



LONE STAR DISPATCH

NEWSLETTER OF

THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE STARS AND BARS—TEXAS SOCIETY

2024, Spring Edition

Volume 6, Issue 4



COMMANDER'S CORNER

by George W. Williamson

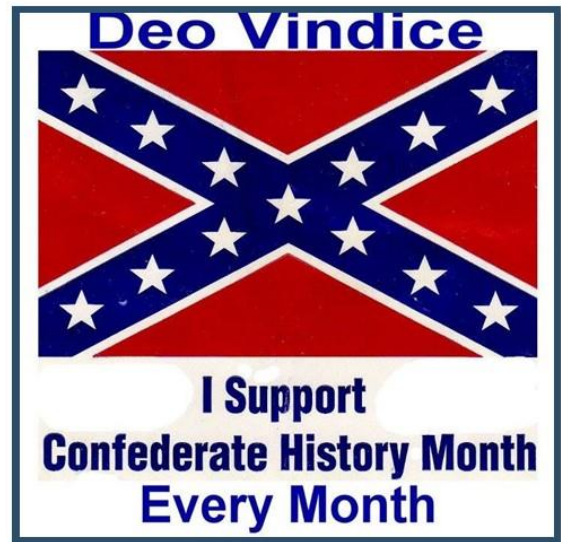
Spring is officially here and is always a beautiful time of the year. Let us all remember that April is Confederate History Month and thank goodness for organizations like the MOS&B, the SCV, The Order of the Southern Cross, the UDC and NSDCASOC who honor our ancestors and their sacrifices. Without our organizations, Confederate History would be forgotten.

As I write this, I'm looking forward to attending the 87th Annual General Convention held in Springfield, Missouri and the Texas Society Convention that will be held in College Station. Both are promising to be great conventions and you don't want to miss them so get registered!

We just had our Executive Council Meeting in College Station, and it was very productive with a good attendance. Everyone I talked with was talking about prospective members who were filling out their applications. I feel recruiting has definitely increased, and we should see another great year.

It will be an honor for me to give out the awards to our deserving members and chapters at the Texas Convention

God bless the MOS&B
George W. Williamson
Texas Society Commander



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REGISTER NOW!

Be sure to go online to our Texas Society website:

<http://txmosb.org>

and preregister for the Annual General Convention and the TX Society Convention

**Deadline May 5, 2024
No Meal Tickets Available
After May 5, 2024**

UPCOMING EVENTS

2024 87TH ANNUAL GENERAL CONVENTION

May 16-19, 2024
Doubletree by Hilton Hotel
2431 North Glenstone Avenue
Springfield, MO 65803

Deadline: May 5, 2024

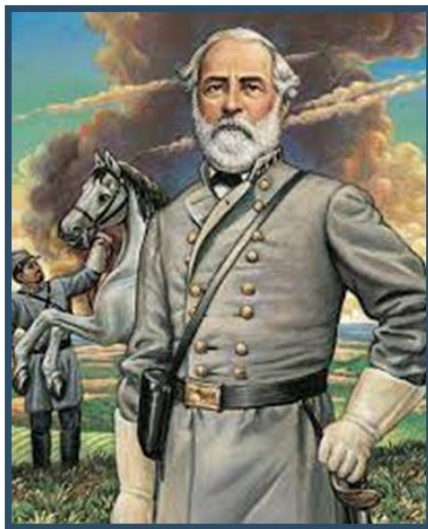
TEXAS SOCIETY MOS&B CONVENTION

June 21—22, 2024
Hilton College Station & Conference Center
801 University Drive East
College Station, TX 77840

Deadline: June 11, 2024



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TEXAS SOCIETY OF THE STARS AND BARS



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE TEXAS SOCIETY MILITARY ORDER OF THE STARS AND BARS

Lone Star Dispatch is published quarterly with publication deadlines of:

- Winter Edition..... January
- Spring Edition..... April
- Summer Edition..... July
- Fall Edition..... October



CHAPLAIN'S COMMENTS

by Raymond Holder

Defenders of the Faith



It seems to me that most of the more traditional hymns I sang as a youth and young man in church are not heard very often these days; at least in the church I attend. One of the hymns remembered is "Faith of Our Fathers." The first stanza, "Faith of our Fathers living still, in spite of dungeons, fire and sword. O' how our hearts beat high with joy, whenever we hear that glorious word! Faith of Our Fathers Holy Faith! We will be true to thee till death," has a familiar reminiscence of our ancestors during and after the War of Northern Aggression. How have we fared, you and I, with the faith of our Confederate ancestors to the present day in which we live?

