



SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS, TEXAS DIVISION

THE JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP NEWS

www.reaganscvcamp.org

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 5

MAY 2012

COMMANDER'S DISPATCH

Fellow Compatriots!

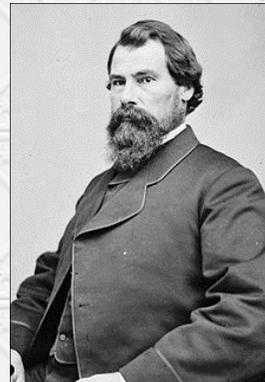
I am overjoyed to be able to finally rejoin you in battle and fraternal fellowship. I commend those of you who have stepped forward in my absence in effort to keep our camp focused on it's primary goals, and the execution of General Lee's orders to us and our descendants. The importance of maintaining that focus can not be understated!

While we should enjoy, as an organization, the sole united purpose of honoring and perpetuating the memory and deeds of our heroic Confederate ancestors, it is all to easy to have our energy resources bled away with inner political squabbles, and/or seemingly useless efforts to secure the blessings of a community that will neither accept nor bless us as a whole because of ignorance and hatred on their part. Ironically it is the accusation and presumption of that alleged ignorance and hatred within the SCV that our enemies use to justify the vilification of us and our ancestors!

So in a nutshell folks, with our limited energy and resources, I feel we must pick

and choose which battles we fight in order to assure victory! Remain focused on the primary goals, accomplish them, and if we can change a few minds along the way because someone respected our perseverance and dedication to duty in the face of adversity, then so be it. If I've learned anything in 20 or so years in the SCV, it's that we will never change some people's minds about us or our intentions, if changing their minds may affect their paycheck! That goes for politicians, VIP's, and hate groups opposed to us as well! My ancestor was right, I am right, and the truth will win out eventually!

A while back, one of the late night TV hosts joked about the possibility of a certain NFL quarterback recently convicted and sentenced to prison for dog fighting and abuse of animals, dying and being reincarnated in heaven as a fire hydrant, only to find that indeed all dogs go to heaven! My consolation in this ongoing battle here on earth is that me a retired Walker's Greyhound, and



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

my CSA ancestors are definitely going to meet in heaven... Now if I can just talk the Lord into letting in a few of the aforementioned politicians, VIP's, and hate groups as fire hydrants!

Stay the fight!

Cmdr. R. Hatfield

CAMP MEETINGS

2nd Saturday of Each Month
 06:00 PM

Light meal served at each meeting.

First Christian Church
 113 East Crawford Street
 Palestine, Texas

Turn north on N. Sycamore St. off of Spring St. (Hwy 19, 84, & 287)(across from UP train station) travel three blocks, turn right on Crawford St., go one block Church is on left

Guests are welcome!
 Bring the family.

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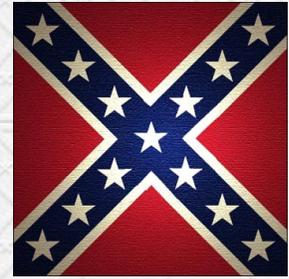
November 21, 2011

You never know when you are to be confronted with our duty to defend our views. This past weekend as I was leaving my deer lease, I saw a group of hunters from the lease next to ours. As I had not spoken with them in some time, I decided to stop and discuss the rather bleak hunting season we are having. The conversation was going well and one of them asked me where did I live. I told them that I live only a couple miles down the road and he said, "Oh, you're the one with the big Confederate Flag by the driveway!" I indicated that I was and was proud to fly those colors because my ancestors had fought under that flag. He said, "Well, looks like you won't be getting your License Plate." Now, this is the moment of truth. Even though I felt the blood surge in this old Veteran's veins, I decided that I would educate instead of confirming what these uneducated men had heard all of their lives. I discussed that it was an issue of honoring the men that took up arms and to fight for the State that gave them their land, homes, and future. That most of the Texas soldiers were poor farmers who never own a slave and had no desire to fight so the rich landowners could keep theirs. I told them that I was a member of the SCV camp in Palestine. One of said, "I heard that they made you pull down your flag at the court house." I said, "yes, they did but it turned out to be

a blessing. Because of that, we are now in the process of building a Confederate Memorial Park in downtown Palestine and people from all walks of life are contributing to it." One of the men indicated that he never knew what the SCV actually stood for, he just figured that they were another racist group. That's when I projected the importance to the SCV to include any soldier, black or white, that fought for the Confederacy. They were taken back by this statement. They wished me well on our Memorial Park and I think I left them with a better view of our cause and why we continue to do our duty to the "Charge". One of them asked me how he could find out if any of his ancestors fought for the Confederacy. I told him where to start and if he needed any help to let me know. Educating is the key! To open their minds to the truth is better than getting defensive and enforce what they have heard about us from the media and slanted history books.

