



SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS, TEXAS DIVISION

THE JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP NEWS

www.reaganscvcamp.org

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OCTOBER 2025

SEPTEMBER DISPATCH



LT CDR David Franklin

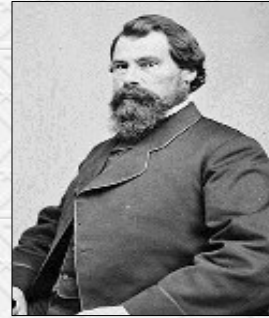
Prior to September 17, 1862, the little dirt farm lane (pictured on the next page) in Maryland was known simply as the Sunken Road, for reasons you can probably imagine. That was before Confederate troops lined the road's embankment with fence rails and troops and unloaded on passing Union soldiers at what was essentially point-blank range. By the time the fighting was done — just three and a half hours later — 5,500 men were dead or wounded. And also? According to the National Park Service, there was really no point: Neither the Confederate Army nor the Union gained any kind of military or territorial advantage whatsoever. Now, the route is known as Bloody Lane.

According to the US Department of Transportation: the

bloodiest battle of the Civil War took place on September 17, 1862, on Antietam Creek near the small town of Sharpsburg, Maryland. Four hours of intense fighting took place on an old sunken road that separated two farms. A staggering 23,100 men were wounded, killed or missing in action after the Union and Confederate Armies collided in the nearby cornfields, farmlands and Antietam Creek.

When the Confederate Army reached the sunken road, which provided some protection at first, General Robert E. Lee ordered that the battle be held there. Soldiers on both sides fired continuously as the Federals tried repeatedly to overtake the position. Finally the Confederate soldiers were overrun and bodies fell on top of bodies in the bloodied sunken road.

Today we know it as Bloody Lane and if you ever have occasion to walk it you will indeed go back in time and be humbled by the experience. The tragic impressions of that day seem to linger.

**John H. Reagan**

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

It seems that no matter how many visitors roam the old road on any given day, it remains church-like quiet.

(<https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/infrastructure/back1105.cfm>)

According to Creepy Tales of Civil War Ghosts, the lane is absolutely haunted. No matter how many people are there at any given time, it remains unnaturally quiet. Visitors report that they can still hear gunfire, and the distinctive smell of gunpowder still washes over those who walk the lane.

-continued on next page

CAMP MEETINGS

4th Tuesday of Each Month

06:30 PM at the First

Congregational Methodist Church of Elkhart.

With a meal served at each meeting.
Guests are welcome!
Bring the family.

www.reaganscvcamp.org
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October Dispatch – OCT 2025

1ST LT CDR David Franklin



Some have said they've seen soldiers in Confederate uniforms, so realistic that they're thought to be reenactors ... until they disappear. But here's where it gets creepier.

According to one story, a group of schoolchildren from Baltimore were visiting the site. They heard distinct chanting, so clear that they could all sing the song's refrain. It wasn't a Christmas song like they'd thought: It was a Gaelic battle cry, shouted by the Union soldiers of the Irish Brigade as they charged.

Happy Halloween!!



Pictured above is the "Sunken Road" - on Antietam Battlefield near Sharpsburg, Maryland - which was later renamed the "Bloody Lane" where more than 5,000 Union and Confederates lost their lives in 3 1/2 hours.



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 Richard Thornton at 903-731-1557 or email tx_tsar@hotmail.com.**

Prayer List

- Compatriot Forrest Bradberry
- Compatriot Gary Gibson & his wife, Lynn
- Past Reagan Camp Historian Gary Williams
- Former Camp Commander Rudy Ray
- United Daughters of the Confederacy
- The Sovereign State of Texas

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The Reagan Camp will have monthly meetings on the 4th Tuesday of each month. Meetings will be held at the First Congregational Methodist Church of Elkhart.

November meeting cancelled due to the Thanksgiving Holidays.