Our Confederate ancestors went back to their homes and any place some could find after Lee's surrender to pick up the pieces of their shattered lives only to find poverties of spirit and hope. Many families forsook any land or any possessions they had and went west. These scenes played out throughout the southland. Then, a subtle wind began to sweep through the old Confederacy which was unnoticed by the rest of the country, but not by the southern people. I have written in previous articles about the fervency of faith that not only our soldiers had during the war, but also our leaders. Robert E. Lee, Stonewall Jackson, Leonidas Polk, John Bell Hood and many other Confederate Generals, almost too many to mention, led a spiritual renewal among their troops. This renewed faith among the individual Confederate soldiers went home with them. Hebrews 10:38 says "the just shall live by faith." And Hebrews 11:6 says "it is impossible to please God without faith." Jesus came down from Heaven not to establish an earthly kingdom, but a spiritual kingdom, hence, the Kingdom of God. This is the Faith of our Fathers living still. "Blessed are the poor (not spiritually arrogant) in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven." Matthew 5:3

Hebrews 11:1 says "Now faith is substance of things hoped for, the evidence not seen." My argument for the spiritual renewal of the south is, I believe, the evidence has been seen and felt for many decades, that is, the faith of our fathers. Let me explain. The two largest faith groups in our country are the Roman Catholic Church and the Southern Baptist Convention. The latter represents the largest evangelical community of faith. The Southern Baptist Convention was formed out of the Triennial convention in 1845 in Augusta, Georgia. The evangelical growth of this faith group, similar to many others which started in the south, grew out of the war shattered south whose people were and still are, evidently rich in spirit. The missionary endeavor of these southern faith groups has reached around the world, not only spreading the Christian Faith, but also its good works.

Yes, we are the defenders of the faith of our southern ancestors who lived and died for the southern cause of our Confederate heritage. This may be our greatest legacy, the defenders of the faith of our fathers who perpetuated the spiritual kingdom of our Lord.

Raymond Holder
B.S., M.Div., B.C.C.
Chaplain
Military Order of the Stars & Bars

TEXAS SOCIETY EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

March 23, 2024

Bryan College Station, Texas

I would like to enlighten you on what our Executive Council Meetings are about and to **tell you every member is invited and encouraged to attend.** The voting members are composed of the Commander, Lt. Commander, the Chief of Staff and the Adjutant, the immediate past two Commanders and one elected representative from each chapter.

The Parliamentarian shall be a member of the Executive Council but will have no vote and will not count for the quorum.



The Executive Council working as a team under the Commander's leadership, shall be responsible

for the overall long-range direction of the Society and are deeply involved in planning the Society's programs and activities. Matters of major importance concerning the Society's future should be brought before this council.





RECRUITMENT VISIT

Waul's Texas Legion S.C.V. Camp 2103 Katy, Texas



I was invited, April 3, 2024, to attend the Waul's Texas Legion S.C. V. Camp 2193 in Katy, Texas, to give a presentation on Robert E. Lee and to invite them to become members of the MOS&B.



My wife and I were warmly welcomed. This is a great S.C.V. Camp and several members expressed a desire to become MOS&B members.

We enjoyed the evening and it was great to meet other Confederate compatriots.



To continue to grow our membership, I encourage visits to other Confederate organizations to recruit and grow our chapters. After all, we are one Confederate family.



