



SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS, TEXAS DIVISION

THE JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP NEWS

www.reaganscvcamp.org

VOLUME 14, ISSUE 1

JANUARY 2022

COMMANDER'S DISPATCH

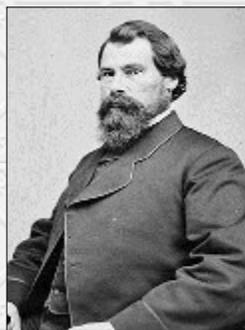


This was the final camp meeting where I will be Commander. I am truly grateful for the honor or serving as Commander for the last few years. Compatriot, Dan Dyer, will be the Camp Commander from this point forward, please come out and support him. I am assuming the position of Adjutant/Treasurer.

We had a great meeting with a wonderful

program. David Franklin presented a program on the quality of our Confederate ancestors. He illustrated the lives of some of the Confederate veterans and their children along with examples of their importance in American history. It was well received and there was much discussion.

As usual we had a great meal. We enjoyed Pulled pork sandwiches, fried chicken, Chick-fil-a nuggets, pizza and a large pot of peas. Thanks a



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

re due to all who brought food as it was abundant and enjoyed by all present. We had chocolate brownies and ice cream for dessert.

Richard Thornton
Commander

CAMP MEETINGS

4th Thursday of Each Month
06:30 PM

With a meal 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.

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The John H. Reagan Camp is requesting donations from those who would be willing to contribute financially to help keep the Confederate Heroes Memorial Plaza landscape manicured. If you would be willing to donate, please contact Dan Dyer at danielder497@yahoo.com



Mort Kunstler is a very talented artist who paints beautiful Civil War pictures. The picture to the left is titled "Confederate Sunset" & is available for purchase on his website at www.mortkunstler.com

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

Officers for 2022

- Commander - Dan Dyer
- 1st Lt. - David Franklin
- Adjutant/Treasurer - Richard Thornton
- Sgt at Arms - Doug Smith
- Judge Advocate - Martin Lawrence
- Chaplain - Dwight Franklin

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The Reagan Camp will have monthly meetings on the 4th Thursday of each month in the Commercial Bank of Texas meeting room

February 24, 2022 - February meeting

March 24, 2022 - March meeting

April 28, 2022 - April meeting

May 26, 2022 - May 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



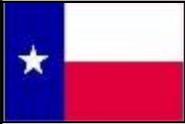
Above: Reagan Camp's battle flag and sign displayed proudly at intersection of FM 315 and Anderson Cty Rd 448, ten miles north of Palestine.

"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-



THE REAGAN CAMP WELCOMES NEW MEMBER COMPATRIOT ED HEITMAN



The Reagan Camp is proud to welcome Compatriot Ed Heitman to the camp. Ed has been coming to the meeting for several months, but we weren't able to swear him in until the January meeting. He is a great guy. If you haven't met him yet, please try to do so.

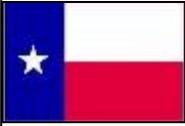


At left, Chaplain David Franklin swears Compatriot Ed Heitman in as a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. We are proud to have him in the Reagan Camp

Below: Congratulations Ed!



Left: Camp Commander Richard Thornton presents Ed Heitman with his official documentation as a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans.



JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP JANUARY MEETING 2022



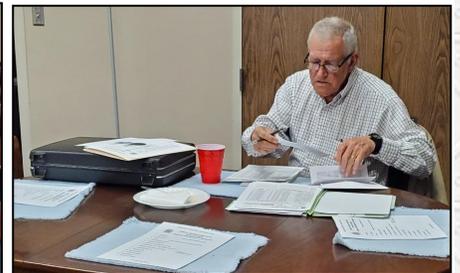
Due to several members having a scheduling conflict on the third Tuesday of the month, the January Reagan Camp Sons of Confederate Veterans meeting was held on the fourth Thursday, January 27th. We took a vote at the meeting, and the members agreed that the fourth Thursday of each month will allow us to have a better attendance. We appreciate Richard Thornton for contacting the banking officials and securing that night for us to meet. We had eleven in attendance, and

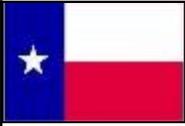


everyone had a great time.

The meeting started with a meal of pulled pork sandwiches, Chic-fil-a nuggets, pepperoni pizza, fried chicken, red beans with ham, cornbread, brownies, and Blue Bell ice cream. We appreciate Richard Thornton, David Franklin, Marc Robinson, Ed Heitman, Doug Smith and Dwight Franklin for providing the meal. Everything was delicious!

After the meal, 1st Lt. David Franklin presented an historical program on CSA General Hugh Weedon Mercer. It was an interesting program about a General that most of us had never heard about. (You can see the notes from that program on the following pages.) Our February meeting will be on February 24th at 6:30 pm in the Commercial Bank of Texas meeting room. We hope to see you there.

