



SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS, TEXAS DIVISION

THE JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP NEWS

www.reaganscvcamp.org

VOLUME 12, ISSUE 11

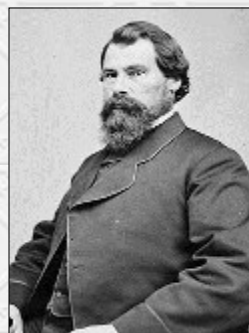
NOVEMBER 2020

COMMANDER'S DISPATCH



Compatriots, for the second month in a row we had poor attendance. I am sure most of the lack of attendance is due to Covid-19 pandemic. I hope all of you are well and avoiding or at least surviving the pandemic. Andrew Petty presented last night's program titled "Raising Cane". He told the story of the caning of Charles Sumner on the Senate floor on May 22, 1856. It was a colorful story presented as only Andrew can! Meal was a spaghetti casserole along with

rolls and a large pot of pinto beans and ham served over cornbread. Our dessert was a chocolate cake and Bluebell Ice cream. All in attendance were well fed! Our *adjutant*, Dan Dyer, read last month's minutes and presented the current financial report. We are blessed that for another month we had few expenditures. We are truly grateful to the Bank for the use of their meeting room. Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 15, at 6:30. We hope to see all of you there. We have learned that new members come from our visitors. We welcome all



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

visitors, if you know of a person with an ancestor who served the Confederacy please invite them to our meeting.

Richard Thornton
Commander



CAMP MEETINGS

NEXT MONTH IS THE CHRISTMAS PARTY. DECEMBER 15TH AT THE CROCKETT ROAD CHURCH OF CHRIST ACTIVITY BUILDING. 6:30 P.M.

Guests are welcome!
Bring the family.

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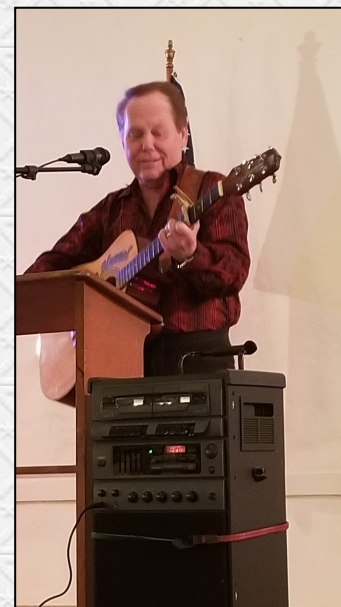
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**Memorial Plaza
Groundskeeping Calendar**

December—J.B. Mason
 January—Dan Dyer
 February—Dan Dyer
 March—Need a volunteer
 April—Need a volunteer
 May—Need a volunteer
 June - Marc Robinson
 July - Dwight Franklin

The Annual John H. Reagan Christmas party will be held on December 15, 2020 at the Crockett Road Church of Christ activity building. Dan Manuel will be providing the entertainment for the party, and it will be a night that you won't want to miss!

We are asking everyone to bring your better half, a covered dish, and join us for a night that will be one to remember!



Prayer List

- Compatriot Forrest Bradberry
- Compatriot J.B. Mason
- Past Reagan Camp Historian Gary Williams
- Rod Skelton (former Camp Chaplain)
- Former Camp Commander Rudy Ray
- United Daughters of the Confederacy
- The Sovereign State of Texas
- The United States of America

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The Reagan Camp will have monthly meetings on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. You can contact Commander Thornton by email for the location for the meeting.

December 15th - Christmas party & meeting.

January 19th - January meeting



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.reaganscvcamp.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 NOVEMBER MEETING

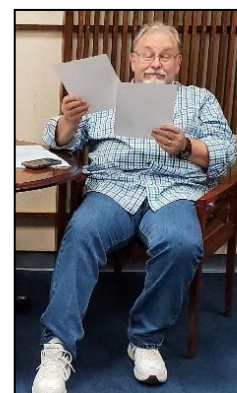
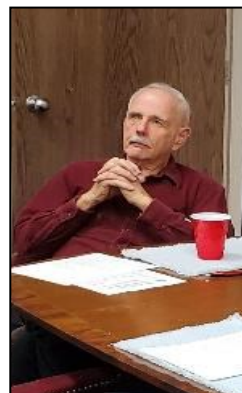


The November meeting for the John H. Reagan Camp was held on November 17, 2020 at the Commercial Bank of Texas banquet room. We only had 7 at this month's meeting, but we had a great time! The night started off with a delicious meal of chicken spaghetti casserole, garlic bread, pinto beans and ham, cornbread, chocolate cake and Blue Bell Ice Cream.