I just wanted to pass this on, because we never know when we are confronted with the ignorance of the masses. We have to be prepared to Defend and how we do it will make all the difference.

Dwain Schoppe
John H. Reagan Camp 2156, SCV



"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-



PRAYER LIST



- Chaplain Ed Furman
- Cmdr. Ronnie Hatfield
- 1st Lt. Cmdr. and Chaplain Rod Skelton
- Sgt.-at-Arms John Barnhart
- The Sovereign State of Texas

- The United States of America
- Chief Warrant Officer Andrew Davis U.S. Army (Afghanistan).
- The Sons of Confederate Veterans
- The United Daughters of the Confederacy



CALENDAR OF EVENTS



May 12, 2012, 06:00 PM—
John H. Reagan Camp 2156
Regular monthly meeting.

Historical Program: Norris White, Jr. will present an update on his research to write his book on Black Confederate Veterans from Texas.

May 26, 2012, 8:00 AM—
5:00 PM, Military weekend at the Texas State Railroad Palestine Depot. Reagan camp members will be in uniform to represent Confederate veterans with educational activities with the public.

May 27, 2012, 09:00 AM—

Guiceland Cemetery, Anderson County Texas
Confederate Memorial Ceremony hosted by the John H. Reagan Camp 2156. About 5 miles south of Elkhart, Texas on Hwy 287, then .8 miles East on Anderson County road 174.

June 1-2, 2012, Texas Division Reunion 2012
held in Victoria, TX.



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

"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."

-PRESEDENT
JEFFERSON DAVIS-



**THE JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP #2156 SCV
AND THE DAVIS-REAGAN CHAPTER #2292 UDC
HOST CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL DAY AND GRAVE MARKER DEDICATION
CEREMONY FOR TWO TEXAS C.S.A. VETERANS AT OLD PALESTINE CITY CEMETERY**



Left: From left to right standing: Mrs. Dollye Jeffus, Mrs. Jan Giles, Jace Wilson, Gary Williams, Rudy Ray, Billy Newsom, Caleb Estrada, Dale Roberts, and Mrs. Nancy Bundrick. From left to right kneeling: Jesse Giles, Marc Robinson, Dan Dyer, and Frank Moore around the grave marker for Capt. W. G. W. Jowers in the Old Palestine City Cemetery on April 28, 2012 at 11:00 AM.

Right: About 100 yards to the north of Capt. Jowers is the grave marker of 1st Lt. Nathan Gunnels, Co. E, 37th Texas Cavalry which was also dedicated during this ceremony.



Left: The Reagan Guards fold the flag that covered the grave marker of Capt. Jowers. The flag was then presented to the oldest descendant present.



A LOST CAUSE?

BY BRO. L.E. "LEN" PATTERSON, THD.
SCV CHAPLAIN, ARMY OF TRANS-MISSISSIPPI



We've all heard the Confederate States of America and all it stood for and fought for referred to as a "lost cause." Of course, we lost the War for Southern Independence, and as a result we lost our country. We also lost the opportunity to publicly denounce the likes of Lincoln, Sherman, and Butler for the war criminals they were. We lost the right to fully enjoy our proud Southern heritage, and show proper respect for honorable men like Lee, Jackson, and Forest. Many would even deny us the right to honor our brave and noble Confederate forefathers. Yes, a lot was lost at Appomattox Court House on April 9th, 1865 but not the Cause!

In fact, the Confederate Cause is alive and well, and getting stronger every day. Throughout this country, people are getting tired of big government. They're getting tired of Democrats. They're getting tired of Republicans. They're getting tired of Washington bureaucracy. They see hundreds of billions of their hard-earned tax dollars being used, abused, misused, and squandered, while tax paying citizens are fighting to keep their homes and jobs: And they're getting tired of it! The result is, more and more people are beginning to embrace the Confederate Cause. They just don't know it. Jesus said in John 8:32, "And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." Today, people everywhere are becoming more and more aware of the truth. And the truth is, "Big Brother" is getting bigger and more demanding and intrusive, while the concept of "we the people," upon which this country was founded, is being brushed aside. If one person or a small group of people, complain about a manger scene in front of a courthouse, or the Ten Commandments in a public building, or a monument honoring our brave

Confederate soldiers in a town square, or a Confederate Battle Flag in the upper corner of a state flag, then they are removed, and "we the people" are not asked or consulted. People in this country are beginning to grow weary of truth and freedom being replaced by political correctness and personal agendas. They're beginning to see that the South was right, and still is. They just don't know it.

As the Sons of Confederate Veterans, we are charged with the "vindication of the cause for which (our Confederate forefathers) fought." Now it seems that the Cause is not only on the road to vindication, but acceptance by the vast majority of the country. The desire to restore the United States and the Constitution envisioned, and fought for, by our founding fathers, is truly a just and worthy cause. It was the cause of the Confederacy. And, it is rapidly becoming the cause of the people of the United States. Maybe they don't know it but we do! My prayer today is that God will bless the Sons of Confederate Veterans and our just and most worthy Cause.