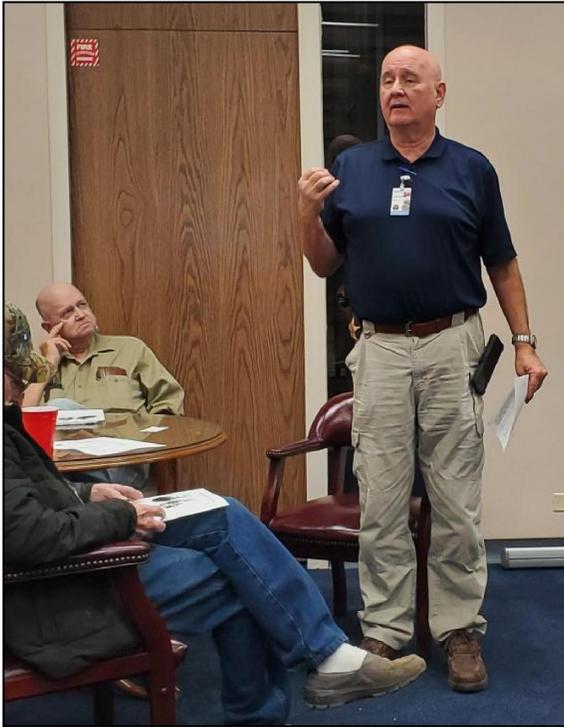




JANUARY SCV HISTORICAL PROGRAM “GENERAL HUGH WEEDON MERCER”



BY DAVID FRANKLIN



The January historical program was presented by David Franklin, Reagan Camp 1st Lt. David is good at having programs that are original, and this was no different. His program was on Confederate General Hugh Weedon Mercer. David has allowed us to use his notes so that those who were not able to attend in person may be able to learn more about this brave General.

He started the program off by reminding us of a program that Andrew Harris presented a few years ago on the “Eggnog Riot on 1826”. (If you haven’t heard of this particular riot, you might check it out on the internet. Both General Mercer and Jefferson Davis were a part of it.)

Hugh Weedon Mercer is born on November 27, 1808 in Fredericksburg, Virginia to a wealthy and well-known family. His grandfather and namesake, Hugh Mercer of Scotland, had been a general under George Washington during the American Revolution. The Hugh Mercer in the program attended West Point in 1824. He must have had a connection with some important people, because after he was expelled for his participation in the Eggnog Riot in 1826, he was pardoned by

President John Quincy Adams. Mercer was permitted to graduate in 1828 with a ranking of 3rd out of 33.

Mercer was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the US Artillery. He spent much of his time serving in Georgia and was an aide to Major General Winfield Scott. Mercer was promoted to first lieutenant of artillery in October 1834.

In April 1835, he resigned his commission and settled in Savannah where he married a local woman, Mary Stiles Anderson, the daughter of the President of the Planters Bank. His brother-in-law was George Wayne Anderson. (General Sherman and his staff, along with the Signal Corps, observed the attack from Cheve’s Rice Mill, about 3 miles from the fort. As he stood on the roof of the mill, nervously awaiting the assault to begin, a staff member remarked, “George Anderson is in command, General, the flag will never be lowered. You will have to capture that fort.” He knew Anderson from boyhood, and he knew that he would not surrender, even with forces outnumbered 25 to 1).

While Mercer worked as a bank cashier at the bank, he also served as an artillery officer in the Georgia Militia. He started building the Italianate-style Mercer House on the western side of Monterey Square in Savannah. However, the War of Northern Aggression interrupted its construction, and no Mercer ever lived there.

On May 27, 1862, Mercer enlisted in the Confederate army and was commissioned as the colonel of the 1st Georgia Infantry. He promoted to brigadier general by the end of October! He served as commander of the District of Georgia. In August 1862, he played a major role in impressing the first group of slaves and free blacks into service to the Confederacy. At the beginning of the Atlanta Campaign, he left Savannah and took command of a brigade in the Army of Tennessee.

Mercer fought at Dalton, Marietta and Kennesaw Mountain, where his son was wounded. Following the Battle of Atlanta in 1864, he became ill and was relieved of command. He was sent home to Savannah, where he served under Lt. General William Hardee.

- continued on the next page -



JANUARY SCV HISTORICAL PROGRAM "GENERAL HUGH WEEDON MERCER"



BY DAVID FRANKLIN



SCA Gen. Hugh Weedon
Mercer

Mercer was considered to be a good officer, but was unable to endure the physical demands of active duty.

Mercer commanded the 10th Battalion, Georgia Infantry, which was charged with the defense of the Savannah area. When Hardee retreated in December 1864, Mercer left the city, returning after the fighting ended. He was briefly imprisoned at Fort Pulaski, which he had once commanded, on Cockspur Island after the end of the war along with other prominent Confederate Generals.

After the war, Mercer returned to Savannah and resumed his work in banking. In 1869, he moved to Baltimore where he worked as a commission merchant. However with failing health, he traveled to the spa resort in Baden-Baden, Germany for treatment in 1872.

He died there in 1877. His body was returned to Savannah. He was buried in Bonaventure Cemetery which is located in Thunderbolt, Georgia.

Revolutionary General Hugh Mercer (1/15/1726 - 1/12/1777) was Gen. Hugh Weedon Mercer's grandfather. He was a brigadier general in the forces during the Scottish Seven Year's War, and later became a brigadier general in the American Continental Army. He was a close friend to George Washington. Future president James Monroe and future Chief Justice of the United States, John Marshall, served under his command. (he is pictured to the right)

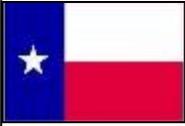


Other famous direct descendants of General Hugh Mercer were Virginia governor, John Mercer Patton; great grandsons, James French Patton, Isaac Williams Patton, George S. Patton Sr, Hugh M. Patton, & Waller T. Patton. All became Confederate States Army officers. William M. Patton (fought with the VMI cadets); great-great grandson General George S. Patton, Jr. USA, WW1 & WW2. (Pictured to the left); and GGG grandson Maj General George Patton, USA.