After enjoying the meal together, we had an interesting historical program by Andrew Petty entitled, "Raising Cane". Andrew has presented several programs, and he is a very enthusiastic speaker. We always enjoy his programs, and they are usually about things that we have never heard before. This program was no different. He has allowed us to post his notes in the following pages of this newsletter for those who were unable to attend.



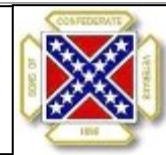
Our next meeting will be the annual Christmas party. It will be held on December 15th at the Crockett Road Church of Christ, and Dan Manuel will be providing the entertainment. Dan always puts on a great show, and you won't want to miss this one! We are asking everyone to bring a covered dish and join us for a meal together and the musical program.





NOVEMBER PROGRAM BY ANDREW PETTY

“RAISING CANE”



Andrew Petty gave an interesting program entitled, “Raising Cane” at the November meeting on November 17, 2020. Andrew has allowed us to include his notes in the newsletter for those who were unable to be in attendance. We appreciate Andrew for always being willing to do what he can for the Reagan Camp.

“Raising Cane”

On the afternoon of May 22, 1856, Massachusetts Senator Charles Sumner sat at his desk in a nearly empty chamber, signing envelopes containing a copy of a speech he had delivered on the floor just two days prior. Head down, he was completely oblivious to the presence of fellow Senator Preston Brooks from South Carolina, who had suddenly approached him. What unfolded during the next sixty seconds would forever alter the discourse on slavery and become a microcosm of the intense animosity and bitter feelings which would boil over four years later into an all out civil war.

There were perhaps no two other Senators as opposite on the political spectrum as Charles Sumner and Preston Brooks. Sumner had been raised in a household with deep abolitionist convictions. His father, Charles Pinckney Sumner, had actually participated in the rescue of fugitive slaves and was good friends with newspaper editor William Lloyd Garrison, who founded the American Anti-Slavery Society. The younger Sumner would adopt these beliefs and often wrote anti slavery pamphlets during his time as lecturer at Harvard- a stance which would ultimately lead to his denial of a faculty position by the more elite members of the university.

Early on in his career, Sumner proved himself a champion for African American rights. He supported the searching of American vessels suspected of engaging in the illegal slave trade, and helped lead the coalition to repeal the ban on interracial marriages in Massachusetts in 1843. As a lawyer, Sumner routinely defended black clients, and his co-counsel Robert Morris was the first African American admitted to the Massachusetts Bar. In fact, some of Sumner’s ideals, considered radical at the time, would help shape the landmark cases of *Plessy v. Ferguson* and *Brown v. Board of Education*.

As a politician, Sumner helped form the Free Soil Party, a short lived faction dedicated to stopping the expansion of slavery into the western territories of the United States. Later on, he would join the Radical Republicans, a group which demanded the immediate termination of slavery altogether. He was also a notable opponent of the Fugitive Slave Act, which stated that runaway slaves, if caught, must be returned to their masters. Appointed to his Senate seat in 1851, Sumner’s staunch abolitionist stance was considered extreme even by moderate Republicans at the time, and he had very few allies amongst his colleagues.

Preston Brooks, on the other hand, was the very definition of southern virtue. Born in Edgefield, South Carolina to a cotton plantation owner, Brooks was exposed to an acutely different worldview of slavery. He characterized slavery as “the greatest blessing to this country” and contended that separation of the races was necessary to prevent the breakdown of civil society. He was an ardent supporter of John C. Calhoun, whose defense of states rights during the Nullification Crisis of 1832 had a profound impact on the young Brooks.