December Meeting will be held at 6:30pm on Dec 9th at Crockett Rd Church of Christ in Palestine at their Fellowship Hall

Dec 13th - Wreaths Across America (see page 3 for details)



General Robert Edward Lee passed away October 12, 1860

Officers for 2025

Commander - Ed Heitman

1st Lt Cmdr. - David Franklin

Adjutant/Treasurer - Richard Thornton

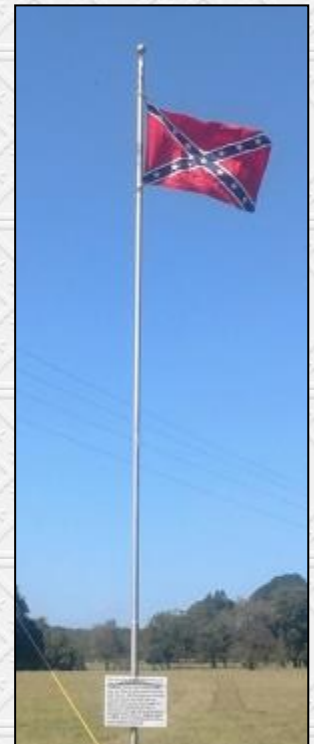
Sgt at Arms - Marc Robinson

Judge Advocate - Martin Lawrence

Chaplain - Dwight Franklin

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-



WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA REMEMBERING CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS DEADLINE APPROACHING



Compatriots,

At the January DEC meeting, the council voted to approve the Texas Division's sponsorship of **Wreaths Across America at the Texas State Cemetery**. This was a clear commitment to honor the more than **2,200 Confederate veterans** buried there—including Generals like Albert Sidney Johnston, John A. Wharton, and William R. Scurry.

We are now approaching the deadline for sponsorships on **November 28, 2025**, and we need your leadership. To date, **385 wreaths have been sponsored**—with the Division itself sponsoring 250 and the Williamson County Grays, Camp #502 sponsoring 30. That leaves us well short of even our **modest goal of 500 wreaths**, and further still from our **stretch goal of 1,000**.

This is the best opportunity we have each year to honor these men publicly and visibly, in the heart of our State Capital. A wreath is not just a decoration—it is a powerful statement that these veterans are remembered, respected, and not forgotten.

I urge each of you to take immediate action:

- Encourage your camps to sponsor wreaths directly.
- Remind your members of the deadline.
- Challenge each camp to step forward, whether by sponsoring individually or as a group.

We have only a few weeks left. Without your leadership, we risk falling short of our responsibility to those who wore the gray and rest at the Texas State Cemetery. Let us not allow that to happen.

The sponsorship link is here: www.wreathsasscrossamerica.org/TX1603

I have attached the promotional poster for your use and here is the link to the promotional video. <https://youtu.be/PGI3trcc1bk>

Brothers, now is the time to act. Let us show Texas and the nation that the Sons of Confederate Veterans keep faith with our ancestors.

Deo Vindice,

Johnny Anderson

Division Public Relations Officer

Texas Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans

Join Us in Our Mission

Remember ★ Honor ★ Teach



★ **December 13, 2025** ★

National Wreaths Across America Day



Help Sons of Confederate Veterans honor local heroes!

Sponsor a wreath today to be placed on a veteran's grave this December at Texas State Cemetery

Scan the QR code to make a donation online or visit www.wreathsasscrossamerica.org/TX1603





**WREATHS
ACROSS
AMERICA**
KEEP MOVING FORWARD

#KeepMovingForward





OCTOBER MEETING PICTURES JOHN H. REAGAN SCV CAMP

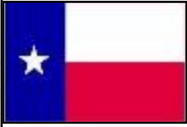


The October meeting was held on October 28th at the First Congregational Methodist Church in Elkhart at 6:30 p.m. David Franklin and Richard Thornton provided all of the food for this month's meeting. We had chicken & dumplings, beef stew, smothered beef with gravy (and rice), purple hull peas, cornbread, fried chicken, strawberry short cake, coconut cake, cookies and more! All of the food was delicious. We appreciate David and Richard for providing such a good meal.

After the meal, Richard Thornton presented the historical program which was titled "Religion During the Civil War and Its Effect on the Soldiers". It was an interesting program with a lot of detailed facts from that era. You can see the notes from his program on the following pages.

We will not have a November meeting due to the Thanksgiving Holidays. Our December Christmas party will be on December 9th at the Crockett Road Church of Christ in Palestine at 6:30 p.m. All are invited. Just bring a dish and join us for good fellowship and good food.





“RELIGION DURING THE CIVIL WAR & ITS EFFECT ON THE SOLDIERS”

BY RICHARD THORNTON PG 1 OF 2



The 1860 United States Census recorded 28 different Protestant denominations, a small but thriving Jewish community, and a steadily growing Roman Catholic Church.

Together, these religious institutions were made up of 19,128,750 Americans.

The breakdown of the Protestant churches were: Methodist 32%, Baptist 19%, & Presbyterian 10%. 14% were Episcopal, Christian, and Lutheran and other congregations. 7% belonged to Roman Catholic Parishes. 18% were Jewish and other fringe religions.