Succeeding generations of Gen. Mercer's family have distinguished themselves. His great-grandson was Johnny Mercer (1909-1976) who was a lyricist and composer who was the co-founder of Capital records. His songs were among the most successful hits of the time, including "Moon River", "Days of Wine and Roses", "Autumn Leaves", and "Hooray for Hollywood". He wrote lyrics to more than 1,500 songs, received 19 Oscar nominations, and won four Best Original Song Oscars. His first big Hollywood song, "I'm an Old Cowhand from the Rio Grande" was inspired by a road trip through Texas. His second hit that year was "Goody Goody". If you look him up online, you will see a lot of songs that he wrote.

We appreciate David for the program. It was very interesting.



KENTUCKY CONFEDERATE MARKERS

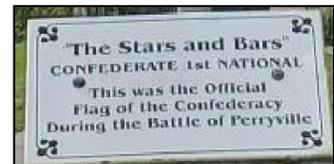


You never know what kind of hidden memorials you will find when driving through the United States. On a recent trip through Kentucky, we noticed a small road sign directing us to the Perryville Battlefield. After “googling” it, we found that it was the sight of the most destructive Civil War battle in the state of Kentucky which left more than 7,600 killed, wounded or missing. On the next few pages, you will find a few pictures that help describe what the state of Kentucky says about this battle on plaques that are in the park.



You can see more about the Battle of Perryville on the internet at
www.perryvillebattlefield.org/ and

<https://parks.ky.gov/perryville/parks/historic/perryville-battlefield-state-historic-site>



Above: Close-up of flagpole plaque



The Perryville Battlefield is one of the most unaltered Civil War sites in the nation; vistas visible today are virtually those soldiers saw on that fateful day in 1862. A self-guided walking tour on the battlefield interprets battle events.

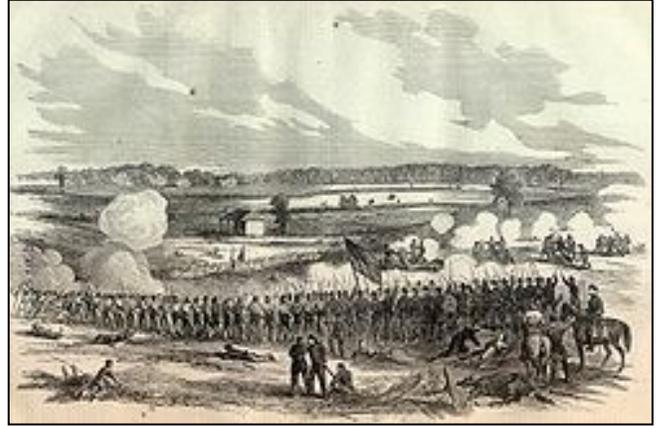


THE BATTLE OF PERRYVILLE KENTUCKY

COPIED FROM [HTTPS://EN.WIKIPEDIA.ORG/WIKI/PERRYVILLE_BATTLEFIELD_STATE_HISTORIC_SITE](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Perryville_Battlefield_State_Historic_Site)



The battle was fought on October 8, 1862, between the Union Army of the Ohio, commanded by Maj. Gen. Don Carlos Buell, and the Confederate Army of the Mississippi, commanded by Gen. Braxton Bragg. The battle was a tactical victory for the Confederates, but a strategic victory for the Union because Bragg withdrew his army from Kentucky, which remained in Union hands for the remainder of the war. Perryville's homes and farms were left in shambles by the battle. Henry P. "Squire" Bottom, a slave-owning Unionist on whose farm a significant portion of the battle was fought, suffered losses of pork, corn, hay, and wood to Union soldiers who remained in the area for weeks after the fighting.



The Battle of Perryville as depicted in Harper's Weekly

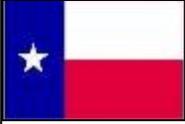
Perryville's homes and farms were left in shambles by the battle. Henry P. "Squire" Bottom, a slave-owning Unionist on whose farm a significant portion of the battle was fought, suffered losses of pork, corn, hay, and wood to Union soldiers who remained in the area for weeks after the fighting. During the battle Bottom also had significant damage to his farm, including the loss of a substantial barn filled with hay that burned completely due to artillery fire from a Confederate battery. Other accounts note that nearly all residents of the area suffered some losses as well as having their homes and outbuildings used as field hospitals.

The main force of the Union army had buried most of their dead in long trenches before pursuing Bragg, but most of the Confederate dead were still unburied a week after the battle. Union soldiers finally forced local residents to help them lay the dead in shallow trenches carved in the dry soil. Two months later, 347 were reburied in a mass grave on Bottom's land. In 1886 a total of 435 Confederates were buried on Bottom's land; this land was chosen because their dead lay thickest on the eastern slope. Although Bottom claimed that about 100 were identified, the only remnants of the cemetery were a corner of a stone wall and one headstone—that of Samuel H. Ransom of the 1st Tennessee Infantry CSA.

At the end of the war in 1865, Union soldiers reburied the remains of 969 Federal dead in a national cemetery at Perryville with a stone wall, two gates and plans for a monument. The monument was never erected, however, and in 1867 the new cemetery was closed and the Federal dead transferred to Camp Nelson in Jessamine County, Kentucky, leaving no identified Federal dead on the field at Perryville.



