

**QUARTERLY PUBLIC MEETING
OF MAJOR WILLIAM A. MCTEER CAMP NO. 39
DEPARTMENT OF TENNESSEE
SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR**

Members of Major William A. McTeer Camp No. 39 met at the East Tennessee Historical Society, Knoxville, for its quarterly public meeting on Sunday, 18 September 2016. Commander David H. McReynolds called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: David McReynolds, CC; Mike Downs, DC, PCC; Max Renfro, CSVC; Richard Holmes, CJVC; Norman Shaw; George Lane; PCC; Craig Brown, PDC; Jason McTeer; A.B. McTeer; Carter Holmes; Roy Gamble; Mark Fortner; Steven Jolley; John Oliver Jr.

OTHERS PRESENT: President Cindy McReynolds, Polly Toole Auxiliary No. 17, ASUVCW; Becky Jolly, President, Lucinda Heatherly Tent, DUVCW; Audra A. Morton; Cindy Owens; Mary Alice Fortner; Mary Gamble; Jim Claborn; Carol Downs; Rachel McReynolds (official photographer); Wayne Roberts.

1. Commander McReynolds opened the meeting using the Ritual of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. Members and guests recited in unison both the Americans' Creed and the Pledge of Allegiance and Chaplain George Lane offered prayer.
2. Commander McReynolds began by expressing his appreciation for the turnout of Brothers and members of the public on this very special occasion, the initiation of a real son into Camp membership. He also announced, that in his new role as National Treasurer, he was officially representing new Commander-in-Chief Donald Martin.
3. Department Commander Downs summarized the work of the National Encampment that occurred in Springfield, IL from 11-13 August. He described the continued recognition being given both the Department of Tennessee and the McTeer Camp. He started with the election of Camp Commander McReynolds to the important position of National Treasurer, receiving almost 70% of the votes cast. Next, he showed the group the Grant Cup that was given to the Department for the second year in a row for the largest percentage growth in membership. The Sultana Camp No. 1, based in Memphis, TN, was awarded the Marshall Hope Award for the most outstanding newsletter in the year 2015-2016. The Sultana newsletter is edited by Brother Darwin Concon. Brothers Gary Burke and Darrell Ball from the Fort Donelson Camp No. 62 in Nashville, TN each received a Certificate of Recognition from the National Commander-in-Chief for their work in developing the history of the United States Colored Troops (U.S.C.T.). McTeer Camp Secretary-Treasurer Doug Fidler was awarded the Cornelius F. Whitehead Brother of the Year Award by outgoing Commander-in-Chief Eugene Mortorff. Fidler was recognized for his longstanding devotion to the Sons of Union Veterans and for his dogged determination in getting approval for International Camps. He is also responsible for the recruitment of many brothers into the SUVCW and also received recognition for his recruitment efforts at

the encampment. As the “mother” camp, the McTeer Camp was proud that the Ensign John Davis Camp No. 10 in London, England received the Joseph S. Ripley Award as the most outstanding new camp for the year 2015-2016.

4. Commander McReynolds offered praise to the entire membership of the Camp for their support, cooperation and participation in this year’s important events. Earlier in the year, we participated in the 100th anniversary celebration of the Sultants Monumnet in conjunction with the Sultant Descendants Association. This Summer was a major event celebrating Readmission Day 2016 at the Old Gray Cemetery in Knoxville. This event celebrated the sesquicentennial of the readmission of Tennessee into the Union on 24 July 1866. Last state to secede, first state to be readmitted. Despite the hot weather, it was well attended, received broad publicity, and brought more knowledge about important Civil War events in Knoxville and East Tennessee just after the end of the war. And we had a financial surplus of about \$50, which the Camp Officers voted to donate to our Polly Toole Auxiliary to fund a new required IRS filing for new 501(c)(4) organizations. He also expressed his gratitude for those brothers who helped out at the East Tennessee History Fair held on 20 August 2016. We had several people express interest in joining the Camp.
5. Both Commander McReynolds and Department Commander Downs discussed the upcoming Central Region Association meeting in Franklin and Nashville. The event will take place 1 October 2016 with a driving tour of the Franklin battlefield in the morning and a business meeting with educational presentations in the afternoon at Fort Negley. This event is a meeting of the Allied Orders existing in the Departments that make up the Central Region.
6. Commander McReynolds then discussed the remaining events on our calendar for 2016. He reminded the members that a full calendar is on the Camp web site and may be accessed at any time. Changes in time or place are also posted.
7. Chaplain Lane, Commander McReynolds, Department Commander Downs and Guide Jason McTeer then led the Ritual of Initiation for real son Jason Wilson Oliver Jr. of Morristown, TN and junior member Steven Kenneth Jolley of Harriman, TN. A biography of Brother Oliver will soon be posted to the web site. Brother Oliver was presented with a specially engraved badge and the Camp Membership Certificate by Department Commander Downs and Commander McReynolds presented a National Life Membership Certificate recognizing him as a real son on behalf of Commander-in-Chief Martin. A short recess was held following the ceremony for social interaction, conversation and photos with our newest members.
8. After the recess, a memorial service was held for Brother David Lee Reich who passed away on 5 September 2016. Beginning 19 September 2016, the Camp will have a 15 day period of mourning in respect for our departed Brother.
9. Commander McReynolds then conducted the closing ritual and the meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m. Many stayed afterward to continue fraternal interaction and to take more photos as mementos of this special occasion.

FOR THE CAMP:

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

David H. McReynolds, CC
Major William A. McTeer Camp No. 39
Department of Tennessee
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War