The elites in the south were pretty much protestant, which consisted mostly of Methodist and Baptist affiliations.

New England Puritans had evolved into Congregational churches, Methodists and Lutherans and so on.

Prior to the 1830's there was little division in the American churches. The split in religious views occurred just prior to the Civil War!

Presbyterians divided their church into Old and New School factions in 1837 over roughly sectional lines. Most Virginians adhered to the Old School, the branch more accommodating of slavery, even though not all acknowledged slavery as the cause of the rupture.

When Baptists and Methodists divided their respective denominations into Northern and Southern branches between 1844 and 1845, they were unequivocal that the main object of contention was slaveholding. So as early as 1837 there was a split and slavery was the major issue.

There was also a new round of divisions during and after the secession of Southern States, when Lutherans and Episcopalians split for the first time and Methodists and Presbyterians further divided.

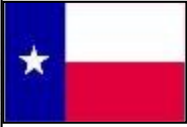
There was a “Great Revival” during the American Civil War with a significant surge of religious interest and activity that swept through both Union and Confederate armies, particularly from 1863 to 1864. Much of it goes back to that old saying, “There are no atheists in foxholes”.

Therefore many Virginians experienced the Civil War as a religious battle before a single shot was fired.

We can all accept that religion was a major movement before and during the Civil War.

The common soldier in the Confederacy did not fight for the rich man's property! He fought because he wanted the right to decide upon issues of the day and repel an invading army. He fought for his home state!

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**“RELIGION DURING THE CIVIL WAR
& ITS EFFECT ON THE SOLDIERS”
BY RICHARD THORNTON PG 2**



“The faith of a Confederate soldier was predominantly Protestant Christianity, with many viewing their cause as a defense of Christian civilization against what they saw as a morally compromised North. This belief system was supported by chaplains, religious revivals in camps, and personal piety, with soldiers finding comfort, purpose and resilience through faith, prayer, and their Bibles. Their belief often blended with ideas of honor and duty, framing their struggle as a fight for both their homes and their God.”

Stonewall Jackson is an example of the religious beliefs of that time in history. Jackson’s calm during battle and his strong belief that whatever happens is predestined made his character. That belief made him calm when he came under fire and let him also forgive the poor soldier who was unfortunate enough to wound him. In the Mexican war, he stood open in the road as cannon balls landed next to him and urged his soldiers to fight.

Jackson said, “My religious belief teaches me that I am as safe in battle as in bed. God has fixed the time of my death. I do not concern myself about that, but to always be ready, no matter when it may overtake me. That is the way all men should live, and then all would be equally brave.”

A soldier's death in war has to be accepted and rationalized in time of strife. The Southern soldier was a believer in God and believed in the hereafter. He was brave, but he was also a believer in predestination.

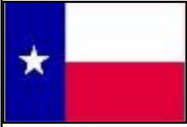
As a group, Methodists were some what believers in predestination, but Baptists were much more aligned with this belief. His willingness to line up and march toward opposing troops, that were dug in, exemplified this soldier’s belief system.

This brings me to 4 questions:

1. Could you have joined “Picket’s Charge” and marched in line into the entrenched Union Army at Gettysburg?
2. Would you choose to stand a picket post in the dark on the edge of your army’s encampment. Not hiding in a ditch, but to stand a post as civil war soldiers did?
3. As a Cavalry soldier, would you be willing to ride a horse into opposing infantry?
4. Would you chose to man a Civil War battery on an open hill side while facing an advancing army?

I think these questions will answer if the Civil War Soldier had a different prospective of life and death then you!

We would like to thank Richard for his program. It brought up a LOT of discussion and comments.



OCTOBER CONFEDERATE VICTORY THE BATTLE OF BALL'S BLUFF



Loudoun County, VA | Oct 21, 1861

Forces Engaged: 3,429

Union 1,720

Confederate 1,709

Estimated Casualties: 1,157

Union 1,002

Confederate 155

On the evening of October 20, 1861, Union army commander George B. McClellan ordered Gen. Charles Stone to send a scouting party across the Potomac River to identify the positions of Confederate Col. Nathan Evans's troops near Leesburg. In the darkness the party's inexperienced leader, Capt. Chase Philbrick, mistook a line of trees for a line of tents, and reported that he had stumbled across an unguarded Confederate camp. Early the next day, Col. Charles Devens was sent across the river to attack the camp, and after realizing that the supposed "camp" was nothing but a line of trees, his men encountered a company of Mississippi infantry and a skirmish began. Col. Edward Baker, a U.S. Senator, decided to reinforce Devens, but with only four small boats available to transport men, Union reinforcements arrived slowly. Evans used the Federal delay to organize his men, and when Col. Baker was killed in the afternoon, Union resistance crumbled. The victorious Confederates drove the Yankees over the bluff and into the Potomac, where many drowned and hundreds surrendered rather than risk escape into the river. The battle, while small in scale, had major political implications that would haunt the Union army for the rest of the war.