The photo on the left is of a cannon that was used in the Battle of Perryville. This photo is a view from Parsons battery position on the Open Knob.



PERRYVILLE BATTLEFIELD

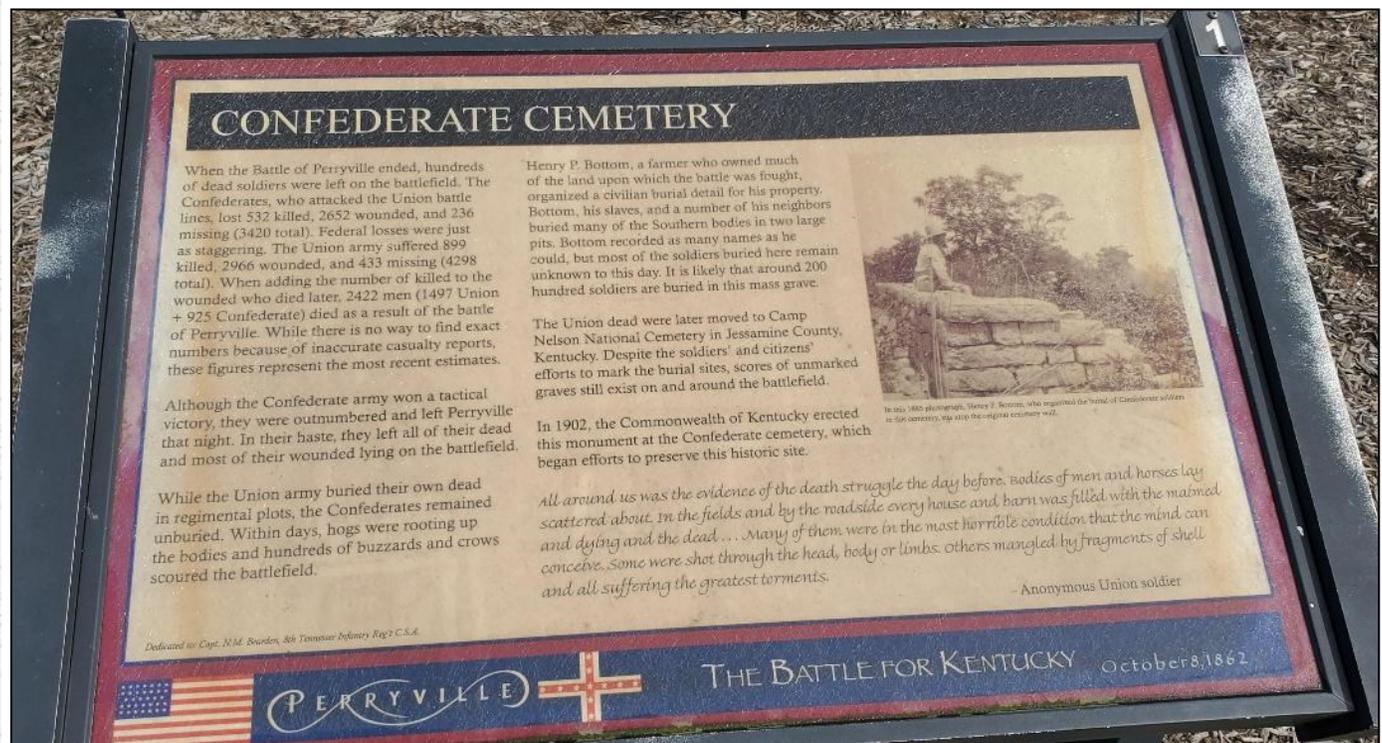


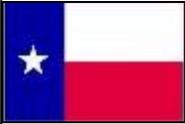
On the fortieth anniversary of the battle in 1902, a Confederate monument was dedicated in the Confederate cemetery begun by Henry Bottom, and a smaller Federal memorial was erected nearby in 1931. The Perryville State Battlefield site was established in 1954 by the Kentucky State Conservation Commission, and a museum and visitor's center were opened near the monuments on the battle's one hundredth anniversary in 1962.

For a century following the war, the memory of the Battle of Perryville (and many others fought in the Western Theater) was minimized by what has been called the "Lee" tradition," which emphasized the deeds of the armies and generals who fought in the Eastern Theater, particularly Virginia. Around the time of the American Civil War Centennial, however, numerous scholars worked to establish the importance of the Western campaigns. In recent years, appreciation for what happened at Perryville and other battlefields in Kentucky, Tennessee, and Mississippi has grown.

