



SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS, TEXAS DIVISION

THE JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP NEWS

www.reaganscvcamp.org

VOLUME 10, ISSUE 9

SEPTEMBER 2018

COMMANDER'S DISPATCH



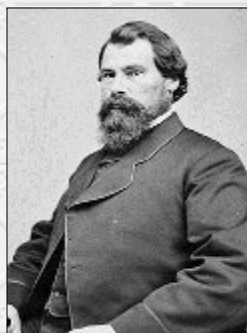
Our September meeting was enjoyed by a large and enthusiastic group. The meal, prepared by Dwight Franklin, was Confederate Succotash and it was exceptional!

A program was presented by compatriot Andrew Petty. Few of us knew Andrew was an excellent storyteller. His program was an exciting story of the Great Locomotive Chase and he had us hanging on the edge our seats throughout his presentation. The compatriots gave Andrew a large ovation

at the end of the program.

SVC is actively attempting to protect the monuments erected to our confederate ancestors. Our camp built and maintains the Confederate Plaza in Palestine. You should encourage all to visit the plaza. It honors our Confederate ancestors and recognizes the valor of all southern soldiers.

If you have a friend, please bring him to one of our camp meetings. If your friend would like to do research on his Confederate ancestor, we would be happy to assist in the search. We meet at 6:30 PM the Third Thursday of each month at the



John H. Reagan

About 1863
Oct 8, 1818 – March 6, 1905

Post Master General of the Confederate States of America
Secretary of the Treasury CSA

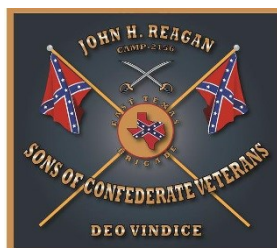
U. S. Senator from Texas
U. S. Rep. from Texas
District Judge

Texas State Representative
First Chairman - Railroad Commission of Texas

A Founder and President of the Texas State Historical Association

Commerical National Bank, corner of Lacy and Mallard in Palestine.

Richard Thornton



CAMP MEETINGS

3rd Thursday of Each Month
06:30 PM

Snacks and drinks served at each meeting.

Commercial Bank of Texas on the corner of N. Mallard & E. Lacy Street

The Bank is located just south of the Anderson County Courthouse Annex.

Guests are welcome!
Bring the family.

www.reaganscvcamp.org

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Confederate Veterans Memorial Plaza Groundskeeping Calendar

- September 2018 **Need Someone to sign up**
- October 2018 - Richard Thornton
- November 2018 - Richard Thornton
- December 2018 - Dan Dyer
- January 2019 - Dan Dyer
- February 2019 - **Need Someone to sign up**
- March 2019 - Calvin Nicholson
- April 2019 - Andrew Petty
- May 2019 - Charles Steen
- June 2019 - Marc Robinson
- July 2019 - Dwight Franklin
- August 2019 - Andrew Harris

Prayer List

- **Robinson family in the death of 11-year old Case Robinson**
- **Compatriot Forrest Bradberry**
- **Compatriot J.B. Mason**
- **Toni Ray (wife of past comdr Rudy Ray)**
- **Reagan Camp Historian Gary Williams**
- **Past Davis/Reagan UDC Pres. Dollye Jeffus**
- **Rod Skelton (former Camp Chaplain)**
- **United Daughters of the Confederacy**
- **The Sovereign State of Texas**
- **The United States of America**
- **The Sons of Confederate Veterans**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The Reagan Camp will have monthly meetings on the 3rd Thursday of each month in the Commercial Bank of Texas meeting room.

Sept 29—Workday at the Reagan Home Place

Oct 5-7—Confederate Reunion Grounds Reenactment

October 7—Reagan Family Reunion at the Museum for East Texas Culture.

October 18—October Meeting

November 15 — November Meeting

December 20 — December Meeting/Christmas



This flag flies in honor and memory of over 1,000 Confederate veterans from Anderson County who marched off to war, one third of whom never returned, and the over 500 Confederate veterans from all across the South who are buried in this county. They fought for liberty and independence from a tyrannical and oppressive government. Provided by the John H. Reagan Camp # 2156, Sons of Confederate Veterans. www.reaganstvcamp.org

Above: Reagan Camp's battle flag and sign displayed proudly at intersection of FM 315 and Anderson Cty Rd 448, ten miles north of Palestine.

“NOTHING FILLS ME WITH DEEPER SADNESS THAN TO SEE A SOUTHERN MAN APOLOGIZING FOR THE DEFENSE WE MADE OF OUR INHERITANCE. OUR CAUSE WAS SO JUST, SO SACRED, THAT HAD I KNOWN ALL THAT HAS COME TO PASS, HAD I KNOWN WHAT WAS TO BE INFLICTED UPON ME, ALL THAT MY COUNTRY WAS TO SUFFER, ALL THAT OUR POSTERITY WAS TO ENDURE, I WOULD DO IT ALL OVER AGAIN.”