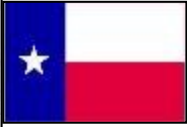
Fact #1: The Battle of Ball's Bluff was the result of a "slight demonstration."

Three months after the Battle of Bull Run, the Union and Confederate armies occupied a relatively stagnant front along the Potomac River. On the Virginia side of the river, Col. Nathan "Shanks" Evans, commanding less than 3,000 men was increasingly concerned about being flanked by the growing numbers of Federals gathering across the river. A minor skirmish in the direction of Harper's Ferry on October 16, 1861 only added to Evans' fears, and prompted the Confederate to abandon his position at Leesburg. Opposing Evans was Brig. Gen. Charles P. Stone's Corps of Observation, whose primary mission was to monitor Confederate movements. When Stone's men reported Evans' withdrawal, Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan ordered the division of Brig. Gen. George McCall to advance to Edwards Ferry, but the cautious McClellan quickly rescinded the order. At the same time, McClellan ordered Stone to make a "slight demonstration"—a feint to ascertain Confederate intentions—along the Potomac on October 20. In the meantime, under orders from Gen. P.G.T. Beauregard, Evans had returned to Leesburg, setting the stage for the battle that followed.

Fact #2: Union troops crossed the Potomac River based on faulty intelligence.

After Stone's slight demonstration failed to get the attention of the Confederate troops, Stone ordered a reconnaissance party to cross the Potomac at Ball's Bluff to gain further information about the Confederate positions. Leading a company of the 15th Massachusetts, Capt. Chase Philbrick crossed the river after dusk on Oct. 20th with orders to scout as far as he could towards Leesburg, until he saw something to arouse suspicion. Less than a mile from the river bank, Philbrick saw what he believed to be a line of tents in the dim moonlight. The Captain advanced to within 150 feet of the supposed camp, and realized that it seemed to be deserted, with no Confederate troops or campfires in sight. With his suspicions sufficiently aroused, the inexperienced and over-excited Philbrick returned to his superiors, failing to investigate the matter further. Upon hearing this report, Stone ordered Col. Charles Devens and a 300-man raiding party to cross the river and attack the camp. When dawn broke on the 21st, Devens realized that the "camp" he was after was nothing more than a line of trees – a trick of the moonlight had fooled the overzealous Philbrick. Receiving further orders to wait for reinforcements and make a move towards Leesburg, Devens's men encountered pickets from the 17th Mississippi and the skirmish began.

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OCTOBER CONFEDERATE VICTORY THE BATTLE OF BALL'S BLUFF



Fact #3: Inexperience, difficult terrain, and a shortage of boats led to a military disaster.

What began as an attempt to raid an unguarded Confederate camp ended in an embarrassing Union defeat. Not only was the raid based on false intelligence gathered by an inexperienced officer, but communication between Union officers throughout the battle was inefficient. The terrain of Ball's Bluff itself presented a forbidding challenge. Made up of steep, thickly wooded cliffs that bordered the Potomac River, the Federals fought with their backs against river and found it impossible to gain decent ground. Further complicating matters, only four small boats were available at Harrison's Island, and Union reinforcements arrived at Ball's Bluff slowly and in small numbers. Eventually, Evans's troops forced the Yankees over the bluff and literally into the Potomac River. Here again, the shortage of boats took its toll on the Federals. Those who did not surrender would have to swim across, and many drowned in the attempt. The shocking disparity of casualties made the Union defeat all the more resounding. The Federal army suffered over 1,000 casualties, while the Confederates lost less than 160.

Fact #4: The only sitting U.S. member of Congress to be killed in battle died at Ball's Bluff.