Bro. Len Patterson, Th.D
Chaplain, Army of Trans-Mississippi
Sons of Confederate Veterans

"IN ALL MY PERPLEXITIES AND DISTRESSES, THE
BIBLE HAS NEVER FAILED TO GIVE ME LIGHT AND
STRENGTH."

-GENERAL ROBERT E. LEE-



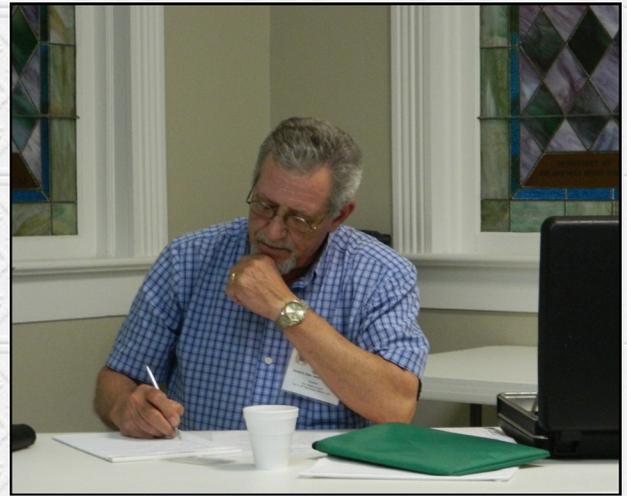
THE JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP #2156 MONTHLY MEETING — APRIL 14, 2012



Left: Compatriot Gary Gibson (center) was inducted into the John H. Reagan Camp #2156 by 1st Lt Cmdr./Chaplain Rod Skelton (right). Compatriot Gibson joined the SCV under his ancestor Pvt. George Knox Gibson, Co. B, 12th Texas Cavalry, CSA. Standing to the right of Compatriot Gibson is Marc Robinson, 2nd Lt. Cmdr. 8th Texas Brigade, SCV.



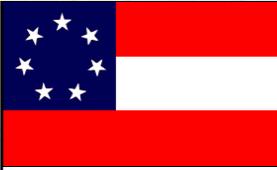
Above: Program for the monthly meeting was to watch the second 30 minutes of the approximate one hour long documentary on the Hunley produced by the South Carolina Division, SCV on DVD. The second half will be shown during next month's meeting. This is probably the best documentary on the Hunley available.



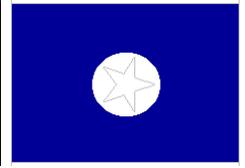
Right above: Adjutant Dan Dyer taking the minutes during the April camp meeting. We appreciate all of his dedicated work for our camp!

Right below: Members in attendance at the April 2012 meeting.





THE FORGOTTEN ONES, PART I AND II
BY GARY WILLIAMS, REAGAN CAMP HISTORIAN
AS APPEARED IN THE PALESTINE HERALD-PRESS
ON APRIL 29 AND MAY 6, 2012



Part I

There is no record of the plot of ground of the old Palestine City Cemetery. It was probably set aside in 1846 when the 100 acres of land to establish Palestine as the county seat of Anderson County was purchased, along with the site for the courthouse and the jail.

No lots were sold in the early days; people selected a spot and buried their dead without the formality of city permits. It was not until 1875 that a city ordinance required records be kept of burials there. The cemetery had many graves by the time of the Civil War, but there is no official record of burials during that period of time.

Arlington National Cemetery is well known for the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier whose identity is known but to God. Palestine's old city cemetery has a row of nine to eleven (some believe thirteen) Confederate soldiers buried off Market Street. Their graves have been there almost a century and a half. Who are they? Why are they buried there? Why have they been forgotten for so long? This is the story of those soldiers.

Allison Nelson of Bosque County organized the 10th Texas Infantry in the summer of 1861 and was its first colonel. At Virginia Point on the Texas coast across from Galveston Island was the assembly point called Camp Herbert. Between October 13th and October 31st 1861 Companies A through H mustered into service. By February 1862 foul weather set in and there was a marked increase of the sick list.