-PRESIDENT JEFFERSON DAVIS-

“DUTY IS THE MOST SUBLIME WORD IN OUR LANGUAGE. DO YOUR DUTY IN ALL THINGS. YOU CANNOT DO MORE. YOU SHOULD NEVER WISH TO DO LESS.”

-GENERAL ROBERT E. LEE-



JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP SEPTEMBER MEETING



We had 14 in attendance at the September meeting. We were happy to have visitors Maxine Moore and Dan Manuel join us for the meeting. We had a meal which consisted of Confederate Succotash, Fried Chicken, Chocolate Éclair, Ice Cream and Sweet Tea! It was really good to get to visit with each other and enjoy a good meal together. We welcome anyone who would like to attend our meetings. They are held on the 3rd Thursday of each month in the Commercial Bank of Texas' Banquet room. Thanks to Doug Smith for bringing the fried chicken, sweet tea, and ice cream.





SEPTEMBER HISTORICAL PROGRAM
“CATCH ME IF YOU CAN: THE GREAT TRAIN ROBBERY”
BY ANDREW PETTY



Compatriot Andrew Petty presented the September Reagan Camp Meeting Historical Program with his presentation, “Catch Me If You Can: The Great Train Robbery”. He gave an enthusiastic and informative account of an unsuccessful attempt by Yankees to steal a train from the Confederacy. He has allowed us to print his notes to allow those who were unable to attend the meeting to read about this fascinating story.



“Catch Me If You Can: The Great Train Robbery”

When one thinks of train robberies, the image is usually one of bandits on horseback, riding alongside the

locomotive hoping to ransack the cabin and pilfer whatever valuables they can from the unsuspecting passengers. While today’s tale doesn’t unfold quite like that, it features no less a dramatic story of a group of daring desperadoes looking to pull off one of the greatest heists of the Civil War. These treasure hunters sought a bounty not of personal effects, nor a stash of hidden gold, but rather the theft of the actual train itself.

It was an audacious plan, concocted by a Union spy named James J. Andrews. Though mainly a drug smuggler and dealer in contraband goods, he was also adept at gathering secret intelligence and served as a scout to Major General Don Carlos Buell. The war was barely a year old when Andrews devised a strategy that, if successful, would have the potential to cripple the Confederate efforts along the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers, and bring the war to a halt within a matter of months instead of years.

The key to pulling off this bold scheme was disrupting the train resupply lines at Chattanooga. The city not only served as the major hub between Atlanta and the cities to the North, but also provided the only railway route to resupply Confederate forces along the Mississippi River. Chattanooga’s mountainous terrain provided excellent natural fortifications, making a ground assault difficult. However, Andrews realized that, if he could somehow cut the city off from Atlanta, thus preventing it from being adequately resupplied, then Union troops could march on Chattanooga, blockade it, and capture it without much of a struggle.

However, this was just phase one of the operation. For the plan to have any hope of succeeding, Andrews would need to time his raid in conjunction with a prepared attack on nearby Huntsville, Alabama by Union forces under the command of General Ormsby Mitchel. If all went accordingly, Andrews would hijack the northbound Western and Atlantic train, destroying tracks and telegraph lines along the way, and meet up with Mitchel’s army, which would quickly advance on Chattanooga.

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SEPTEMBER HISTORICAL PROGRAM

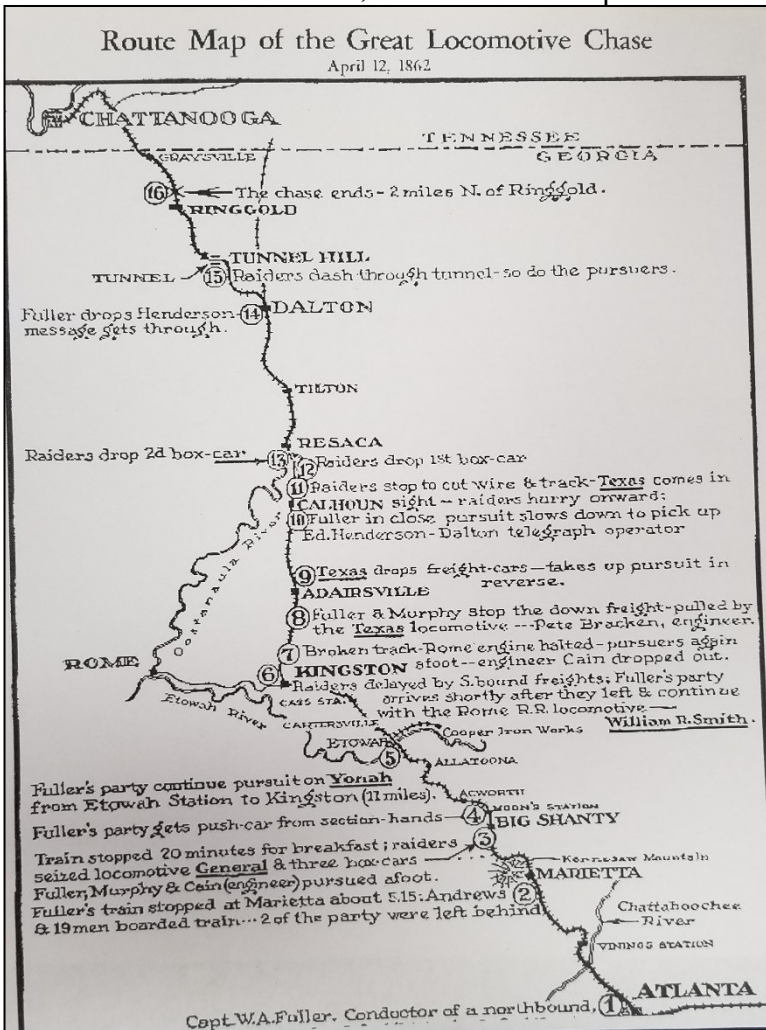
“CATCH ME IF YOU CAN: THE GREAT TRAIN ROBBERY”