Senator Edward Dickinson Baker, a U.S. Senator of Oregon and close friend of President Abraham Lincoln, became a Colonel when he was chosen to lead the California Regiment in May 1861. He was assigned to Brig. Gen. Stone's division, stationed along the Potomac River. On the morning of October 21, Baker learned of Devens' raiding party into the supposed camp, and went to Stone to be briefed. Stone, not yet knowing of the skirmish, ordered Baker to Ball's Bluff to take command of the reconnaissance, and to evaluate whether to withdraw troops or send more in. When Baker learned of the skirmishing, he immediately sent in all his available men, and crossed to Ball's Bluff himself in the midafternoon. At about 4 p.m., he was struck simultaneously in his heart and brain by four bullets and died instantly.

Fact #5: Ball's Bluff was the first major battle of the famed California Regiment.

Funded by Californians, the 1st California Regiment was part of an effort to keep California in the Union by encouraging California men from across the United States to enlist in the regiment. The regiment, however, was Californian in name only; not only was it led by Col. Baker, a Senator from Oregon, but the regiment was raised in Philadelphia, resulting in a regiment where the majority of men were native Pennsylvanians. After Baker's death, the regiment was renamed the 71st Pennsylvania Volunteers, and went on to see action at Antietam, Fredericksburg, and Gettysburg, where they participated in the famous repulse of Pickett's Charge at the Bloody Angle.

Fact #6: Future Supreme Court Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr., survived a nearly fatal wound at Ball's Bluff.

Shortly after graduating from Harvard, Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr., secured a commission as a Lieutenant in the 20th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry. Holmes and his fellow officers in the 20th Massachusetts were Harvard graduates and close friends, and the regiment later became known as "The Harvard Regiment." Holmes sustained his first major injury of the war at Ball's Bluff—the 20th Massachusetts's first engagement. Holmes' regiment accompanied Devens across the Potomac, and was present on the morning of October 21st. At about 4:30 in the afternoon, Holmes was shot in the chest, a wound which was nearly fatal. Holmes recovered, only to be wounded later at Antietam and again at Chancellorsville. Holmes went on to serve as one of America's most influential and longest serving Supreme Court Justices, a seat he held until the age of 90.

Fact #7: The Battle of Ball's Bluff led to the creation of the Joint Committee on the Conduct of War.

After the embarrassing loss at Ball's Bluff, the third major Union defeat of the war, Congressional Republicans had enough of what they considered the incompetency of the officers Lincoln had appointed, and determined to take a larger role in waging the war. On December 9, 1861, they established the Joint Committee on the Conduct of War to oversee the administration of the Army and the Navy. Throughout the war, the Committee was chaired by the Radical Republican Senator from Ohio, Benjamin Wade.

- Continued on the next page -



OCTOBER CONFEDERATE VICTORY THE BATTLE OF BALL'S BLUFF



The Radical Republicans wanted to pursue a more aggressive course of war than did President Lincoln, and used the Committee to oversee generals and promote men who they believed would support harder war policies.

Fact #8: Both Stone and McClellan blamed Col. Edward Baker for the tremendous Union loss.

When called before the Joint Committee on the Conduct of War, Stone testified that he had given Baker the responsibility to decide whether to send more troops across the river or to withdraw those already there. By sending reinforcements, Stone argued, "Colonel Baker chose to bring on a battle." General McClellan was inclined to agree. After hearing Stone's version of events, McClellan publicly exonerated Stone from any blame, and published in an army circular that "the disaster was caused by errors committed by the immediate Commander [Baker]." Although Stone and McClellan had both testified that Baker had mismanaged his command during the battle, Stone remained the popular scapegoat for the battle's failure. When Stone was called before the Joint Committee to give his version of events at Ball's Bluff, Congress laid the blame for the battle on Stone. Stone was a friend of McClellan, a known Democrat, and his word amounted for little to the abolitionist, Radical Republican dominated Committee. They accused Stone of disloyalty to the Union, and Stone was arrested on February 8, 1862, on orders from Secretary of War Edwin Stanton. He was taken to Fort Lafayette, a prison designated for known Confederate sympathizers, where he was held in solitary confinement without trial. With no charges having been filed against him, Stone was released after six months, and Stanton ordered him demoted to Colonel and kept out of field work. In 1864, Stone resigned from the army.

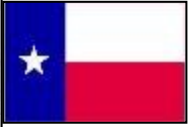
Fact #9: The Ball's Bluff battlefield has been called by historian Jim Morgan a "preservation success story."