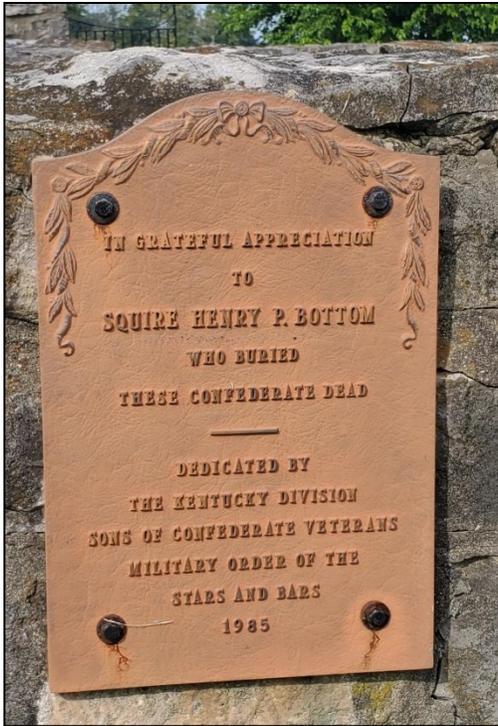
About 2,500 acres (1,000 ha) at Perryville were recognized as a National Historic Landmark in 1960, and the site averages around 100,000 visitors per year. A re-enactment of the battle occurs each October. The Perryville Battlefield Preservation Association was created in 1991 to preserve, enlarge, and protect the park. The acquisition of 149 acres (0.6 km²) of farmland from a descendant of Henry Bottom more than doubled the size of the park and allowed visitors to complete a tour of the entire battlefield. The American Battlefield Trust and its partners with the Office of Kentucky Nature Preserves Kentucky Heritage Land Conservation Fund have acquired and preserved 1,202 acres at the Perryville battlefield through late 2021. Numerous acres of this saved land have been incorporated in the state park.

Located below and on the following page is pictures from the Confederate Cemetery at the Perryville Battlefield.





PERRYVILLE BATTLEFIELD

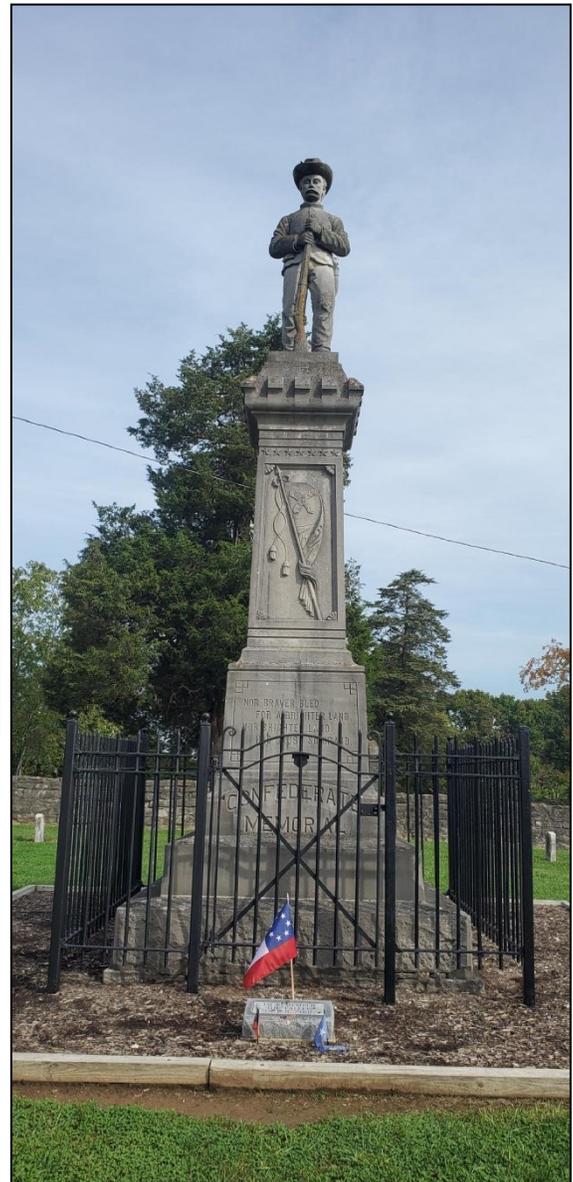


Left: Plaque on the wall of the Confederate Cemetery. It states:

In grateful appreciation to

Squire Henry P. Bottom who buried these Confederate Dead

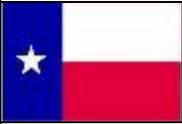
Dedicated by the Kentucky Division Sons of Confederate Veterans Military Order of the Stars and Bars 1985



Above: Confederate Memorial for the brave Confederate soldiers who died in the Battle of Perryville Kentucky in October 1862.



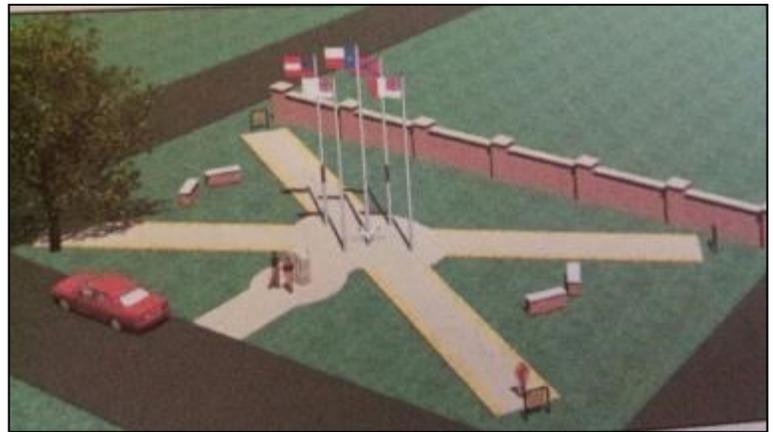
There were 7,600 men who were killed, wounded or missing after the Battle of Perryville. To the left are two of the grave markers of Confederates who were killed in action in that battle.



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.



