

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, Texas Dispatch # 322 June, 2022

## Adjutant's Report:

The May 2022 (5-3-2022) meeting was called to order by the Adjutant according to SCV ritual at 6 p.m. The opening prayer was offered by member Bill Milling. The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag followed by the salute to the Confederate flag was intoned. The 1906 charge from Confederate General Stephen Dill Lee, on the founding of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, was read to those present. There were seven regular members present and one visitor; Texas Division, 5th Brigade Commander, Bill Elliott once again attended.

Commander Elliott gave an update about Texas Division happenings as well as SCV national events during April's Confederate History Month. The Jefferson parade was held on the 30<sup>th</sup> of April. There were 6 members from Marshall, 2 from Mt. Pleasant, 3 from Longview and 1 from Gilmer. Both Past Commander in Chief Chuck McMichael's from Shreveport and Texas Division Adjutant Allen Hearrean from Grapevine were part of the group of re-enactors.

Commander Elliott pointed out that part of General Stephen Dill Lee's charge to the Sons of Confederate Veterans is that we are given the defense of the Confederate soldier's good name and the guardianship of his history. Also the Sons of Confederate Veterans Statement of Purpose reminds us that we have been commissioned by the Confederate Veterans themselves to protecting the memory of our beloved Confederate Veterans, which includes their memorials, images, symbols, monuments and grave sites for ourselves and future generations. Commander Elliott made us aware of and briefed us on the Texas Division Guardian Program.

The Texas Division has instituted a special program to honor the memory of our Confederate Ancestors and to help ensure the preservation of their final resting places. Any Texas Division camp member in good standing, who has demonstrated his willingness to serve in this special

capacity, may become a GUARDIAN. There are specific guidelines and requirements that must be met which are outlined in the TEXAS DIVISION GUARDIAN PROGRAM RULES AND GUIDELINES. Some of the duties and responsibilities of a Guardian are that he shall care for and protect the grave of a Confederate Veteran, ensuring that the site is kept clean and well maintained year round. He shall perform these duties personally, unless physically prevented from doing so by reason of health problems. He shall be responsible that the grave has an appropriate marker designating it as the resting place of a Confederate Veteran. (i.e. a family stone with reference to Confederate serves, and/or a government issued veteran's stone, and/or a Southern Cross of Honor.) He shall also be responsible for replacing or repairing any marker that is destroyed, damaged or badly worn. Additionally he shall personally visit the grave a minimum of three times a year, to include Confederate Memorial Day, or at least one week prior, when he shall place either a wreath or small Confederate Flag, or both, on the grave. Any member interested in more information about the Texas Division Guardian Program or to obtain an application please contact me.

After Commander Elliott's report the remainder of the meeting consisted of a round table discussion of current events and news that is having repercussions on our Confederate Heritage. We continued the discussion of Confederate soldier's graves preservation and care. We also discussed the procedures for obtaining a government issued Confederate grave marker from the Veteran's Administration. I recently have dealt with the Veteran's administration about obtaining Civil War grave markers; having no trouble with my Union ancestor's marker but hitting snags with my Confederate ancestor's marker. I happen to be an SOB; Sons of Both. The meeting was adjourned at 7 p.m.

Deo vindice.

Clayton Coker- Adjutant

The next meeting will be Tuesday 7 June, 2022 at the Paris Public Library at 6:00 pm.

## **Editorial:**

I believe that it is important that our camp set some goals and be proactive if we are to continue to exist and grow.

Goal one is to reach out and recruit new members into the organization. I am a grandfather and am still one of the youngest members of the Camp. We do have younger (satellite) members (who happen to be my sons) but all of us local guys are all "grey beards". We need to reach out to our younger generation. I have given most of our local members some SCV Recruiting Coins to pass out to prospective members. We need to reach out to the next generation to insure that our heritage is not lost to the passage of time.

Goal two is that every member put together a "presentation" or at least a fact sheet about their Confederate Veteran Ancestor. Each member can present the information at a meeting or, if you are not comfortable with public speaking, another member (such as me) can present the information. I am sure that the membership would be very interested in our local heritage and it would be a tribute for our ancestors. If that ancestor is interred within a reasonable distance then the Guardian Program could be addressed.

We have survived a civil war, two pandemics, a great depression, two world wars, and now (I'm not sure what to call it) the current status of our nation. Let's keep up the good fight for our Confederate ancestors. If they were referred to as "Johnny Reb" then let us ask ourselves; WWJD!

Quasi Editor - Clayton Coker

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