Despite the fact that the site where the early morning skirmishing took place on October 21st has been lost to development, a portion of the battlefield remains well preserved today. The Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority (NOVA Parks) owns 223 acres of the original battlefield along with the Ball's Bluff Battlefield National Cemetery, all of which has become Ball's Bluff Battlefield Regional Park. NOVA Parks has cleared trees to give the battlefield much the same appearance as it would have had approximately 158 years ago, and new improvements, including interpretive trails, guided tours, and updated signs have made Ball's Bluff a significant preservation site. In addition, Ball's Bluff Battlefield Park has begun the practice of commemorating the battle annually in October by holding battlefield illuminations. In 1984, the U.S. Department of the Interior designated 76 acres around the battlefield as a National Historic Landmark. In 2017, the boundaries of that landmark designation were expanded to include over 3,300 acres of riverfront land on both side of the Potomac River and including Harrison Island, Maryland.

Fact #10: The American Battlefield Trust saved 3 acres at the Ball's Bluff Battlefield in 2013.

In 2013 the Trust had the opportunity to preserve three crucial acres at Ball's Bluff, including the historic Jackson House. On the morning of October 21, 1861, troops from the 15th Massachusetts posted on the Jackson property engaged with a company of the 17th Mississippi. The Mississippians drove the Federals from this property and then halted there while preparing for their afternoon assaults. After the acquisition of the Jackson House, NOVA Parks and the Town of Leesburg coordinated their respective land holdings to create continuity between the main part of the Ball's Bluff Battlefield and the Jackson House. The house itself is not currently open to the public but will be considered as part of future plans for Ball's Bluff and the adjoining Veterans Park in Leesburg.

This article was found online at <https://www.battlefields.org/learn/articles/10-facts-battle-balls-bluff>



TEN THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT JOHN H. REAGAN



1. Born in Tennessee, he left in 1838 to come to Texas via Natchez, Mississippi.
2. He participated in the Cherokee War in 1839 and then worked as a surveyor.
3. After statehood, he was elected first county judge of Henderson County and in 1847 he became a member of Texas' second legislature.
4. He was reelected as Henderson County judge in 1856 and became a US Congressman from East Texas. In 1859 he won reelection but resigned his seat to become the Confederate Postmaster General in 1861.
5. At the end of the Civil War, John H. Reagan was captured with Jefferson Davis on May 10, 1865 near Abbeville, Georgia.
6. Held in solitary confinement in Boston for nearly six months, Reagan appealed to the people of Texas to recognize that they were back to being a part of the Union, but it didn't win him friends. He returned to Texas in December of 1865.
7. Reagan, who was proven right on how Texas would fare by opposing reunification, became known as "The Old Roman." He was given amnesty, and his citizenship was restored.
8. From 1875 to 1887 Reagan served in Congress before being elected to the U.S. Senate.
9. He became the first Railroad Commissioner of Texas when that body was formed in 1891.
10. Reagan ran unsuccessfully for governor in 1894 and remained chairman of the Railroad Commission until 1903 when he retired and returned to Palestine. He died there two years later of pneumonia.



OCTOBER IN THE LIFE OF JOHN H. REAGAN



Oct. 8, 1818 Birth of John H. Reagan in Sevier County, Tenn.

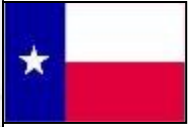
Oct. 12, 1865 John H. Reagan paroled from Federal Prison in Boston Harbor.



Oct.29, 1877 John H. Reagan appointed Chairman of Committee on Commerce in U.S. House of Rep.

1903 UDC, Anderson Co. hosted celebration of John H. Reagan's birthday by bestowing Southern Crosses of honor on Confederate Veterans.

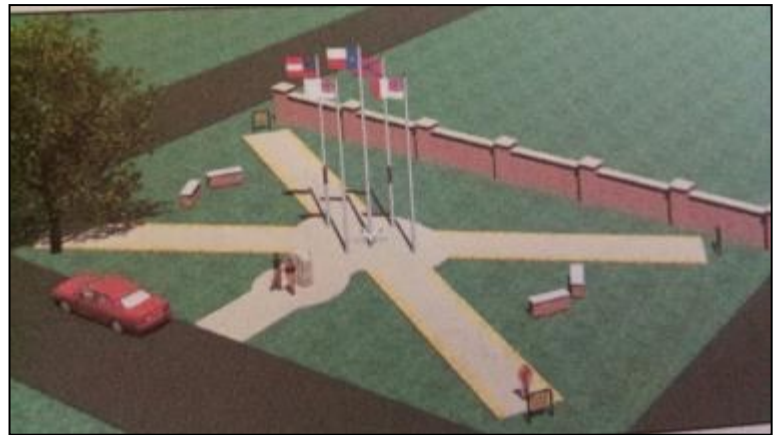




A GREAT WAY TO ENSURE THAT YOUR ANCESTOR'S SERVICE AND HONOR IS NOT FORGOTTEN



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 BTNN ARK SHARP SHOOTERS	JOHN DANIEL LILES PVT DIED 4 25 1865 POW	WILLIAM J. CHAFFIN CO H 5 TEX CAV CSA 1829 - 1908
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