WILLIAM C FRANKLIN CO D 12 BTTN ARK SHARP SHOOTERS	JOHN DANIEL LILES PVT DIED 4 / 25 / 1865 POW	WILLIAM J. CHAFFIN CO H 5 TEX CAV CSA 1829 - 1908	JOHN H. REAGAN SCV CAMP #2156 PALESTINE, TEXAS	PVT WM. H. FOSTER CO. H 1ST TEX INF DIED AS POW OCT 63
JASPER N. CARNES CO B 8 REGIMENT TEXAS INFANTRY	RICHARD A. HODGES CO K 22 TX INF CSA 1833 - 1905	ANDREW J BEAUCHAMP CO F 13 TEX INF 12-9-1834 9-1-1894	GEORGE KNOX GIBSON PVT. CO. B 12TH TEXAS CAVLRY, CSA	WILLIAM H. CRIST COMPANY I 7 TX CAV C.S.A.
JACOB L. SHERIDAN CAPT CO I 1ST REGT TEXAS INFANTRY	JOHN H. SHERIDAN PVT. CO I 1ST REGT TEXAS INFANTRY	COL. A.T. RAINEY CO. H 1 TEX. INF. HOOD'S TEX. BRIG	PVT. R. M. LUMMUS 53 GEORGIA INF. COMPANY B C.S.A	PVT ALLEN G TURNER CO A 7TH BATTALION MISS INF. CSA
L. E. SHERIDAN PVT. CO I 1ST REGT TEXAS INFANTRY	PVT WM. N SHERIDAN CO C 6 BATTALION TEXAS CALVARY	STEPHEN D. RAINEY CAPTAIN 1ST BATT. TEX CAV	SGT. AMOS G. HANKS CO F. 1ST TEX INF HOODS BRIGADE CSA	WILLIAM H. DYER PVT CO K MISS INF C.S.A.

Above are some pictures of some of the pavers in the plaza. If you would like to purchase a paver for your ancestor, you can pick what you want to have inscribed on it. These pictures will give you some ideas to what you might want on your paver.

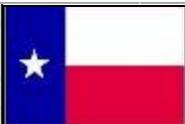


ROBERT E. LEE CALENDAR



JANUARY 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1, 1863 Temps fall below zero as far south as Memphis, Tn
2, 1863 Battle of Stones River resumes with horrific carnage near Murfreesboro, Tn	3, 1864 In two-plus years of war, prices have soared to 28 times higher in the Confederacy	4, 1864 President Davis authorizes Lee to commandeer food stores in Virginia to feed army.	5, 1861 U.S. merchant ship Star of the West leaves New York with supplies for Fort Sumter.	6, 1865 The 13th Amendment abolishing slavery fails to pass 38th Congress.	7, 1863 Confederates speed up efforts to build naval vessels in Europe.	8, 1821 CSA Gen. James Longstreet is born
9, 1861 Mississippi's legislature votes 84-15 to secede.	10, 1864 U.S. Gov floods Confederacy with fake currency to cripple its economy	11, 1862 Simon Cameron, a corrupt Pennsylvania Politician, resigns from Lincoln's cabinet	12, 1865 Pres Davis sends a letter to Pres Lincoln hoping to negotiate a peace	13, 1863 Union officials raise Black troops for infantry units in South Carolina.	14, 1831 CSA Brig. Gen John Bullock Clark, Jr is born	15, 1865 Union forces assault Fort Fisher along outer banks of North Carolina. Lee Jackson Day
16, 1864 Europe is on the brink of war as Prussia threatens Denmark's monarch.	17, 1862 U.S. Gen. Smith leads expedition down the Tennessee River to capture Fort Henry.	18, 1864 Conf. Gov extends conscription to include 17 yr olds	19, 1807 CSA Gen. Robert E. Lee is born.	20, 1862 Demoralized Confederates retreat south after losing at Mills Springs, Ky	21, 1824 CSA Gen. Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson is born.	22, 1864 Disgraced U.S. Gen. Rosecrans is appointed to command of Missouri Dept.
23, 1863 Famous "Mud March": ends in total failure for Union forces in Virginia.	24, 1862 U.S. Gen. Halleck declares martial law in St. Louis.	25, 1863 U.S. Gen. Burnside is fired by Lincoln because of Fredericksburg debacle.	26, 1861 Louisiana votes 113-117 to secede from Union.	27, 1862 President Lincoln issues War Order #1 ordering all forces to advance.	28, 1825 CSA Ge. George Pickett is born	29, 1861 Kansas is admitted to the Union as the 34th state.
30, 1861 President Elect Lincoln visits stepmother Sarah Bush before leaving for Washington.	31, 1865 Gen. Robert E. Lee is appointed General in Chief of all Confederate Armies.					



TEXAS CIVIL WAR HISTORY IN JANUARY



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

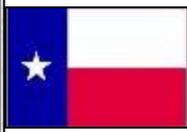
January 1, 1863: On this day, Confederate forces under Gen. J. B. Magruder began their assault on Union forces that had held Galveston since October. Magruder placed artillery and dismounted cavalry aboard two river steamers, *The Bayou City* and the *Neptune*. He also gathered infantry and cavalry, supported by artillery, to cross the railroad bridge onto the island. The Confederates entered Galveston on New Year's night, January 1, 1863, and opened fire before dawn. The Union ship *Harriet Land* sank the *Neptune*, but the *Bayou City's* crew seized the Federal vessel. Union commander William B. Renshaw's flagship, the *Westfield*, ran aground, and the commander died trying to blow it up rather than surrender it. The other Union ships sailed out to sea, ignoring Confederate surrender demands, while their infantry comrades in town surrendered. Magruder had retaken Galveston with a moderate loss. Although the port remained under Confederate control for the rest of the war, only a week elapsed before it was again blockaded.