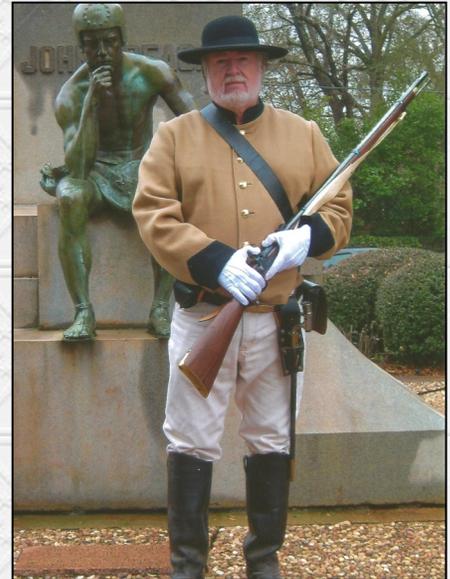
The men (many just boys ages 15 and 16) trained and drilled at Virginia Point. Isaiah Harlan reports in a letter dated February 19, 1861 that he has a very bad cold and cough and that there

has been some typhoid fever in camp and a few deaths, but none in his company (Co. G) however.

According to the diary of Pvt. Ben M. Seaton, the 10th Texas left Camp Herbert on the 29th and 30th of March 1862. "On the 29th, one-half of the regiment moved up to Millican Station near the Brazos River and the remainder went up on the 30th to remain there until the teams can be fitted out." Millican was Texas' northernmost railroad terminus when the War Between the States began in 1861. It became a vital Confederate shipping point from the area extending to the Red River on the North. Supplies and provisions moved from Galveston and Houston to Millican on the Houston and Texas Central Railroad. Many Confederate troops came by rail to nearby Camp Speight and marched overland from here for duty in Louisiana and Arkansas. On April 8th Seaton was appointed wagon master and on the 10th the supply train was ready with 22 wagons and 132 mules. April 18th the regiment passed through Boonville in Brazos County, Texas (Boonville flourished until 1866 when Bryan was established on the railroad.)

They turned northwest passing through the towns of Wheelock in southern Robertson County, Springfield in Limestone County, and Fairfield in Freestone County, toward Palestine. The regiment averaged 15-18 miles a day. Their destination was Shreveport, Louisiana, then north to a place called Camp Texas near Little Rock, Arkansas. The 10th had been assigned to General Hindman's command to the Trans-Mississippi Department. Many would not survive this "death march" to the seat of war; many would not survive the march out of Texas.

On Wednesday, April 30, 1862

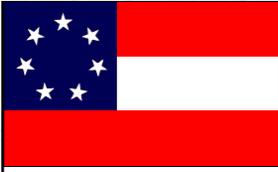


Gary Williams

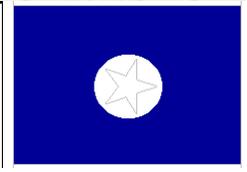
the Trinity River was very high and spread all over the bottom for about a mile. The day was warm and the prairie countryside was beautiful. The native cedar trees were abundant, dogwood blooms a vision of white, and a purple vine overran the old city cemetery in Palestine, and there were no graves that day of young soldiers all in a row.

It took the regiment two days to cross the big treacherous river between Freestone and Anderson Counties at Bonner's Ferry above the crossing now called Long Lake (where present day US Hwy 79 crosses the river). Colonel Allison Nelson, absent since April 17th, had caught up with his regiment that morning and was cheered by his soldiers who were glad to see him again.

According to papers in the Kate Hunter Collection (the result of years of work by Anderson County's leading historian), Granbury's Brigade passed through Palestine. Many soldiers were sick and could go no farther. Brigadier



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General Hiram Bronson Granbury led a brigade of Texans, fighting in the Army of Tennessee, for only nine months. Others had preceded him, and others would follow – only to be snatched away by death, transfer or promotion. But Granbury remained the most popular of the brigade’s commanders – so much so that after his death, and well after the end of the Civil War, men referred to themselves as members of Granbury’s Brigade – one of Texas’ most famous fighting units.

In a statement of Mr. W. D. Small, interviewed by Kate Hunter, June 16, 1923 “During the fourth (sic) year of the war, a regiment of Confederate soldiers belonging to Granbury’s Brigade, being transferred to the Mississippi Department, passed through here and left twenty-five soldiers, too sick to travel further. Mr. David C. Hunter turned over a wing of the Hunter Hotel for a hospital, and some of the ladies of the town including my mother, Bee Small, and Mrs. Fannie Gooch, Mollie McClure, Mary Small, Mrs. John G. Stuart, Miss Mollie Stallcup, Mrs. George R. Howard, and others nursed these soldiers and contributed to their wants. Nine of twenty-five died and are buried on the east end of the old cemetery – all along in a row.