Ten Things You May Not Know About Robert E. Lee

1. **He did not grow his famous beard until late in life:** Lee had always appeared younger than his years so in the winter of 1861, he grew whiskers which were white, and that made him look older.
2. **He was largely responsible for opening up the Mississippi River to navigation:** As an Army engineer in the 1830s, Lee was stationed in St. Louis and working with the forces of the river, directed the improvement of the channels of the Mississippi as to improve greatly its navigability.
3. **He was extremely frugal with money:** Lee's father, whom he barely knew, was a poor businessman and had whittled away the Lee estate putting a hardship on his mother. He adopted an attitude of extreme frugality and was very careful with his money.
4. **He corresponded with Whistler's mother:** While Lee was Superintendent at West Point, a young James Whistler was a cadet and a very poor one who failed many classes. Lee took a sincere interest in the boy and started writing his mother emphasizing the need for the boy to be diligent in his studies. After leaving the Academy, Whistler, became a famous artist, painting in 1871 the portrait that became known as "Whistler's Mother".
5. **He loved to flirt:** By all accounts he was a unfailingly faithful husband, but enjoyed the company of pretty, young women. He even delighted in telling his wife about his meetings. Lee told a friend that "pretty young women made his heart open to them, like a flower to the sun".
6. **He slept in a modest soldier's tent and ate the same rations as his men:** Lee turned down delicacies of food offered to him as well as to use homes of Southerners. He made it a point to share the daily hardships of his men as possible.
7. **He rode other horses besides Traveller during the Civil War:** When Lee purchased Traveller, he already had two horses, Richmond and Brown-Roan. Later he acquired Lucy Long who was a backup to Traveller and then Ajax who remained with Lee after the war.
8. **He disliked slavery and abhorred secession:** Lee never personally owned slaves, but he managed 200 slaves for five years at Arlington Plantation who had belonged to his father-in-law, George Washington Parke Custis, at his death. He said "Secession is nothing but revolution. I have been unable to make up my mind to raise my hand against my native state, my relations, my children and my home...and never desire again to draw my sword save in defense of my State. I consider it useless to go into the reasons that influenced me. I can give no advice. I merely tell you what I have done that you may do better".
9. **He met Ulysses S. Grant a second time at Appomattox after the famous surrender:** Lee and Grant had served together in the Mexican War. After the meeting at the McLean House, Grant tried to convince Lee to use his stature to persuade the remaining Confederate forces to surrender, but Lee said such a course would now be improper for him to take. After being indicted for treason, with threat of arrest and possible execution, Lee appealed to Grant, noting that he, Grant, had written "each officer and man will be allowed to return to his home, not to be disturbed by United States authority as long as they observe their paroles and the laws in force where they may reside". Grant concurred and urged Lee to apply for a federal pardon which he would endorse. Lee did, and after it was forwarded to President Andrew Johnson the application would be "lost" and Lee's citizenship would not be restored until 1975. What Lee did not know was that Grant quietly let it be known that he would resign from the army if Lee were to be arrested.
10. **He turned down many lucrative business offers after the war ended:** Lee returned to a modest house he had rented for his wife and family in Richmond after his Arlington estate had been seized by Union forces. With his legal status and financial resources much reduced, Lee looked for a way to make a living. He turned down every invitation to prosper by his name: president of the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway, command the Romanian army, to be governor of Virginia, to preside over insurance companies and offered to move into an English manor house with an annual stipend. Lee at last found a position that suited him—the presidency of Washington College in Lexington. He revitalized the dying institution by adding practical courses in languages, engineering, commerce, farming and the first ever journalism school in the country.



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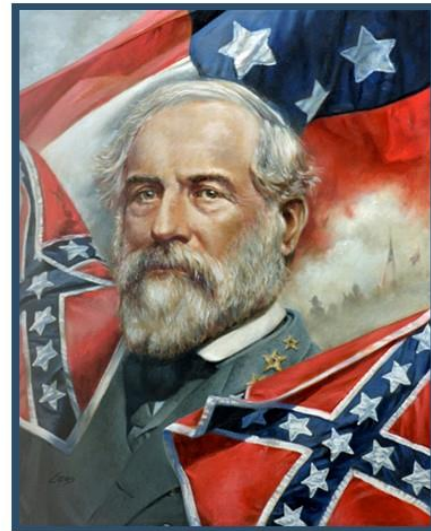
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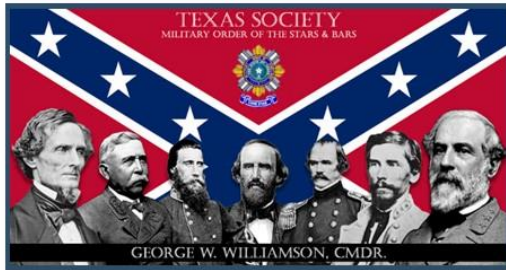
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“Do your duty in all things.
You cannot do more, you
should never wish to do
less.”

Robert E. Lee

FACEBOOK PAGE



Our Texas Society Military Order of the Stars and Bars Facebook page is managed by Commander Michael Gonzales. We encourage you to join by going to Facebook, type in Texas Society—Military Order of the Stars and Bars, click to join and answer the questions.

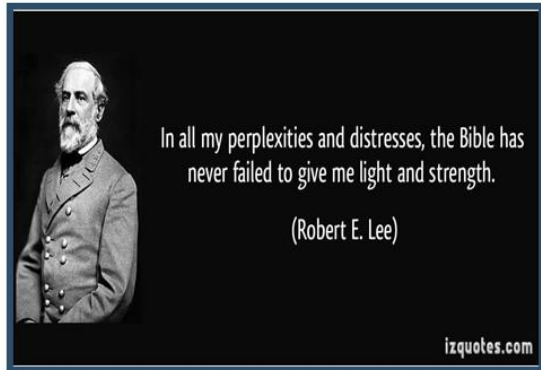


NEW MEMBERS

Welcome New Members!

John Richard Kuna
Col. Richard B. Hubbard
Chapter #261 Tyler, Texas

Michael Shane Hubbard
Lt. Col. Andrew Jackson Nicholson
Chapter #318 Temple, Texas



Military Order of the Stars and Bars Pledge

“We, the posterity of the Officer Corps and civil officials of the Confederacy, do pledge ourselves to commemorate and honor the service of leadership these men rendered in the cause of the fundamental American principles of self-determination and states' rights and to perpetuate the true history of their deeds for the edification of ourselves, our society and for generations yet unborn.”