January 8, 1864: On this day, seventeen-year-old David Dodd was hanged. The Texas native was captured as he tried to cross Federal lines near Little Rock, with notes in Morse code hidden in his shoe. After a military court found him guilty, he confessed that he had been sent to gather information about Union troops. Dodd may have been the youngest person hanged as a spy in the Civil War.

January 8, 1865: On this day, about 160 Confederates and 325 state militiamen lost a battle against the Kickapoo Indians about twenty miles southwest of present San Angelo. A month earlier a scouting party had discovered an abandoned Indian camp and, assuming the group was hostile, dispatched forces to pursue them. A militia force under Capt. S. S. Totten and state Confederate troops under Capt. Henry Fossett set out, but the two forces lacked a unified command and full communication. When the troops and militiamen finally rendezvoused near the timbered encampment of the Kickapoos along Dove Creek, the forces concocted a hasty battle plan. The militia waded the creek to launch a frontal attack from the north, while Confederate troops circled southwestward to capture the Indians' horses and prevent a retreat. A well-armed Indian fighting force, possibly several hundred strong, easily defended their higher, heavily-wooded position as the militiamen slogged through the creek. The Confederate force was splintered into three groups caught in a heavy crossfire. Three days later the battered Texans retreated eastward, while the embittered Kickapoos, once peaceful, escaped to the Mexican border. Thus began a violent period of border raids on settlers along the Rio Grande.

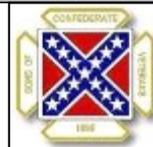
January 11, 1863: On this day, the remnants of the Fourth Brigade of Walker's Texas Division were captured intact at Arkansas Post. The division, organized in Arkansas in October 1862, was the only division in Confederate service composed throughout its existence of troops from a single state. It took its name from Major Gen. Henry Eustace McCulloch, on January 1, 1863. During its existence it was commonly called the "Greyhound Division," or "Walker's Greyhounds," in tribute to its special capability to make long, forced marches from one threatened point to another in the Trans-Mississippi Department. Initially, the division was made up of four brigades. The Fourth Brigade, under the command of Col. James Deshler, was detached from the division shortly after its organization and sent to Arkansas Post. Deshler was captured there, then exchanged and promoted to brigadier general in July 1863. He was killed during the battle of Chickamauga later that year.

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TEXAS CIVIL WAR HISTORY IN JANUARY

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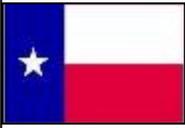
January 11, 1863: On this day, the USS *Hatteras* was sunk by the CSS *Alabama*. The *Hatteras*, a converted merchant ship formerly named the *St. Mary*, was commissioned in October 1861 and first saw duty in the South Atlantic. After assignment to the blockading squadron in the Gulf of Mexico, she was raiding along the Confederate coast when she was sunk by Confederate captain Raphael Semmes. She lies sixty feet of water twenty miles south of Galveston. The federal government has been able to preserve the wreck for scientific and historical research.

January 12, 1861: On this day, Unionist editor John W. Barrett published the Marshall *Harrison Flag* for the last time. Barret moved to Texas from Indiana in 1838. He bought the *Star State Patriot* in 1848 and in 1856 renamed it the *Harrison Flag*. The *Flag* supported Sam Houston, the American (Know-Nothing) party, and the Constitutional Union party of 1860. Robert W. Loughery, owner and editor of the Marshall *Texas Republican* and an ardent secessionist, classed Barrett and the *Flag* as oppositionist and submissionist during the secession crisis. In editorial after editorial during November and December 1860, Barrett opposed secession; he declared on December 18, 1860, that breaking up the United States would be “the most momentous political decision that has ever demanded the attention of mankind.” The same winter, ill and confined to his room, he suspended publication of the *Flag* with the issue of January 12, 1861. Five days later, Loughery called off their long political feud and wrote of Barrett: “He has been sick nine months with little chance of improvement....He has a large family depending on him, with children to educate. He needs every dollar coming to him. Those owing him should not be insensible to his condition.” Barrett died of tuberculosis on May 12, 1862.

January 14, 1865: On this day, during the final months of the Civil War, Governor Pendleton Murrah urged Texans to put aside personal ambitions and make sacrifices in defense of their liberty. Murrah, a native of either Alabama or South Carolina, had moved to Texas in 1850. After serving in the state legislature, Murrah was elected governor of Texas in 1863. As governor, he became involved in a series of controversies over control of the state's manpower and economy with Gen. John B. Magruder, the Confederate military commander of the Texas district, and his superior, Gen. Edmund Kirby Smith, commander of the Trans-Mississippi Department. In spite of these quarrels, Murrah supported Kirby Smith in his determination to carry on the war in the face of military reversals. Even after Lee's surrender, Murrah continued to urge resistance. When it was obvious that Union forces would occupy the state, he vacated his office, leaving Lieutenant Governor Fletcher Stockdale in charge, and joined other Confederate leaders fleeing to Mexico. The long trip was too much for Murrah, who suffered from tuberculosis. He was confined to bed upon reaching Monterrey and died on August 4, 1865