When Brooks became a Senator, he fought passionately against any incursions to slavery. He equated the abolitionist movement to atheism, declaring that the institution of slavery was a “divinely ordained social hierarchy”. Brooks constantly railed against Negro emancipation, stating that the slave was “incapable of self-government”. To him, an attack on slavery was tantamount to godless rebellion, and thought it likewise to be a personal assault on his character.

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NOVEMBER PROGRAM BY ANDREW PETTY

“RAISING CANE”



Like Sumner though, Brooks's principles were deemed so fanatical that he won very few friends in Congress.

Brooks was also known to be an irascible hothead at times, and was certainly no stranger to confrontation, especially when it came to defending his family's honor. Brooks had been kicked out of the University of South Carolina shortly before graduating for threatening the local police with firearms after they had locked up his brother. Brooks also had been involved in his fair share of duels. In 1840, he challenged future Texas Senator Louis T. Wigfall to a duel over comments Wigfall had made about Brooks's father. Though he survived the duel, Brooks suffered a serious wound to the hip which would facilitate the use of a walking cane the rest of his life.

These two polarizing personalities would square off in the Senate in 1856 over the issue of whether to admit the newly created territory of Kansas into the Union as a slave state or a free state. The passage of the Kansas-Nebraska Act in 1854 ruled that popular sovereignty would determine the fate of the Kansas Territory. This language effectively invalidated the Missouri Compromise of 1820, which had outlawed slavery north of the 36°30' parallel with the exception of Missouri. Geographically speaking, the parallel marked the southern border of Kansas, and therefore, anti-slavery supporters argued, it should be admitted as a free state. However, pro-slavery advocates pointed out that California, which had joined the Union in 1850, gave a plus one advantage to the free state column, and this countered that Kansas should be admitted as a slave state to restore the balance in numbers.

Kansas, which sat at the crossroads of north and south, would soon become a hotbed of controversy, as both pro and anti-slavery settlers flooded the region, each side determined to have their interests prevail. The area soon devolved into violent lawlessness, marked by armed insurrections, vandalism, the burning of businesses, and in some cases, murder. These series of events led to the region being nicknamed “Bloody Kansas”. The sobriquet would quickly prove to become a literal translation.

On May 19, 1856, Charles Sumner took to the Senate Floor to denounce slavery and outline his reasons why Kansas should be introduced as a free territory. He delivered what would be a blistering two day speech entitled “The Crime Against Kansas”, which contained multiple incendiary remarks and deliberately provocative vocabulary. First, Sumner likened the admission of Kansas as a slave state to “the rape of a virgin Territory”, hearkening to the vivid imagery of masters forcing their servants into sexual activity. He then proceeded to attack one of the authors of the Kansas-Nebraska Act personally- Senator Andrew Butler.

Butler hailed from South Carolina, and just so happened to be a first cousin of Preston Brooks. In the speech, Sumner shamelessly compared Butler's support for Kansas as a slave state to Don Quixote's admiration for Dulcinea, proclaiming, “He has chosen a mistress to whom he has made his vows, and who, though ugly to others, is always lovely to him; though polluted in the sight of the world, is chaste in his sight—I mean the harlot, slavery.” Then, Sumner made the speech even more scandalous. Butler was not in attendance during Sumner's oratory, owing to having suffered a recent stroke. Reflecting on this fact, Butler mocked the Senator's speech impediment, commenting, “There is nothing which he does not disfigure with error... he cannot open his mouth but out there flies a blunder.”

When word of this maligning reached the ears of Preston Brooks, he was incensed. That tore it- this outrageous defamation against his kinfolk could not go unanswered. Brooks immediately requested a duel with Sumner to resolve the issue, but was dissuaded by fellow South Carolina Representative Laurence Keitt. Keitt convinced Brooks that dueling was only for opponents who conducted themselves with honor, and Sumner's speech was far below the standard of proper social etiquette. Instead, Keitt suggested, the Senator should be subjected to the same level of humiliation he had unleashed upon Brooks.