JOHN H. REAGAN SCV CAMP #2156 PALESTINE TEXAS	PVT WM. H. FOSTER CO. H 1ST TEX INF DIED AS POW OCT 63
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
L. E. SHERIDAN PVT. CO I 1ST REGT TEXAS INFANTRY	PVT WM. N SHERIDAN CO C 6 BATTALION TEXAS CALVARY	STEPHEN O. RAINEY CAPTAIN 1ST BATT. TEX CAV

PVT. R. M. LUMMUS 53 GEORGIA INF. COMPANY B C.S.A	PVT ALLEN G TURNER CO A 7TH BATTALION MISS INF. CSA
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.

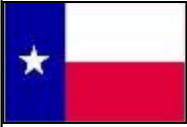


ROBERT E. LEE CALENDAR

OCTOBER 2025



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 undated - to his wife: I am opposed to officers surrounding themselves with their sons & relatives.	2 Oct 1865 - at Washington college I shall devote my remaining energies to training young men to do their duty in life.	3 Oct, 1865 - to Gen Beauregard: The South requires the aid of her sons now more than at any period of her history.	4 Undated - to Gen Beauregard Every one should do all in his power to collect & disseminate the truth in the hope that it may find a place in history & descend to posterity.
5 Undated - War is a terrible alternative & should be the very, very last resort.	6 Oct, 1865 - to R.H. Chilton I have entered upon the duties of my new office, in the hope of being of some service; but I should prefer to be on a small farm.	7 Oct, 1865 - to wife: I am sorry the armies cannot keep with the expectations of the editors of papers. I know they can regulate matters satisfactorily on paper. I wish they could do so in the field.	8 Oct, 1852 - to Markie: carry a brave as well as true heart for every occasion of life.	9 Oct, 1865 - Life is gliding away & I have nothing good to show for mine that is past. I pray I may be spared to accomplish something for the benefit of mankind & the honour of God.	10 undated If I could only have my children around me, I could be happy	11 undated - Charity should have no beginning or ending.
12 Oct, 1870 - Lee died at 9:30 Strike the tent!	13 Oct, 1870 - from Mrs. Lee: I have never so truly felt the purity of his character as now, when I have nothing left but his memory.	14 undated - to Anna Fitzhugh: A man may manifest & communicate his joy, but he should conceal & smother his grief as much as possible.	15 Undated - My only pleasure is in my solitary evening rides, which give me abundant opportunity for quiet though	16 Oct, 1837 - to wife: I pray God to watch over & direct our efforts in guarding our dear son, that we may bring him up 'in the way he should go.'	17 Undated - Human virtue should be equal to human calamity	18 Undated - no honest man can take long to deliberate which side he will choose.
19 Undated - to Rooney: We must unite in doing our duty & earnestly work to extract what good we can out of the evil that now hangs over our dear land.	20 Undated - to wife: Our little boy seems to have the reputation of being hard to manage, a distinction not at all desirable, as it indicates self-will & obstinacy.	21 Undated - to Robert: You could raise money on your farm only by mortgaging it, which would put you in debt at the beginning of life, & I fear in the end would swallow up your property.	22 Oct, 1837 - to Jack Mackay: Life is too short for them [his children] & their mother to be in one place, & I in another.	23 Undated - to Gen Beauregard: I fear the South has yet to suffer many evils, & it will require time, patience, & fortitude to heal her affliction.	24 Undated - to Robert: I am clear for your marrying, if you select a good wife; otherwise you had better remain as you are.	25 Oct, 1864 - to Wife: I am glad you had the opportunity of partaking of the blessed communion. May it serve to keep our Redeemer in our hearts & minds.
26 Oct, 1862 - to wife: I cannot express the anguish I feel at the death of our sweet Annie. To know that I shall never see her again on earth is agonizing in the extreme.	27 Undated - to Gen. Longstreet: I am of the opinion that all should vote for the most intelligent, honest, & conscientious men eligible to office, irrespective of former party opinions.	28 Oct, 1863 - to wife: I am glad you have some socks for the army. Tell the girls to send all they can. We have thousands of barefooted men.	29 Oct, 1865 - to Mildred: Traveller is my only companion; I may also say my pleasure. He & I, whenever practicable, wander out in the mountains.	30 Oct, 1865 - to Robert: If I find I can accomplish no good for her [Washington College], I will endeavor to pursue the course to which my inclinations point [farming].	31 Undated - to Robert: We must not, however, yield to difficulties, but strive the harder to overcome them.	