James Neyland recalls these accounts in his book [Palestine \(Texas\): A History](#), as does historian Carl Avera in [Wind Swept Land](#), a history of Palestine and Anderson County. However, the most detailed report of this story appears in the “Palestine Daily Herald” in an article dated September 5, 1928 where an old timer recites the story and claims that in the summer of 1863 (sic) the men of Granbury’s Division were detained in Palestine at one time on account of a serious illness among the soldiers. A Committee was formed to take some

steps for their immediate help. The north wing of the old Hunter Hotel with four large airy rooms was engaged and work by the good ladies of the town began in earnest. About 20 or 25 of these soldiers were taken in charge. Nice cool beds were provided and a cistern of good water was right at the door. Mrs. Joseph Stalcup, Mrs. J. D. Gooch, Mrs. John G. Stuart, Dr. H. H. Link, Dr. E. J. DeBard, Judge Perry and wife along with Aunt Bee Small as superintendent at the hospital were those who ministered to the ill soldiers. Many other young ladies supplied delicacies and beautiful flowers at all times. The writer says he was one of two young boys to run errands for the sick soldiers. Out of the number enrolled, nine answered their last call and are buried along in a row in the old cemetery with small monuments marked “UCV” as a marker for their last resting place.

Credit should be given to those kind citizens of Palestine, Texas. These caregivers or “good Samaritans” if you will, who came to the aid of some twenty-five ill soldiers, on short notice converted part of a hotel into a hospice. Dr. H. H. Link was regarded as one of the best doctors in East Texas at that time. Most of the other folks were merchants (or wives of) around the courthouse square. All their names are well known in local history. They were successful in helping restore the health of most of these soldiers, enabling them to return to duty. To the nine who died here, these kind and caring townspeople were the last faces they would see. These unselfish local citizens must have given much comfort and compassion to ease the suffering of the boys in gray. In addition to attending to the medical needs of these men, some of the ladies may have read to them or written letters for them. They may have sent notes of condolences to

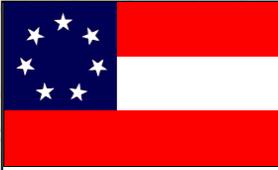


The graves of the unknown soldiers of the 10th Texas Infantry. Photo by Diane Thomas

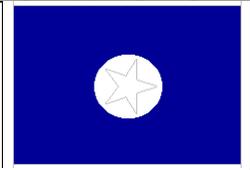
the families of those who died. These women and doctors did their part to fight the battle on the Southern home front. Today when traveling through Palestine, street signs can be seen bearing the names of Link, Gooch, Howard, DeBard, and Perry.

As patriotic men of the South, the soldiers were gallant in their desire to do their duty and rid their country of the invading Federal Army and to have a chance to do battle with the Yankee aggressors. Willingness to fight and resolve to win was not a problem within the ranks. However, the Confederate soldier was stalked relentlessly through the war by an enemy he was powerless to fight – disease and sickness. Casualties during the Civil War are often evaluated in terms of trauma and death resulting from battlefield wounds and combat. In truth, the major killer of the War Between the States was sudden and uncontrollable disease. The most deadly killer of Confederate soldiers was not the Federal Army, but the invisible organisms that filled the camps with sickness.

Confederate medical regulations published early in the Civil War listed a total of 130 diseases under the main heading of “fevers.” The most common ailments of the southern



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fighting men were intestinal disorders, diarrhea and dysentery. Other deadly diseases were measles, malaria, yellow fever, small pox, scarlet fever, spurious vaccinia (repulsive looking ulcers caused by impure vaccine virus), pneumonia, consumption, tuberculosis, bronchitis, rheumatism, scurvy, camp itch, mumps, venereal disease and typhoid fever.

Typhoid made its appearance very early in the war and by August 1861 had attained epidemic proportions among troops. It was an acute infectious disease characterized by intestinal disorders acquired through drinking infected water, milk, etc. and was usually fatal. It caused about one-fourth of all deaths from disease in the Southern armies. Joseph Jones made this statement several years after Appomattox: "Typhoid progressively diminished during the progress of the war and disappeared almost entirely from the veteran army." Jones was one of the foremost authorities on Confederate medicine. The 10th Texas would have a close encounter with typhoid in the spring of 1862.

Continued exposure and fatigue, bad and ill-prepared food, salt meat, insufficient clothing, lack of hygiene, poor shelter, exposure at night to sudden changes of temperature, and infected tents and camps formed a combination of causes which explains the high fatality rate of an army in the field.

The great number of insects and vermin found in camp played an important role in the promotion of epidemics. One Johnny Reb swore that some of the flies and mosquitoes were of a "preposterous size – almost able to shoulder a musket." Almost invariably attacks by mosquitoes were followed in a few weeks by epidemics of chills and fevers. The people of the time knew not the connection between the two events.

It was medically unknown that mosquitoes carried and transmitted yellow fever and malaria. In 1861, malaria was still attributed to poisonous vapors that rose from the swamp. Impure drinking water was also a cause of illness among troops.