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NOVEMBER PROGRAM BY ANDREW PETTY

“RAISING CANE”



It should be noted that Keitt was himself a fiery character, and he would likewise be involved in a brawl on the House floor in 1858, when he attempted to choke Pennsylvania Representative Galusha Grow after Grow attempted to cross over to Keitt's side of the chambers. Keitt instructed Grow to sit down, calling him a "black Republican puppy". Grow, in turn, responded that "No negro-driver shall crack his whip over me!" With that, a donnybrook broke out on the House floor involving some fifty members of Congress, halted only when Republican William Barksdale's hairpiece was knocked off, causing everyone to erupt in raucous laughter.

In any event, Preston Brooks went looking for a fight. After mulling over his decision for 48 hours, Brooks, accompanied by Keitt as well as fellow Congressman Henry Edmundson, entered the Senate chambers on that fateful day. They patiently waited for any ladies to clear the floor before Brooks approached Sumner's desk. As he walked up, Brooks declared, "Mr. Sumner, I have read your speech twice over carefully. It is a libel on South Carolina, and Mr. Butler, who is a relative of mine." Before Sumner could react, Brooks proceeded to launch an attack that was every bit as physically brutal as Sumner's libelous assault had been in its verbosity.

Raising his cane, Brooks savagely struck Sumner atop his head multiple times, immediately rendering the Senator helpless. Brooks however refused to stop the relentless beating, raining down blows upon the helpless Sumner, who was pinned behind his desk, which was bolted to the floor. Sumner attempted to slide his chair back, but to no avail. In desperation, he was finally able to rip the desk free from the bolts which fastened it to the floor and tried to escape, with Brooks in hot pursuit. Brooks continued to strike Sumner repeatedly, as other Senators, now alerted to the melee, attempted to intervene. However, Keitt brandished a gun and warned them, "Let them alone damn you, let them be!"

Eventually, the force of the blows caused Brooks's cane to snap into multiple pieces, which brought a merciful end to the ferocious onslaught. After pocketing the gold head from his cane, Brooks then left the chamber of his own accord, as Sumner lay bloodied, bruised, and unconscious on the Senate floor. Afterwards, Brooks said of his attack:

"I struck him with my cane and gave him about 30 first rate stripes with a gutta perch cane... Every lick went where I intended. For about the first five or six licks he offered to make fight but I plied him so rapidly that he did not touch me. Towards the last he bellowed like a calf."

Other Senators immediately rushed to Sumner's aid, placing him in a carriage and transporting him to his lodging, where he received several stitches to close the gaping wounds in his forehead. Indeed, Sumner had suffered serious physical injuries- the blows had left his skull exposed in two places. In fact, so frenzied were Brooks's strikes that he himself accidentally caused a self-inflicted wound, a superficial scratch to the head. As a result of the attack, Sumner would suffer from nightmares, memory loss, and severe headaches for the rest of his life.

The aftermath of the attack revealed two completely divergent perspectives and underscored just how polarized the nation had become over the slavery issue. For his part, Brooks gloated after the attack, claiming that people "begged" for fragments of his cane as "sacred relics." On that account, he was right- after the assault, Congressman Edmundson had gathered up the fractured portions of the cane and gave them to various Southern lawmakers, who turned them into rings and necklaces. In response, several Southerners also sent hundreds of replacement canes to Brooks. One of them was inscribed with the words, "Hit him again!"

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NOVEMBER PROGRAM BY ANDREW PETTY



“RAISING CANE”

Enquirer wrote, “We consider the act good in conception, better in execution, and best of all in consequence.” Banquets were held to commemorate the “lashing... of these vulgar abolitionists into submission.” Essentially, Sumner had been put in his rightful place, and the Southern press lauded Brooks for knocking Sumner down a few pegs.

However, Brooks was met with equal condemnation in the North. Again, Northerners invoked the image of slavery and compared the beating to the horrors which typified a master whipping an unruly slave into submission. They were appalled that the South glorified violence as a means of settling disputes rather than with diplomacy. Reverend Henry Ward Beecher wrote that “The symbol of the North is the Pen: The Symbol of the South is a Bludgeon.” Brooks was branded a “dastard of dastards” by the North for trying to silence freedom of speech, no matter how vitriolic. Rallies were also held in the North in support of Sumner, with pamphlets of his speech copiously distributed amongst the crowds.