January 15, 1867: On this day, Bayland Orphans' Home for Boys, a county home for dependent and delinquent boys, was organized in Houston by Texas Confederate veterans. The institution was first located at Bayland on the west side of Galveston Bay near Morgan's Point. The nonsectarian home, planned to care for and educate up to 250 orphans of deceased Confederate soldiers, opened in August 1867. Henry F. Gillette was superintendent from 1867 to 1882, and Col. Ashbel Smith served as staff doctor. In 1887, when Houston-Galveston packet travel ceased and Bayland became inaccessible, a decision was made to move the home to Houston. Mrs. Kezia Payne DePelchin, later connected with the DePelchin Faith Home, was elected matron in 1888. The institution moved a number of times around the Harris County area over the years, with its final location near Webster. The orphanage ceased to function strictly as the Bayland Orphans' Home after World War II. Boys attended public school at Webster, and efforts were made to place children in foster homes.

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TEXAS CIVIL WAR HISTORY IN JANUARY

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January 23, 1863: On this day in 1863, Confederate soldiers hanged Martin Hart in Fort Smith, Arkansas. This attorney from Hunt County had served in the Texas legislature, where he spoke out against secession. After secession, he resigned his government post and organized the Greenville Guards, pledging the company's services "in defense of Texas" against invasion. Under color of a Confederate commission, however, he spied against the Confederacy. In Arkansas he led a series of rear-guard actions against Confederate forces, and is alleged to have murdered at least two prominent secessionists. He was captured on January 18, 1863, by Confederate forces.

January 29, 1861: On this day in 1861, the Secession Convention of the state of Texas voted overwhelmingly to secede from the United States. South Carolina had seceded in December 1860. The election of Republican Abraham Lincoln precipitated the fall of the Southern dominoes. Fearful of Northern encroachment on traditional freedoms, and acutely aware of the South's economic dependence upon slavery, the Southern states voted one by one to withdraw from the Union. A Texas referendum to settle the legality of the move was held on February 23, 1861. The results for the state as a whole were 46,153 for secession and 14,747 against. The stage was set for Texans to fight and lose a bloody civil war.

January 30, 1862: On this day in 1862, Maine native Leonard Pierce arrived in Matamoros, Mexico, to take up his post as United States consul. As the Civil War raged to the north, Matamoros became a center of Confederate commerce. Texans shipped cotton from the unblockaded port, while Unionist refugees fleeing Texas collected in the town. Pierce's principal responsibilities were the care of refugees from Confederate territory and the military enlistment of Union sympathizers. During his service he relocated about 700 refugees and sent about 300 men to enlist in the Union army. These men served in the First and Second Texas Cavalry regiments, which were eventually merged into the First Texas Volunteer Cavalry. After the war Pierce settled in Brownsville, Texas, where he died in 1872.



Origin of the Bonny Blue Flag

"Harry McCarthy, a Confederate soldier and an Irish comedian, appeared on the stage of the Academy of Music in New Orleans in September, 1861, and sang a song which he had written. The house was filled with Confederate soldiers from Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas on their way to the battle front. He was accompanied by his sister, Marion, who, in honor of the Texans present, bore in her hand a large flag of dark blue silk with one white star in the center. Then McCarthy sang his 'Bonny Blue Flag' which brought to the soldiers the memory of home so vividly that they could not repress their feelings. They yelled, they waved their hats, they jumped upon the seats, and the excitement became so great that the police had to be called in to check it. McCarthy had first sung it at his home in Jackson, Miss. When General Butler was in command at New Orleans he issued an order that any man, woman, or child that sang that song, whistled or played it, should be fined twenty-five dollars. He had A. E. Blaekmar, the publisher of the music, arrested, fined him five hundred dollars, and ordered every copy of the song destroyed; but 'Bonny Blue Flag' was in the hearts of the people and could not be destroyed. It was sung from the Gulf of Mexico to the Atlantic Ocean, and from the night McCarthy sang it, it became the Marsellaise of the South. Mrs. Annie Chambers-Ketchum, of Kentucky, wrote other words to the music, and for this reason it has been said she claimed to have written the original song."

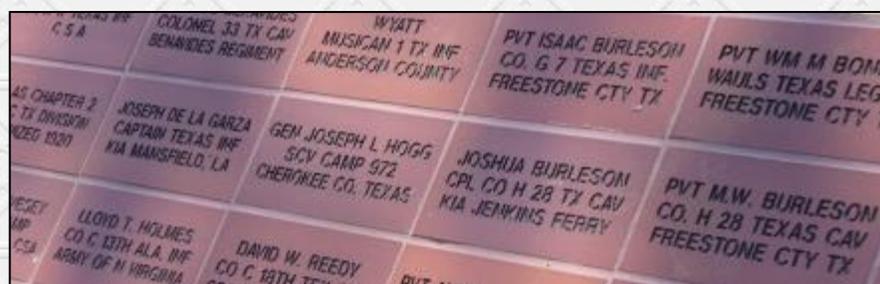
Mildred Lewis Rutherford, *What The South May Claim or Where The South Leads* (Athens, Georgia: Historian General U. D. C. 1911-1916, 1916), 30.



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.



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www.reaganscvcamp.org

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.

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.