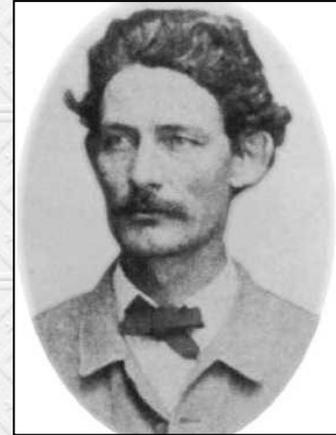
Joseph Jones said there were five times as many cases of sickness as of injury. He further stated that for every soldier who died as a result of battle there were three who perished from disease. Many who managed to survive the war died within a few years from the effects of illnesses contracted during their service.

Return with me next week to learn what men may be buried in our old city cemetery along side our own local citizens for the past 150 years. We will also discover how the War of Southern Independence ended for the "forgotten ones."

Part Two

As noted earlier by James H. Hurst, Co. A, 10th Texas Volunteer Infantry, from his diary that the regiment crossed the Trinity River on April 30th and May 1, 1862. So did Pvt. Ben Seaton, Co. G of the 10th Texas: "Marched 8 miles on April 30, 1862 to Bonner Ferry on the Trinity River. We had to ferry and were detained two days in getting across to the other side. Then to Palestine on May 2, 1862 – 12 miles, a fine road and beautiful rolling country though very warm."

Both diary entries from Pvt. Hurst and Pvt. Seaton place the 10th Texas in Palestine on May 3, 1862. The regiment most likely camped by Gum Springs, southeast of East Hill Cemetery on Rusk Road. That would be located between present day Spring Park Lake

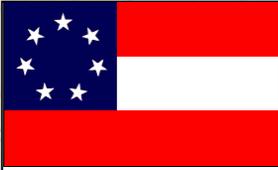


Brig. General Hiram B. Granbury Granbury's Texas Brigade was formed in November 1863 just before the battle of Missionary Ridge. Originally "Smith's Brigade" of Cleburne's Division, it was composed of three units. The 7th Texas Infantry under Colonel Hiram B. Granbury ; the consolidated regiments of the 6th Texas Infantry, 10th Texas Infantry and 15th Texas Cavalry (dismounted) under Colonel Roger Q. Mills; and the consolidated regiments of the 17th, 18th, 24th and 25th Texas Cavalry (dismounted) under Major William A. Taylor.

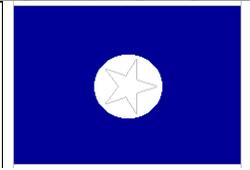
and the cemetery off Lacy Street, formerly Rusk Road.

Confederate Service Records compiled and available at the Confederate Research Center located on the campus of Hill College, Hillsboro, Texas, reveal the following records for the soldiers listed below:

Pvt. William Landreth, Co. I, 10th Texas Infantry left sick in Palestine, Texas on May 3, 1862. He was listed on the reports as being on sick furlough at Anderson County, Texas, but did not return to his command. Records indicate he surrendered in Brazos County, Texas on July 22, 1865. Date of death and place of burial is unknown.



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Pvt. Martin Palmer, age 33, Co. F, 10th Texas Infantry was said to have been left sick in Palestine in an unpublished letter dated May 10, 1862 from Pvt. Erasums E. Marr, Co. F to his brother. Further states that Col. Nelson would send Pvt. Palmer home. He was discharged for consumption October 13, 1862. Date of death and place of burial is unknown.

Pvt. William A. Hogue, age 25, Co. D, 10th Texas Infantry, died of disease at Palestine, Texas on May 6, 1862.

Pvt. William T. Embry, Co. K, 10th Texas Infantry, died of disease at Palestine, Texas on May 7, 1862.

Pvt. John C. Quick, Co. C, 10th Texas Infantry, died of disease at Palestine, Texas on May 7, 1862. He had enlisted on 3 weeks prior to his death.

Pvt. R. M. Leach, Co. H, 10th Texas Infantry, died of "Typhoid Fever" at Palestine, Texas on May 10, 1862. His father John Leach from Belton, Bell Co., TX, took possession of his knapsack and person effects from Capt. Hartgraves at the hospital in Palestine, Texas. According to this final statement, Pvt. Leach was 17 years old and had stood 5'4" tall with blue eyes, light hair and a light complexion.

As to the long-time mystery of the nine to eleven soldiers "all buried in a row" it is almost certain they were members of the 10th Texas Infantry Regiment. All recorded accounts of these men place them in Granbury's Brigade, consisting of as many as 12 regiments. Of those regiments, only the 10th passed through Palestine. The letters and diary of Pvt. Seaton and Pvt. Hurst place the 10th in Palestine on May 2nd and 3rd, 1862. Confederate Service Records prove that Pvt. William A. Hogue, Pvt. John C. Quick, Pvt. William T. Embry and Pvt. Richard M. Leach died of disease

in Palestine, Texas between May 6-10, 1862. Other letters and Confederate records refer to sick men left in Palestine in May 1862. It seems extremely likely that four of those graves in the old city cemetery contain Privates Hogue, Embry, Quick and Leach.