BY ANDREW PETTY



If it worked to perfection, the Confederacy would be shattered, unable to supply troops either in the Northern or Western battle campaigns. It would be a decisive victory.

The peril in performing this plan was obvious. Should Andrews be apprehended, he would surely be hanged as a spy. Still, this did not deter the intrepid Andrews, who vowed that he would either succeed or “leave my bones in Dixie.” He enlisted the help of twenty-two other Union soldiers, dressed them in civilian clothing, and supplied them with the cover story that, should any enemy soldiers ask about their activities, they were to say they were looking to join a Confederate regiment near Marietta. On April 7, 1862 the group began making their way behind enemy lines, on their way South. While most eventually wound up at their destination, two of the group were discovered and, rather than admit their clandestine activities, decided to be impressed into the Confederate ranks.



Andrews had initially planned his mission for April 11, but a driving rain had forced him to delay his plans until the following day. Assuming that Mitchel's troops would likewise be hampered by the downpour, Andrews chose to continue on with his enterprising endeavor. The soldiers booked two rooms at the hotel adjacent to the train tracks, and waited for the locomotive to arrive the next morning on April 12, 1862 - ironically, on the one year anniversary of the opening shots of Fort Sumter which started the war.

At 5:15 a.m., the raiders' prize pulled into the station. *The General*, conducted by William A. Fuller, stopped in the town of Big Shanty (present day Kennesaw) and let off its passengers for an early morning breakfast. Andrews had carefully selected this location because there was no telegraph station to relay information up the line - once they stole the train, Andrews and his men would be in the clear. As soon as the

last passenger had entered the hotel dining area, Andrews seized his opportunity. He instructed his men to load up in the boxcar while he commandeered the train and began slowly moving it down the tracks.

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Though some curious townsfolk as well as a few meandering Confederate soldiers witnessed the event unfold, they were more bemused than anything else, and assumed the raiders were merely hooligans who would abandon the train a few miles away. They didn't realize the seriousness of the situation.

One man though, DID understand what was happening- the conductor, William Fuller. The train was almost out of sight when one of the guests Fuller was dining with informed him that his train was being stolen. Though he didn't know the full particulars, Fuller had a sense of duty to maintain charge and command of his train. This, he began pursuing the marauders- on foot. This doesn't seem as far fetched as it sounds. The train was poking along at about 12 miles per hour, and Fuller, having been a flagman, was in great physical shape. Nevertheless, the train continued to gain distance, steamed over the next hill, and disappeared.

Andrews and his men began celebrating triumphantly- they had just committed one of history's most brazen capers, with nothing but daylight ahead of them. *The General*, now firmly within control of the Union, continued its journey north, with periodic stops to tear up the track and cut more telegraph lines, to deter anyone from following them. Though they didn't have the proper tools and prying up the rails took considerable time, Andrews and his crew were confident that no one would be able to catch them.



The "General" Steam Engine

What they hadn't counted on was the dogged persistence of William Fuller. Instead of giving up the chase, Fuller had procured some help of his own. Rounding up a few volunteers, the conductor and his newfound group dashed two miles on foot until they happened upon a pushcart. Though not the fastest mode of transportation, it was certainly quicker and less physically exerting than attempting to futilely run after the train. The pushcart was running smoothly until Fuller approached a section of track which had been damaged by the fleeing train nappers. Fuller and his men carried the pushcart over to the other side of the tracks and resumed their quest to take back their locomotive.

However, a pushcart was not nearly fast enough to catch up to the speedy train, and as the distance increased between the two, it seemed as if the thieves would make off with their ill gotten gain after all. By this time, Andrews had a lead of over an hour- his men had made it all the way to Kingston, thirty miles to the north, while Fuller had only made it eight miles out of Big Shanty.

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At this pace, *The General* would be in Chattanooga well before Fuller would have any realistic chance of closing the gap.

