston and has been a member of the C of C since she was 8 years old. She has served in a number of offices and is a Past President of Winnie Davis Chapter #12. She has earned numerous outstanding member Awards in both our State organization and in the General organization. Virginia says she loves the C of C and will do whatever she can to see that it prospers.

Commander Ronald Aldis asked me to prepare a story on the C of C for our MOS&B publication, and I contacted Miss Tagliabue. She wrote a fine article and I am happy to present much of it in this column. When you have MOS&B events, or SCV events, I hope you will include the C of C on the program. If you do not have a C of C Chapter in your area, perhaps with some assistance, a Chapter could be formed. We have found the members of our local Chapter to be a wonderful addition to our programs.

Bob Davidson, Chief of Staff, Texas Society, MOS&B

Gentlemen, I came upon this poem a couple of years ago and while revising my book I found it again. I thought I would share it with you. It always make me think of my Confederate ancestors.

DEAR ANCESTOR

*Your tombstone stands among the rest.
Neglected and alone.
The name and date are chiseled out
On polished marble and stone.*

*It reaches out to all who care
It is too late to mourn.
You did not know that I exist.
You died and I was born.*

*Yet each of us are cells of you
In flesh, in blood, in bone.
Our blood contracts and beats a pulse
Entirely not our own.*

*Dear Ancestor, the place you filled
One hundred and forty years ago,
Spreads out among the ones you left
Who would have loved you so.*

*I wonder if you lived and loved
I wonder if you knew
That someday I would find this spot
And come to visit you.*

- Author Unknown -

Some Interesting Dates

Sept. 13, 1861 - Francis Key Howard, the grandson of Francis Scott Key, was arrested on order of U. S. General Banks, and taken to Fort McHenry charged with being an "active secessionist." This was 47 years to the day after his grandfather wrote the Star Spangled Banner, while a prisoner on a British War ship that was bombarding the same Fort McHenry .

Sept. 22, 1833 - Stephen Dill Lee was born. He would later be a General in the Confederate Army, and at New Orleans in 1906, he gave the Charge to the Sons of Confederate Veterans, as follows: *"To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we submit 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 he loved and 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."*

Oct. 12, 1870 - General Robert E. Lee died.

November, 1861 - the first official battle flags were issued to General Beauregard's troops. This flag is properly referred to as the "Southern Cross."



S.C. Boycott Fails

The year 1999-2000, the time the NAACP first enacted its boycott of South Carolina, state tourism revenues increased 11.1 percent. Even the New York Times called the boycott effort "a fizzle" and pointed out that the tourism dollars lost because of the boycott amounted to a "drop in the bucket" as far as South Carolina's \$7 billion tourist income is concerned. We all remember the big deal made on TV about how the NAACP boycott would ruin South Carolina. The daily mainstream press often tries to distort and manipulate or simply withhold information that would refute their relentless anti-southern propaganda. The politicians are so afraid to do anything that the Reverend Jackson or the NAACP might not like and therefore start a boycott. I think their bark is a lot worse than their bite. I have not seen the figures but I feel certain the same results will eventually come out regarding their boycott of Mississippi over the fact that the citizens of Mississippi voted to retain their current State Flag. At least I hope the results are the same.

When did "The War" End?

I realize that, for some of us, The War is still not over. Most of us were taught that it ended on April 9, 1865 when General Robert E. Lee surrendered the Army of Northern Virginia at Appomattox Courthouse in Virginia. That was not really true because large Confederate armies were still fighting in the field. General Joseph E. Johnson surrendered his Army of Tennessee at Durham, North Carolina on April 26th. General Richard Taylor did not surrender his Department of Alabama, Mississippi and Eastern Louisiana troops until May 4th at Citronelle, Alabama, which is in Mobile County just north of the City of Mobile. What is generally considered the "last battle of the war" was at Palmetto Ranch near Brownsville, Texas, and was a Confederate victory. It was fought on May 13, 1865. On June 2, 1865, General E. Kirby Smith surrendered the Trans-Mississippi Department at Galveston, Texas. U.S. President Andrew Johnson proclaimed the insurrection in Tennessee at an end on June 13th. Brig. General Stand Watie's troops surrendered in the Indian Territory on the 23rd of June. Gen. Watie was the last Confederate General to surrender his troops.



On November 4, 1865, the CSS Shenandoah surrendered in Liverpool to British authorities, after Captain James I. Waddell was informed on the high seas by a British ship that the Confederacy was no more. The Captain then put all guns below deck and sailed to England to surrender to the British Admiralty. When the British boarded the vessel, the last Sovereign Confederate flag was furled.