TEXAS CIVIL WAR HISTORY IN OCTOBER



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

October 4 - On this day in 1862, on the second day of the battle of Corinth, Mississippi, Confederate General Earl Van Dorn called for a series of headlong frontal attacks against a heavily fortified federal position. Col. William Peleg Rogers of the Second Texas Infantry was ordered to lead the vanguard of the assault on Battery Robinett, a small fort anchoring the center of the Union line. After one bloody repulse, Rogers led a second desperate charge. Remaining on horseback in the face of a barrage of cannon and musket fire, and finally carrying the regimental colors himself, Rogers reached the deep trench fronting Battery Robinett, dismounted, and led several hundred Texans and Alabamans down into the trench, up the steep embankment, and into the fort. Suddenly federal reinforcements closed in from both flanks. Rogers shouted, "Men, save yourselves or sell your lives as dearly as possible." A few seconds later he was struck by multiple rifle shots and died instantly. Scores of others fell with him, and the battle soon ended. The Second Texas Infantry had lost more than half its numbers in casualties. The failure of Rogers's attack sealed Van Dorn's defeat at Corinth. In a remarkable tribute to Rogers's personal bravery, Union general William S. Rosecrans ordered his burial attended with full military honors, a ceremony normally reserved only for Confederate general officers.

Oct 8 - John H. Reagan's Birthday. (He was born in 1818 & passed away March 6, 1905).

Oct 12 - On this day in 1870, Robert E. Lee passed away.

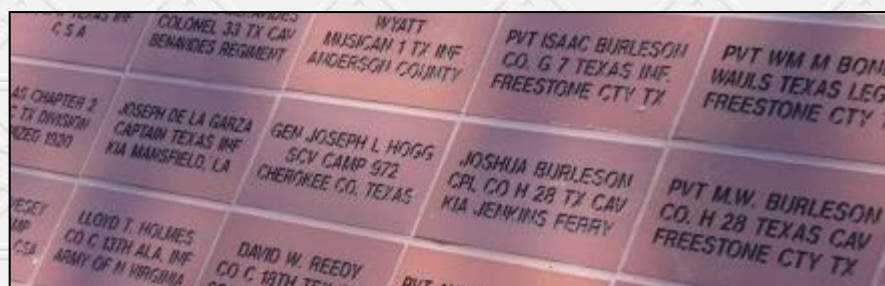
October 23 - On this day in 1863, the First Texas Cavalry, USA, left New Orleans for South Texas as part of the Union effort to interdict the lucrative trade between Confederate Texas and Mexico. The First was one of two regiments of Unionist cavalry from Texas to serve in the Civil War; the Second was formed in Brownsville after the Rio Grande campaign got underway. Loyalty to the Union was anything but a major consensus in Texas during the Civil War. A total of 1,915 Texas men served the Union cause, in contrast to the many thousands who served the Confederacy. Brownsville was a center of Unionist sentiment. Significant numbers of civilians who supported the North fled to the lower Rio Grande, where a provisional state government was set up under Andrew J. Hamilton, and where Edmund J. Davis and others recruited cavalymen for the North. Davis had formed the First Texas Cavalry, USA, in New Orleans in 1862. In November 1864 the regiment was merged with the Second into the First Texas Volunteer Cavalry. This new twelve-company regiment engaged in patrolling and reconnaissance duties until the end of the war, and was mustered out of service on November 4, 1865.



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 Commander Ed Heitman, E-mail: edheitman@gmail.com; Phone: (903-504-6674) or Dan Dyer at E-mail: danieldyer497@yahoo.com; Phone: (903) 391-2224 or Richard Thornton, Adjutant/ Treasurer at E-mail: tx_tsar@hotmail.com



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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Please visit our website @

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: **4th Tuesday**
Each Month - 06:30 PM
Meal served at each meeting.

Held at **First Congregational**
Methodist Church of Elkhart

510 N. US 287, Elkhart, Tx
75839