So hated became Brooks in the North that Massachusetts Representative Anson Burlingame prodded Brooks into challenging him to a duel. Because Burlingame was the challenged party, he was allowed to set the terms- a duel with rifles, on the Canadian side of Niagara Falls where dueling was still permissible. Not only would this require Brooks to travel through hostile Northern territory for the meeting, but Burlingame was an avid hunter and rifle hobbyist- a deadly shot from dueling distance. Considering the circumstances, Brooks wisely backed down, though he lost some face with the Southern contingent while Burlingame was, naturally, applauded as a hero for standing up to someone perceived as a bully.

Brooks was convicted of assault and fined \$300, but did not face jail time. Though Republicans wanted him expelled from the Senate, they did not have enough voting power to do so. Even so, Brooks resigned his post to allow his constituents to decide whether he deserved to be re-appointed or not. On August 1, 1856, Brooks was overwhelmingly confirmed back to his old Senate seat. However, before his term could begin, Brooks passed away of croup on January 27, 1857, just eight months after the infamous incident which catapulted him to fame.

Charles Sumner’s injuries were so debilitating that he would spend the next three years recuperating, unable to return to the Senate. In a show of solidarity and defiance, Sumner’s seat was deliberately left unfilled for the entire interim as a testament to the Republicans’ unwillingness to be subjugated to Democratic barbarism. Sumner would gradually resume his Senate duties, and although his rhetoric against slavery was hardly toned down, he would continue to serve in his capacities for a further 15 years, dying on March 11, 1874.

In conclusion, the ugly affair between Preston Brooks and Charles Sumner highlighted the acrimonious divide which would split the country in two. Kansas would wind up being admitted as a free state in 1861, but by that time, the damage had been done. The wounds which had been inflicted upon the soul of the nation were irreparable. It would take another four years and 620,000 lives before the Union was able to be put whole again.

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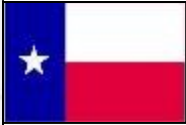
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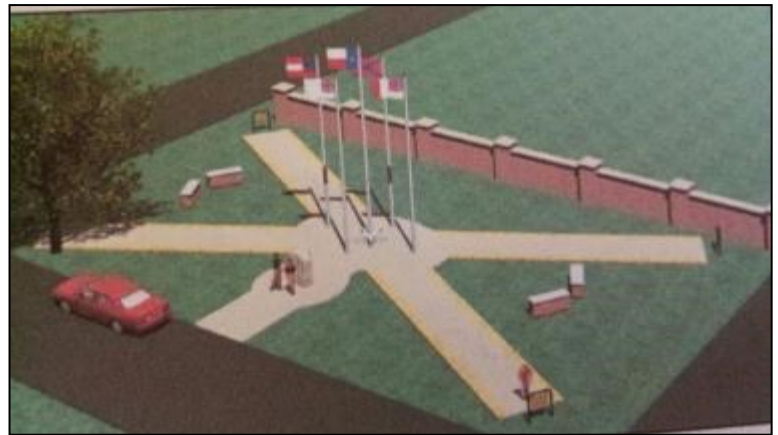
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A GREAT WAY TO ENSURE THAT YOUR ANCESTOR'S SERVICE AND HONOR IS NOT FORGOTTEN



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.