However, fate has a funny way of balancing things out. When Andrews reached Kingston, he was forced to pull the shanghaied locomotive off to a side track and wait for southbound traffic to pass before proceeding. As the first train slid by, Andrews noticed that there was a red flag attached to it. This signaled that another train was following directly behind- and Andrews would have to wait for that one to clear as well. The second train eventually passed, but to Andrews's dismay, it too carried a red flag. When Andrews inquired as to why so many southbound trains were flooding the rail line, he was informed that the Confederates were attempting to evacuate all possible railroad cars and supplies from the advancing Union troops on Chattanooga.

It was only then that Andrews realized, to his horror, that Mitchel's forces had marched forward, trudging through the rain, and had taken Huntsville the previous day without so much as firing a shot. As an unintended consequence, the rail lines were now clogged with traffic, which stalled the progress of Andrews and his men. The raiders began to grow impatient and restless, as anxiety set in amongst the group. But what could they do? Andrews was forced to sit- and wait.

In the meantime, Fuller had persisted on his pushcart for over a dozen miles, until he reached Etowah, halfway in between Big Shanty and Kingston. There, he was able to upgrade to a faster engine, the *Yonah*. Pulling a page out of Andrews playbook, he simply took the *Yonah* from the rail yard, stocking it with spare ties and spikes to repair the rails as needed. Though still behind, Fuller was rapidly cutting into the sizable lead that Andrews had built. After being held up at Kingston for sixty-five minutes, *The General* was finally permitted on its way north toward Chattanooga. Four minutes after Andrews departed, Fuller and the *Yonah* arrived at the station in Kingston.

To avoid any further complications at the rail stations up ahead, the cunning Andrews improvised yet another tall tale. At each stop, he would inform the train operators that his locomotive carried important ammunition for General P. G. T. Beauregard and urgently needed to get up the rail to Chattanooga, so as to be given priority over any trains moving southbound. This trick got him through the stop at Adairsville without so much as a question from the operator, with Fuller having confiscated yet another train, the *William R. Smith*, at Kingston. No sooner had Andrews stopped to pry up the track at Adairsville when he heard "the unmistakable whistle" of Fuller's appropriated train off in the distance. According to William Pettinger, one of the Andrews raiders, "no sound more unwelcome fell on human ears.

With his advantage having evaporated down to a few minutes, Andrews kicked *The General* into full gear as he chugged toward Calhoun, barely making it in time to clear a southbound train which was nearly forced onto the side track by Andrews's brash handling of the locomotive. He snipped the telegraph lines, attempted to remove a section of track (though was only able to loosen a single rail), and continued accelerating toward Chattanooga. - Continued on the next page -



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Though he was still ahead, it was certainly not by a comfortable margin, with Andrews trying to stave off the tenacious Fuller as long as possible.

At Adairsville, Fuller spied *The Texas*, a locomotive which had been diverted onto the side tracks by Andrews’s mad dash northward. *The Texas* was more than capable of matching the speed of *The General*, and finally, Fuller was on equal footing. There was just one problem- *The Texas* was facing southbound, and there was no turntable to steer it in the opposite direction. No matter- Fuller simply threw the engines into reverse, and started speeding after *The General*- backwards. The Great Locomotive Chase was now in full earnest.



The “Texas” Locomotive

As Andrews realized Fuller was steadily narrowing the gap between the two racing locomotives, he desperately attempted to stall the Confederate contingent by any means necessary. At Resaca, he unloaded a boxcar and sent it hurtling toward *The Texas*. However, the fact that the locomotive was running in reverse proved fortuitous, as *The Texas* could simply back up to it, quickly link it to the rest of the locomotive, and continue down the rails, barely slowing down. Andrews tried even more creative means, throwing trestles, spikes, rails- whatever he could find- onto the tracks. *The Texas* merely brushed the debris aside and, for the first time in the chase, Fuller was actually gaining on Andrews.

Andrews discovered that, after Resaca, there were no more engines headed southbound- it was a wide open track from there to Chattanooga. It was just a matter of getting there ahead of Fuller and *The Texas*. The safe speed on the tracks was no more than twenty miles per hour, but the two locomotives pressed on toward Chattanooga at an unheard of seventy-two miles per hour, at times the cars nearly flying off the rails. Though the hopes and dreams of reaching Chattanooga were fading, Andrews still had one more ace up his sleeve.

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As *The General* approached Tunnel Hill, debate raged amongst Andrews's men whether to set an ambush in the tunnel by filling the tunnel with smoke, and engaging in hand-to-hand combat with Fuller's posse. However, Andrews had other plans. He correctly theorized that Fuller would be expecting such an attack- and indeed, *The Texas* slowed as it approached the tunnel with caution. This momentary hesitation gave Andrews just enough time for a last ditch effort- burning the bridge at Chickamauga, which lay just on the other side of Tunnel Hill. However, the rain soaked timber failed to hold a flame, and Andrews swiftly hopped back aboard *The General*, with Fuller and *The Texas* hot on their tail.



