

Sam Bell Maxey House - Paris, Texas - By Judge Henry Braswell

THE MAXEY DISPATCH The Newsletter of the Gen. Sam Bell Maxey Camp 1358 Sons of Confederate Veterans, Paris TX Dispatch # 287 May 2019

Adjutants Report

The April 2019 meeting was called to order by Commander Ray Ball according to SCV ritual. The opening prayer was offered by Bill George followed by the pledge of allegiance to the U. S. Flag, and the salute to the Confederate Flag.

The charge to the SCV from Confederate General Stephen Dill Lee in New Orleans, Louisiana, 25 April 1906 when the United Confederate Veterans became The Sons Of Confederate Veterans, was read.

The financial report was accepted as read (at least no one questioned it). We still can't buy the Lear Jet but we could maybe buy about five gallon of fuel for it. Maybe later when we find a new member who is a billionaire. In any case our Camp is in good financial shape to make it to the end of this fiscal year which ends July 31. Expect to start receiving membership statements by early to mid June. I'm expected to mail them to GHQ in August.

The turnout for our April meeting was the smallest I remember. It was a good meeting though because a couple, who possibly are founding members, were there. It was really good to see them. Also, our newest member was there. The latest, and the earliest members, what a combination that was. Commander Ray Ball, and Adjutant John Brown were sandwiched in between, but speaking for myself that was an honor.

I recently met with former Commander Bill Milling who suffered an injury a couple of months back. He said he has recovered to the point that he plans to make the May meeting. I sure hope so. It aint fun when you put your foot in a "Bear Trap." No, that didn't happen, but it seems to be about the same effect as if it had. Most of the meeting was taken up with Camp business and the antics in Austin. In lieu of a formal program Commander Ball led a question & answer session to fill the time left for the meeting. No one volunteered to do the program for May, so I hope someone will tell us about their Confederate ancestors then.

The next meeting will be tuesday 7 May 2019 at the Paris Public Library at 6:00 p. m.

John Brown: Adjutant

Quasi Editorial Comments

I have not received the usual e-mails about bills pending in Austin lately. Many non-SCV members have already joined with us in urging the passage of bills that protect the symbols that display our heritage. The Legislative session ends on 28 May and any bill not passed by that time is DOA. After that date it will be two more years before the Texas Legislature will meet again and by that time it will be too late to protect anything.

I did receive an e-mail about a bill that I had no knowledge of. HB 1183 to eliminate **Confederate Heros Day in Texas** is to be acted on by the <u>House State Affairs Committee</u>. I don't know if this committee has the authority to eliminate it, or to bring it to the floor for a vote. It's a House Bill so I think it would have to pass the Senate before enacted. Someone who knows more than I do would have to report on what can happen. I hope they will at the May meeting. A lot of Texans don't know that special "day" exists, but we do. Looks like another symbol of our heritage could get the "shaft" and we need to prevent that if we can.

I was reading about Confederate Generals and found one that we all have heard about, Earl Van Dorn. Born near Port Gibson, Mississippi, on 27 Sept.,1820. He graduated from West Point in 1842, and earned two brevets in the Mexican War. By 1861 he was a major in the 2nd U. S. Cavalry under A. S. Johnson and R. E. Lee. Joining the South, he was appointed colonel, then brigadier general in June 1861, when he served in Texas. As a

major general he was sent to Virginia and became commander of the Army of the West in the Trans-Mississippi area in January 1862. Although he was daring and agressive, he lost the battle of Elkhorn Tavern in 1862 and hence was unable to aid A. S. Johnston at Shiloh. He was defeated at Corinth after Shiloh but was given charge of General John C. Pemberton's cavalry. His dashing raid on U. S. Grant's supply base at Holly Springs, Mississippi, in December 1862 stalled a major Union thrust at Vicksburg and stands as Van Dorn's best achievement. He was murdered by a Dr. Peters--a jealous husband--at Spring Hill, Tennessee on 7 May 1863. KIA I assume???

Another well known and very interesting Confederate was Brigadier General Stand Watie, Cherokee leader who led Indian troops. Stand Watie was born in Georgia on 12 December 1806. He was three-quarter-blood Cherokee Indian. After being educated at a mission school he led the faction of the Cherokee Nation that supported the Confederacy. A colonel in the 1st Cherokee Mounted Rifles, he fought at Wilson's Creek and Elkhorn Tavern, then in several skirmishes in the West. He was commissioned a brigadier in May 1864 and remained loyal to the South. In fact he was one of the last to surrender--on June 23 1865. He was a planter and businessman after the war. Watie died in present-day Delaware County Oklahoma on 9 September 1871.

The book I use for this type of information has pictures of these men. They look like ordinary hero's to me.

Quasi Editor John Brown

Stand firmly by your Cannon Let ball and grapeshot fly And trust in God and Davis But keep your powder dry