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| 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 |



JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP

TEXAS CIVIL WAR HISTORY IN NOVEMBER



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|--|---|--|--|--|
| 1 Nov 1863 to wife My daughters have not taken on the spinning-wheel & loom, as recommended them to the brave soldiers for wives. | 2 Undated to a son You must endeavor to learn, in order to compensate me for the pain I suffer in being separated from you. | 3 undated to wife on death of Annie God in this has mingled mercy with the blow in selecting that one best prepared to leave us. May you be able to join me in saying, "His will be done!" | 4 undated to wife— I desire to write a history of the campaigns in Virginia. My only object is to transmit the truth to posterity & do justice to our brave soldiers. | 5 Nov. 1855 — A soldier has a hard life. | 6 Nov. 1864 — To Mildred In your youth you must be careful to discipline your thoughts, words, & actions. | 7 undated — To Mildred Never neglect the means of making yourself useful in the world. |
| 8 Nov. 1855 — To Wife Take a happier view of things & not be dissatisfied because they do not dissatisfied because they do not accord more nearly with your views & wishes. | 9 undated - to Richmond City Council— I shall decline the generous offer [a house], & trust that whatever means the Council may have to spare for this purpose be devoted to the relief of the families of our soldiers. | 10 undated — to Mildred How ardently I pray you may be directed to every good & saved from every evil. | 11. undated to wife We rarely know what is good for us & rarely see things as they really exist. VETERAN'S DAY | 12 undated to Wife So clouded is our vision by narrow selfishness, & often complain of what we ought not & blame others when the fault is on ourselves. | 13 Nov. 1863 — to Wife You must pray to the great God who rideth in the heavens, to give us strength & courage to do the work He has set before us. | 14 undated — to Robert God bless you, my son, & may he guard, guide, & direct you in all you do. |
| 15 Nov. 1861 — to Mildred You must labour at your books & gain knowledge & wisdom. | 16 undated — to Laura Chilton My sincere prayer is that the Great God of Mercy may shower upon you his richest blessing & so direct your course in this world that you may enjoy peace her & life eternal hereafter. | 17 undated — to Mildred Habituate yourself to useful employment, regular improvement & to the benefit of all those around you. | 18 undated — to Agnes I am very glad, my precious Agnes, that you have become so early a riser. It is a very good habit. | 19 undated — to Wife A piano had been set in the house by the maker as a present. This is an article of furniture we might well dispense with under present circumstances. | 20 Nov. 1865 to Wife— I think we should enjoy all the amenities of life that are within our reach & which have been provided for us by our Heavenly Father. | 21 Nov. 1863 — to Wife I am content to be poor, & to live on corn bread the rest of my life if a gracious God will give us our independence. |
| 22 Nov. 1861 - to daughters I wish indeed I could see you, be with you & never again part from you. God only can give me that happiness. I pray for it night & day. | 23 Nov. 1862 — to Custis Our hardest lesson is self-knowledge, and it is one perhaps that is never accomplished. | 24 Nov. 1862 — The death of my dear Annie was indeed to me a bitter pang. But the Lord gave & the Lord has taken away: blessed be the name of the Lord. | 25 Nov. 1863 — To Wife: The kindness exhibited toward you as well as myself by our people causes me to reflect how little I have done to merit it. | 26 undated — To Custis My little personal troubles sink into insignificance when I contemplate the condition of the country. | 27 undated — I am glad to learn your supply of socks is so large. I will endeavor to have them distributed to the most needy. | 28 Nov. 1862 — To Custis People must help themselves, or Providence will not help them. |
| 29 Nov. 1863 — to Jeff Davis The law should not be open to the charge of partiality. | 30 Nov 1845 — to a son Let nothing discourage or deter you from endeavoring to acquire virtue & knowledge. | 26 undated — To Custis My little personal troubles sink into insignificance when I contemplate the condition of the country. | 27 undated — I am glad to learn your supply of socks is so large. I will endeavor to have them distributed to the most needy. | 28 Nov. 1862 — To Custis People must help themselves, or Providence will not help them. | 29 Nov. 1863 — to Jeff Davis The law should not be open to the charge of partiality. | 30 Nov 1845 — to a son Let nothing discourage or deter you from endeavoring to acquire virtue & knowledge. |

Southern Born, Texas Proud!