Two miles north of the town of Ringgold, *The General* started losing steam. The locomotive had used up the last of its wood, and low on water, struggled to make it to the top of the next hill. Finally admitting defeat, Andrews ordered everyone off the train, and in one last act of defiance, threw *The General* in reverse, hoping it would crash into *The Texas* and at least destroy both locomotives in the process and create an obstruction to Fuller's men. However, *The General* had no more power, and

crawled along the tracks. *The Texas* was able to stop just in the nick of time, and Andrews and his men immediately dispersed into the nearby woods, attempting to flee back to Union territory unnoticed. After 88 miles and seven and a half harrowing hours, the Great Locomotive Chase has finally ended. The raiders had abandoned the locomotive just eighteen miles from Chattanooga.

Even if Andrews had succeeded in making it to Chattanooga, the plan was doomed to failure. Andrews had made the fatal mistake of failing to cut the telegraph wires at Dalton, thus enabling Fuller to relay a message to the Chattanooga station informing the operator there of his stolen train. Upon Andrews's arrival, he would have been greeted by Brigadier General Danville Leadbetter and his battalion of soldiers, cannons at the ready and would have been immediately remanded into custody.

As it was, most of the raiders fled north to Chattanooga. Most were captured within a week. Andrews himself held out a little longer, making it to within twelve miles of Union lines before being captured two weeks later.

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On June 7, 1862, Andrews was transported down the exact same railway he had tried to sabotage two months earlier to Atlanta, and at 5:00 p.m. he and seven of his fellow compatriots were hanged. The other conspirators were sent to prison, and eventually most of them escaped, living it the rest of their lives in quiet obscurity. The seven men hanged with Andrews would be the first ever recipients of the Presidential Medal of Honor. Ironically, Andrews himself would not be afforded such a distinction- as a civilian, he was ineligible for the award.

Both *The General* and *The Texas* survived the war and went on to have long, storied careers in service. Today, *The General* is housed in the Southern Heritage Museum in Kennesaw. Just this year, *The Texas* moved to its new location in the Atlanta History Center, across from the Cyclorama. They serve as well preserved relics from one of the most exhilarating chapters of the Civil War, one that, if not for the resolve of a valiant conductor, might have had a different outcome.

We would like to thank Andrew for this interesting account of the Great Train Robbery. He did a great job, and we really appreciate him.





**CONFEDERATE REUNION GROUNDS REENACTMENT
OCTOBER 5, 2018**



Come learn about the history of the War Between the States and a slice of Texas history at the Confederate Reunion Grounds the first weekend of October. This historic site is where veterans once met to share their experiences and even reenacted the taking of the cannon on site, "Old Val Verde." Students get a special tour on Friday, October 5th where they can play 1860's games, see what daily life was like in Texas at that time, and learn from

historians in period attire talk about soldiers from both sides of the war. Saturday and Sunday visitors can witness the sights and sounds of the military camps, listen to talks under an historic 1895 pavilion, and watch a battle reenactments in the early afternoon of each day. Follow our event for updates as they come!

OCT 5 Confederate Reunion Grounds Reenactment - October 2018

Friends of Confederate Reunion Grounds State Historic Site and 1 other



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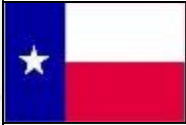
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Fri, Oct 5 at 9 AM - Sun, Oct 7 at 3 PM CDT

In 5 months

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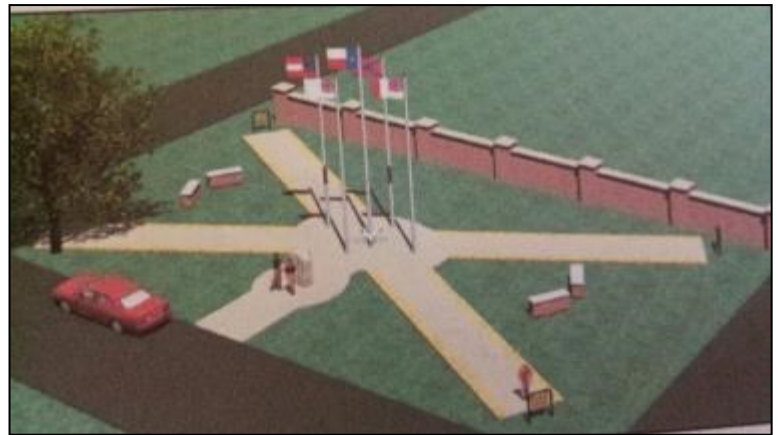
1738 FM-2705, Mexia, Texas 76667



A GREAT WAY TO ENSURE THAT YOUR ANCESTOR'S SERVICE AND HONOR IS NOT FORGOTTEN



Many Americans have forgotten that freedom isn't free at all. There have been hundreds of thousands of Americans who have willingly given their life for their country so that we could continue to have the rights of free men. But there is a group of people in our country who have decided that they have the right to take away the rights of others, especially if those others do not agree with their agenda. These people have no respect for the true history of anything that goes against what they want. Although they cannot change true history, they are changing the history books and in so doing are changing what people are taught about the history of our country. These people don't care if they are dishonoring our Confederate ancestors. They care nothing about our ancestor's service. Do you care about preserving your ancestor's service? If so, you can do so by having his service noted in the Confederate Veteran's Memorial Plaza with a paver that will include his name and service information on it for only \$50. It will last for years and years to come and will let countless people see his name and information. It is a wonderful way to give him the recognition that he deserves.