Identifying those buried in Palestine has been greatly hampered by the timeframe and lack of information. The case is now 150 years cold and there are over 500 men of the 10th Texas whose date of death and place of burial is unknown. The simple approach to researching this mystery was to gather the facts to the extent possible, and then follow where the facts lead. The best hope for new information would be from descendants of some of these soldiers. Unpublished letters and journals of these men or family histories might provide more clues to identifying the remaining soldiers in these long-ago graves.

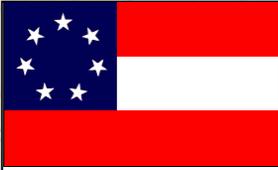
After the regiment left those sick at Palestine, it continued east, crossing the Neches River and into Rusk. More soldiers would be left sick there, among them Pvt. John H. McCoy, age 17, who died of typhoid fever May 12, 1862. In a letter dated May 11, 1862, Pvt. Isaiah Harlan says that "the health of the regiment is only tolerably good. Fifteen or twenty of the sick have been left – top four or five have died." After passing through Rusk, Texas on May 5, 1862, the regiment crossed the Sabine River in Panola County (near where present day US Highway 59 crosses the river). Pvt. Harlan continues on May 12, 1862, Elysian Field, Texas – marched 12 miles today – crossed the Red River at Shreveport on May 15th and arrived in camp in Arkansas after 3 days of hard marching on the 18th of May. By June 6, 1862, Nelson's regiment is in camp at Little Rock, Arkansas. Pvt. Hurst recalled that the long hard march over the



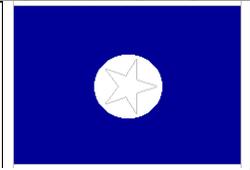
6th, 7th, 10th, Texas Infantry - 15th Texas Cav. (dismounted) Granbury's Texas Brigade, (Note faded Texas Star in center)
 Location: Texas State Archives

hills and rocks in Arkansas will be long remembered by all the boys. Pvt. Harlan writes on June 8th "we had a good deal of sickness in camp and several deaths. My own health is not very good, though I am able to do my duty." June 16, 1862, Nelson's Regiment was engaged in the battle of Devall's Bluff on the White River in Arkansas. Pvt. James H. Hurst, Co. A died June 17, 1862 of typhoid fever. On September 12, 1862 Colonel Allison Nelson was promoted to Brigadier General and on October 8, 1862 he would die in Little Rock, Arkansas of typhoid fever.

In August of 1862, the 10th Texas was assigned to the District of Arkansas, Trans-Mississippi Department. Pvt. Harlan in a letter dated August 8, 1862 refers again to illness in the regiment, "our sick are slowly convalescing – most of them at least. A few have died, six out of company in July. Twenty-five or thirty, perhaps forty in the regiment have died mostly from measles." He advises his brother, Alpheus not to join the army because "I am afraid he will take fever and die – sickness goes so hard for him." Pvt. Harlan reports that the 10th Texas



THE FORGOTTEN ONES, PART I AND II
BY GARY WILLIAMS, REAGAN CAMP HISTORIAN
AS APPEARED IN THE PALESTINE HERALD-PRESS
ON APRIL 29 AND MAY 6, 2012



numbers about 850 men now. "One hundred or thereabout having died since we first reached Little Rock." Private Isaiah Harlan expresses sentiments to his mother that I'm sure the boys in Palestine must have shared as well in a series of letters written home from September 28, 1862 to March 23, 1864. Pvt. Harlan says. "Ma, I must state that it seems to me that I never knew your worth so well or thought so much of you as I have since I have been in the army. When home and friends and there is prospect that he will never see them again, his thoughts turn to them with an interest that those have no idea of who have not been placed in such circumstances. I hope I will live to see you again in peace. What a pleasure it would be to go home and see you and all those with whom I used to be familiar. It is my sincere prayer that we may survive the war and meet at home again in happiness. Heaven grant that it may be so. God save me alive that I may be permitted to see you and family all again. Remember me to all my friends that you may see. Pray for us. Your affectionate son, I. Harlan." Isaiah Harlan was killed May 27, 1864 during the battle of Pickett's Mill near New Hope, Georgia at the age of 32. He is buried in an unknown mass grave.

By the time Nelson's 10th Texas was encamped at Little Rock, Arkansas these Texans had suffered horribly with 140 deaths and 75 discharges due to illnesses related to typhoid fever, measles, pneumonia, diarrhea and consumption.

Had the soldiers "all buried in a row" in the old city cemetery in Palestine survived the journey to Arkansas, their prospects would have been grim. To remain in service for the duration of the Civil War and live to tell about it was becoming more unlikely as the war progressed. A brief history of the 10th

Texas speaks for itself in the following time-line:

January 9-11, 1863 Battle of Arkansas Post, Forth Hindman, Arkansas

January – April 1863 Enlisted men were taken prisoner and sent to Camp Douglas, IL. Note: Ernest A. Griffin, a black Chicago funeral home director, flies the Confederate battle flag and erected at his own expense a \$20,000.00 monument to the 6,000 Confederate soldiers who are buried on his property, once the site of Union POW Camp Douglas.