"Learn About Your Heritage"

**Sons of Confederate Veterans
Texas Division**



JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP

TEXAS CIVIL WAR HISTORY IN NOVEMBER



On November 18, 1862, John Austin Wharton was promoted to the rank of brigadier general in the Confederate army. Wharton, born in Tennessee in 1828, was brought to Galveston as an infant and spent his early years on a Brazoria County plantation. Before the Civil War he enjoyed a successful career as a lawyer and planter and represented Brazoria County at the state Secession Convention. When the war began Wharton was elected captain of Company B, Eighth Texas Cavalry, better known as Terry's Texas Rangers. He rose to command the regiment after the deaths of Col. Benjamin F. Terry and Lt. Col. Thomas S. Lubbock. Wharton's leadership in the course of Gen. Braxton Bragg's 1862 Kentucky invasion earned him the promotion to brigadier general. His actions at the battle of Chickamauga in the fall of 1863 earned him another promotion, to the rank of major general. In 1865, while visiting Gen. John B. Magruder's headquarters in Houston, Wharton was killed by fellow officer George W. Baylor in a personal quarrel that grew out of "an unpleasant misunderstanding over military matters." Even though Wharton was found to have been unarmed, Baylor was acquitted of murder charges in 1868

November 28, 1884, the John B. Hood Camp of United Confederate Veterans obtained a state charter for a residence for impoverished and disabled Confederate veterans. The Albert Sidney Johnston Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy helped raise funds that enabled the camp to purchase land at 1600 West Sixth Street in Austin from John B. and Mary Armstrong. The home opened on November 1, 1886. The UDC held a "Grand Gift Concert and Lottery," with prizes donated by the public, and raised over \$10,800 to support the home. Operating funds continued to come from public contributions until 1891, when the state assumed control and support and the name officially became Texas Confederate Home. The John B. Hood Camp deeded the property to the state on March 6, 1891. The complex had several buildings, including the large administration building and living quarters, a brick hospital, and private cottages. During its first two years of operation 113 veterans were admitted to the home, and from 1887 to 1953 more than 2,000 former Confederates were housed there. In 1929 the home had 312 residents, but by 1938 the number had dropped to thirty-eight, whose average age was ninety-three. Thomas Riddle, the last veteran, died in 1954 at the age of 108. During its last decades, the home was used to house senile mental patients from other state institutions, disabled veterans of the Spanish American War and World War I, and their wives. In 1963 the remaining residents were sent to Kerrville State Hospital, and the Austin facility was transferred to the Austin State Hospital as an annex. The buildings were razed in 1970 to make room for University of Texas married students' housing.

November 30th, 1864

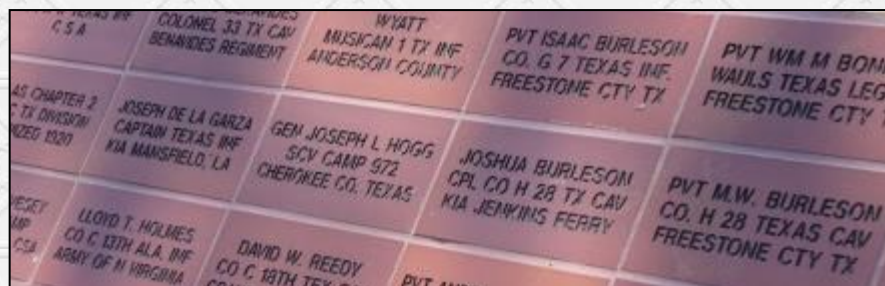
On this day in 1864, Confederate general Hiram B. Granbury, commander of Granbury's Texas Brigade, was killed in the battle of Franklin, Tennessee. Granbury, a native of Mississippi, moved to Texas in the 1850s. He was chief justice of McLennan County from 1856 to 1858. At the outbreak of the Civil War he recruited the Waco Guards, which became a unit in the Seventh Texas Infantry. By 1864 he had commanded in turn a regiment and a brigade. After the fall of Atlanta, Granbury led his brigade in Hood's invasion of Tennessee. He was one of at least 1,750 Confederate soldiers killed in the frontal assault at Franklin, the highest total of rebel dead for any single-day battle of the war. A Texas captain wrote of the battle, "It can't be called anything else but cold blooded murder."



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: danieldyer497@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 Tuesday Each
Month - 06:30 PM
Snacks served at each meeting.

Email Commander Thornton for the
monthly meeting's location.