SAMUEL R. CORN CO B 33RD ALA. INF CSA	PVT. DAVID A. BRAY CO H 34TH GA. INF CSA	O. M. ROBERTS CAMP 178 - SCV WAXAHACHE, TEXAS	UPSHUR COUNTY PATRIOTS CAMP 2109 GILMER, TEXAS	PRIMUS KELLY BODY SERVANT GRIMES COUNTY
GEN. HORACE RANDEL CAMP # 1533 CARTHAGE, TEXAS	ERASTUS W DAVIS 31ST MISS INFANTRY 1825-1862	WILLIAM A LOYD 30TH TEXAS CAVALRY COMPANY F PRIVATE	1ST LT. LEWIS P. BROOKS CO. B /7TH GA REGT	ROGER O. MILLS CHAPTER 2466 UDC
PVT. JOHN LAND 54TH GA. INF CO H RUSSELL GUARDS	1ST LT. LEWIS P. BROOKS CO. B 7TH GA REGT	PVT THOMAS M. LORD CO L MARTIN-HOWELL G & LT ART. CSA	CPL J RILEY PATTY 59TH TN MTD INF. CO. A	MARY WEST #26 UDC WACO, TEXAS
PVT T. JEFF PARKS 22ND TX INFANTRY CO K	TERRY LEE HULSEY FOR 24 GA CO I PVT JOHN MCAFEE HULSEY	JAMES HALL BENDY PVT CO. A 25 TEXAS CAV. CSA	JOHN A. BUCHANAN SERGEANT CO H 27TH MISS INFANTRY	JOEL S. WALTERS PRIVATE CO C 12TH MISS INFANTRY
PVT W.C. HERRING 12TH TX INFANTRY CO K	JOHN PINKNEY MANN PVT. CO. K 13 TEXAS CAV. CSA	WILLIAM H L WELLS VA LIGHT ARTILLERY WELLS CLAW PLANO	WILLIAM L. WALTERS PRIVATE CO K 37TH MISS INF REGT	JESSIE C. ROBERTS 1ST LIEUTENANT 20TH TEXAS CAVALRY

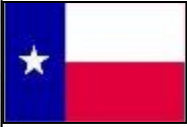


ROBERT E. LEE CALENDAR



SEPTEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<p>Sept 1, 1856 to wife. We are all in the hands of a kind God, who will do for us what is best, & more than we deserve & we have only to endeavor to deserve more & to do our duty to him.</p>
<p>Sept 2, 1864 to Jeff Davis. Our ranks are constantly diminishing by battle & disease, & few recruits are received.</p>	<p>Sept 3, 1861 to Custis. Know that wherever you may be placed you will do your duty. That is all the pleasure, all the comfort, all the glory we can enjoy in this world.</p>	<p>Sept 4, 1865 to A.M. Keiley. It should be the object of all to avoid controversy.</p>	<p>Sept 5, 1857 to Agnes. It is persuasion and not force...cultivate the powers of pleasing.</p>	<p>Sept 6 undated to A.M. Keiley. Encouraging our citizens to engage in the duties of life with all their heart & mind our country will not only be restored but will be advanced in science, virtue, & religion.</p>	<p>Sept 7, 1865 to Capt. Tatnall. I believe it to be the duty of every one to unite in the restoration of the country & the reestablishment of peace & harmony.</p>	<p>Sept 8 undated to J. Gordon. The thorough education of all classes of the people is the most efficacious means, in my opinion, of promoting prosperity.</p>
<p>Sept 9, 1861 to his wife. Everybody is slandered, even the good.</p>	<p>Sept 10, 1863 to Mildred. You have only always to do what is right. It will become easier by practice.</p>	<p>Sept 11 undated I shall, however, endeavor to do my duty and fight to the last.</p>	<p>Sept 12 undated to wife. Feeling lonesome, as the saying is, and out of sorts, I got on a horse & took a ride.</p>	<p>Sept 13 Undated to Capt. Tatnall. I have since the cessation of hostilities advised all with whom come within the terms of the President's proclamation to take the oath of allegiance.</p>	<p>Sept 14, 1869 to Col. Duncan. As individuals prosper, communities will become rich.</p>	<p>Sept 15 undated Study human nature, more by experience than by precept.</p>
<p>Sept 16, 1853 to his wife. Young men must not expect to escape contact with evil, but must learn not to be contaminated by it.</p>	<p>Sept 17, 1861 to wife. I had taken every precaution to insure success, & counted on it; but the Ruler of the Universe willed otherwise.</p>	<p>Sept 18, 1864 to wife. It is from no desire of exposure or hazard that I live in a tent, but from necessity. I must be where I can speedily attend to the duties of my position.</p>	<p>Sept 19 undated To Markie Action in this World goes farther than Sentiment.</p>	<p>Sept 20 undated To wife. I have been offered rooms in the houses of our citizens, but I could not turn the dwellings of my kind hosts into a barrack.</p>	<p>Sept 21 undated to Capt Maury I look forward to better days, & trust that time & experience, the great teachers of men, under the guidance of an ever merciful God, save us from destruction.</p>	<p>Sept 22 undate to Capt Maury. The thought of abandoning the country is abhorrent to my feelings & I prefer to struggle for its restoration & share its fate, rather than give up all as lost.</p>
<p>Sept 23 undated to Mildred. The more you know, the more you find there is to know in this grand & beautiful world.</p>	<p>Sept 24 undated The more you learn the more you are conscious of your ignorance</p>	<p>Sept 25 undated to Mildred. You will find all the days of your life that there is much to learn & much to do...learn all you can.</p>	<p>Sept 26, 1861 to wife. It is raining. The men are exposed on the mountain without tents. Today my tent came up & I am in it. Yet I fear I shall not sleep for thinking of the men.</p>	<p>Sept 27 undated to Mildred. The struggle which you describe you experience between doing what you ought & what you desire is common to all.</p>	<p>Sept 28 undated As long as virtue was dominant in the republic, so long was the happiness of the people secure.</p>	<p>Sept 29, 1862 to Mary. If God spares me to the end of the war, I trust to be with you all at least, for the few remnant years of life.</p>
<p>Sept 30 My Beautiful Daughters:..... May good angels guard you & bright visions cheer you.</p>						



JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP TEXAS CIVIL WAR HISTORY IN SEPTEMBER

From the Texas State Historical Association— <https://texasdaybyday.com/#feedCarousel>



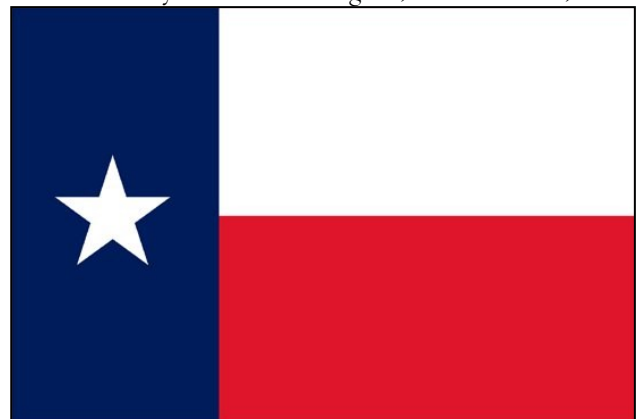
August 9, 1946 - On this day, the last Confederate reunion was held at Camp Ben McCulloch. This golden Jubilee included a memorial service for the camp's last two members, who had died the previous year. The camp, near Driftwood, in Hays County, was organized in the summer of 1896 as a reunion camp for Confederate veterans and named for Confederate General Benjamin McCulloch. Annual three-day reunions were held at the camp, often with 5,000 to 6,000 persons attending. In 1930, Ben McCulloch was said to be the largest Confederate Camp in existence. Subsequently, the camp became the location of the annual meetings of the Sons and Daughters of the Confederacy, with various activities and services spanning a week in early June. The campsite, on a branch of Onion Creek, also remains a popular picnic area for residents of northern Hays County.

August 10, 1862 - On this day, Confederate soldiers attacked a force of Hill Country Unionists camped in route to Mexico beside the Nueces River in Kinney County. The skirmish is known as the battle of the Nueces. The sixty-odd Unionists, mostly German intellectuals, had camped without choosing a defensive position or posting a strong guard. Nineteen of them were killed and nine were wounded. The wounded were executed by the Confederates later in the day. Two Confederates were killed and eighteen wounded. Of the Unionists who escaped from the battle, eight were killed on October 18 while trying to cross into Mexico. After the war, the remains of the Unionists were gathered and interred at Comfort, where a monument commemorates them.

August 13, 1906 - On this day, black soldiers of the Twenty-fifth U.S. Infantry allegedly attacked citizens of Brownsville. The event resulted in the largest summary dismissals in the history of the United States Army. The soldiers, newly arrived at Fort Brown from the Philippines and Nebraska, confronted racial discrimination for some businesses and suffered physical abuse from some federal customs collectors. A reported attack on a white woman during the night of August 12 so enraged the citizens that Maj. Charles W. Penrose, after consultation with Mayor Frederick Combe, declared an early curfew. Just after midnight on the thirteenth, a bartender was fatally shot and a police lieutenant was wounded. Various citizens claimed to have seen soldiers running through the streets shooting, even though it was dark. Several civilian and military investigations presumed the guilt of the soldiers without identifying individual culprits. When suspects were not forthcoming, the army inspector general charged a "conspiracy of silence." On November 5, president Theodore Roosevelt discharged "without honor" all 167 enlisted men garrisoned at Fort Brown. This action fueled political and "due process" arguments for more than sixty years. In 1972, the Nixon administration awarded honorable discharges, without back pay, to the soldiers involved. The only surviving veteran, Dorsie Willis, received a \$25,000 settlement.