On April 2, 1866, President Andrew Johnson proclaimed the insurrection ended in all the former Confederate States except Texas. It was not until August 20, 1866, that Johnson proclaimed and declared the insurrection in Texas at an end. Texas had finally complied with the conditions of his Reconstruction proclamation. Some say that the "war against the south" continued for a hundred years, and some say that it has never ended and the southland continues to be punished to this day. The decision is up to you. As a Texan it sort of pleases me that Texas was the last State to officially re-enter the Union. I think it was in 1870, but I cannot swear to that as I am writing this. Anyhow, it really was not all over when General Lee surrendered. That is a fact, regardless of what we were taught.

Dues Reminder

We are all SCV members and this is just a reminder that your SCV dues to your Camp, Texas Division and National Headquarters become payable as of August 1st of each year. It is now SCV dues time and your SCV Camp should be sending a statement soon or contacting you in whatever manner they use. Our OS&B dues to your Chapter, Texas Society and National Headquarters are payable January 1st of each year. These must be paid by May 1st to allow the Adjutants time to send in their required reports, etc. to the Nat'l. Hdqtrs. Be on the lookout for your dues statements. If for some reason you do not receive a Dues request please contact your Camp and Chapter Adjutants.

"Bonnie Blue Flag"

Bonnie Blue Flag, and *Dixie* were the most popular songs of the Confederacy. The words to *Bonnie Blue Flag* were written in 1861 by Harry McCarthy, an English-born vaudevillian. He set the words to an old Irish tune, *The Irish Jaunting Car*.

*We are a band of brothers,
Native to the soil
Fighting for the property
We gained by honest toil.
And when our rights were threatened,
The cry rose near and far;
Hurrah for the Bonnie Blue Flag
That bears a single star!*

chorus:

*Hurrah! Hurrah!
For Southern rights, Hurrah!
Hurrah for the Bonnie Blue Flag
That bears a single star!*

*As long as the Union
Was faithful to her trust,
Like friends and brethren,
kind were we, and just;
But now, when Northern treachery
Attempts our rights to mar,
We hoist on high the Bonnie Blue flag
That bears a single star.*

*First gallant South Carolina
Nobly made the stand,
Then came Alabama
And took her by the hand;
Next, quickly, Mississippi,
Georgia, and Florida,
All raised on high the Bonnie Blue flag
That bears a single star.*

*Ye men of valor gather round
The banner of the right,
Texas and fair Louisiana
Join us in the fight;
Davis, our loved President,
And Stephens statesmen are;
Now rally round the Bonnie Blue Flag
That bears a single star.*

*And here's to brave Virginia,
The Old Dominion State.
With the young Confederacy
At length has linked her fate.
Impelled by her example,
Now other States prepare
To hoist on high the Bonnie Blue flag
That bears a single star.*

*Then here's to our Confederacy,
Strong we are and brave,
Like patriots of old we'll fight,
Our heritage to save.
And rather than submit to shame,
To die we would prefer
So cheer for the Bonnie Blue flag
That bears a single star.*

*Then cheer, boys, cheer,
Raise a joyous shout
For Arkansas and North Carolina
Now have both gone out;
And let another rousing cheer
For Tennessee be given
The single star of the Bonnie Blue Flag
Has grown to be eleven!*

*And to Missouri we
Extend both heart and hand
And welcome her a sister
Of our Confederate band
Tho surrounded by oppression
No one dare deter
Her adding to our Bonnie Blue Flag
Her bright and twelfth star!*

chorus:

*Hurrah! Hurrah!
For Southern rights, Hurrah!
Hurrah for the Bonnie Blue Flag
That bears a single star!*

Bobby Gene Davidson
10858 Mosswood Dr
Tyler, TX 75703-9433

FIRST CLASS
MAIL



Texas Society, Military Order
of the Stars and Bars
G. Ronald Aldis, *Commander*
1317 Richelieu Lane
Houston, Texas 77018-1913



An Elderly Southern Lady

I recently heard a supposedly true story about an elderly lady in occupied Richmond following the fall of that city in 1865. The lady had stumbled and would have fallen and probably suffered a severe injury had a young Yankee soldier not grabbed her to prevent her fall. Though she despised Yankees, never the less she could not help but be grateful for the rescue. The nearest thing to forgiveness she could think of was, "Why thank you, young man. If there is a cold spot in Hell, I hope you get it!"

MY FAVORITE BUS DRIVER

A bus driver was conducting a tour of famous Civil War (War Between The States) battle sites. "Here," he points out at one spot, "is where the Southern troops routed a whole regiment of Yankees. Over there, the Rebs wiped out a whole platoon of Yanks. Down about a mile, there's another valley where we captured a thousand Union soldiers." A tourist says, "Didn't the North ever win a battle?"

"Yes ma'am. But not while I'm driving this bus..."