August 20, 1866 - On this day, President Andrew Johnson, declaring that "the insurrection in the State of Texas has been completely and everywhere suppressed and ended," officially ended the Civil War by issuing a proclamation of peace between the United States and Texas. Johnson had declared a state of peace between the U.S. and the other ten Confederate states on April 2, 1866. The last land battle of the Civil War took place at Palmito Ranch near Brownsville on May 13, 1865, more than a month after Robert E. Lee surrendered at Appomattox Courthouse.

August 30, 1862 - On this day, Hood's Texas Brigade played a distinguished part in the battle of Second Manassas. After a Union assault was broken up by artillery fire, Confederate General Longstreet launched his First Corps, with the Texas Brigade in the lead, in one of the most successful counterattacks of the Civil War. The Fourth Texas Infantry, under the command of Lt. Col. B. F. Carter; captured a federal battery of artillery, losing eleven killed and twenty wounded in the process. After the battle the commander of the brigade, Gen. John Hood, encountered the commander of the Army of Northern Virginia, Robert E. Lee, who playfully asked him what had become of the enemy. Hood answered that the Texans had chased them across Bull Run "almost at a double quick." A regiment of New York Zouaves was shattered by the assault, and, seeing their brightly uniformed bodies scattered about the next morning, a Texas officer wrote that they gave the battlefield "the appearance of a Texas hillside when carpeted in the spring by wildflowers of many hues and tints."

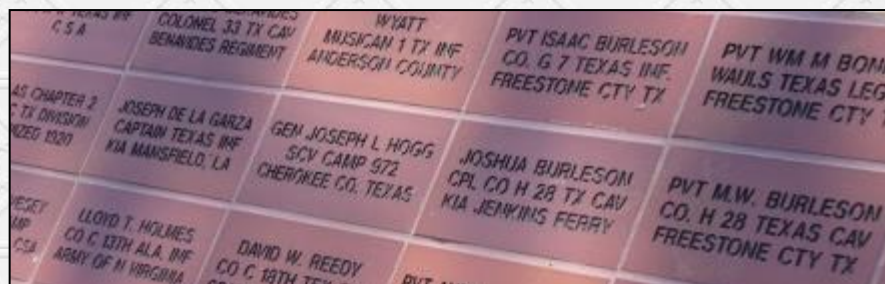




CONFEDERATE VETERANS MEMORIAL PLAZA INFORMATION



The Confederate Veterans Memorial Plaza had the official opening and dedication on April 13, 2013. It is a beautiful Memorial to the Confederate Veterans. Although it is open for visitors, there is still room along the sidewalks for you to purchase a brick paver in the name of your confederate ancestor. This will ensure that your ancestor's service to the confederacy will not be forgotten, but will be remembered for years to come. If you would like to make a donation for a paver, please contact Dan Dyer at E-mail: danielyer497@yahoo.com or Phone: (903) 391-2224



Would you like to honor you ancestor? There is still room in the plaza for you to have a paver with your ancestor's name and military information. You can also acquire a paver in the name of your SCV Camp.



JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP #2156

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The citizen-soldiers who fought for the Confederacy personified the best qualities of America. The preservation of liberty and freedom was the motivating factor in the South's decision to fight the *Second American Revolution*. The tenacity with which Confederate soldiers fought underscored their belief in the rights guaranteed by the Constitution. These attributes are the underpinning of our democratic society and represent the foundation on which this nation was built.

Today, the **Sons of Confederate Veterans** is preserving the history and legacy of these heroes, so future generations can understand the motives that animated the Southern Cause.

The SCV is the direct heir of the United Confederate Veterans, and the oldest hereditary organization for male descendants of Confederate soldiers. Organized at Richmond, Virginia in 1896, the SCV continues to serve as a historical, patriotic, and non-political organization dedicated to ensuring that a true history of the 1861-1865 period is preserved.

Membership in the **Sons of Confederate Veterans** is open to all male descendants of any veteran who served honorably in the Confederate armed forces. Membership can be obtained through either **lineal or collateral** family lines and kinship to a veteran must be **documented genealogically**. The minimum age for full membership is 12, but there is no minimum for Cadet membership. **Friends of the SCV** memberships are available as well to those who are committed to upholding our charge, but do not have the Confederate ancestry.

THE CHARGE TO THE SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

"To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will commit 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 which he loved and which you love also, and those ideals which made him glorious and which you also cherish."

Lt. General Stephen Dill Lee, Commander-in-Chief

United Confederate Veterans

New Orleans, Louisiana, April 25, 1906.



Camp meetings: 3rd Thursday Each
Month - 06:30 PM
Snacks served at each meeting.

Commercial Bank of Texas on the
corner of N. Mallard & E. Lacy Street

The Bank is located just south of the
Anderson County Courthouse
Annex.