July – Nov. 1863 Assigned to Cleburn's Division 2nd Corps, Army of the Tennessee

Sept. 19 – 20, 1863 Battle of Chickamauga, Georgia Note: Pvt. James D. Smith Co. H received honor for heroism

Nov. 23-25, 1863 Assigned to Granbury's Brigade, Cleburne's Division, 1st Corps Army of the Tennessee

Feb. 23-25, 1864 Action and combat around Tunnell Hill, Buzzard's Roost Gap and Rocky Faced Ridge, Georgia

May – Sept. 1864 Atlanta Campaign

July 18, 1864 General John Bell Hood succeeds Joseph E. Johnston as commander of the Army of the Tennessee

July 22, 1864 Battle of Atlanta, Georgia

Nov. 30, 1864 Battle of Franklin, Tennessee Note: Major General Hiram Granbury and Major General Patrick Cleburne were both killed in action.

Dec. 17-28, 1864 Retreat to the Tennessee River near Bridgeport, Alabama

March 19-20, 1865 Battle of Bentonville, North Carolina

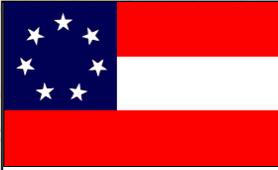


April 9, 1865 General Robert E. Lee surrenders to Union General Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox Court House, Virginia

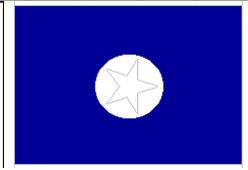
April 26, 1865 General Joseph E. Johnston finally surrenders his Army of the Tennessee (including the remainder of the 10th Texas) at Bennett's House, Durham Station, North Carolina

No exact figures have been found indicating how many members of the 10th Texas Infantry surrendered in North Carolina in late April 1865. On paper a regiment consisted of approximately one thousand men but very few regiments got to the battlefield with numbers like that. No regiment in the army, at any time after its first few weeks of existence, was ever anywhere near its full strength. With the prevalence of sickness, every regiment had a slow, steady process of attrition beginning the moment the men got into training camp and ended only with surrender.

During the summer of 1861 when Colonel Nelson organized the 10th Texas Infantry Regiment the estimated strength was about 1,191 men including the field and staff officers. It is believed that between 76-100 officers and enlisted men were still with the unit when it laid down its arms, much less than 10% of its original strength. A breakdown of



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statistical numbers for men who served in the 10th Texas as based on compiled Confederate Service Records, listed and researched by Scott McKay on his website reveals the following information to wit:

Died of disease

Wounded, Injured or Disabled

Killed as a result of combat or battle

Captured

Left sick

Missing, Absent or Deserted

Transferred to another unit/Reassigned or Discharged

Surrendered with Army of Tennessee in North Carolina, 1865

Surrendered various places in 1865

No military information or records

In a published account in the "Herald" in September of 1919 Mrs. M. A. Lewis of 204 Hoxie Street in Palestine made a plea for the erection of grave markers for both the Confederate and Union dead buried in Palestine. She left \$1.00 with the newspaper and pleaded for others to join her in raising a fund to provide monuments for these heroes of the past. A reply to this good woman was printed on October 7, 1919 whereas T. C. Spencer and C. A. Stern reported that some 18 to 20 years ago the John H. Reagan Camp, U.C.V., No. 44 provided suitable markers for both Confederate and Federal soldiers in the old cemetery. They used red cedar and bois d'arc boards as the most lasting material obtainable. Mr. A. L. Bowers, foreman of the I&GN Railroad bridge department, very kindly had these markers made and Mr. John Kelly generously made the branding irons for either U.C.V. or G.A.R. for burning into the wood. During the 1940's some of these were

replaced with concrete markers, although the source of the markers is not known.

On a hot Saturday in July 2001 many people from different historical groups paid tribute to those "forgotten ones." Members of several camps of Sons of Confederate Veterans from the Johnson-Sayers-Nettles Camp #1012 of Fairfield, Texas and the J. M. Matt Barton Camp #441 of Sulphur Springs, Texas were on hand. Members of the Davis-Reagan Chapter of United Daughters of the Confederacy from Anderson County, Texas were there, including long-time president Dolye Jeffus. Members of the Anderson County Historical Commission in attendance were Bonnie Woolverton, Jimmy Odom, Newell Kane, and Gary Williams. The reason for this gathering of historians was to replace the existing broken and crumbling concrete UCV markers and install new 230 pound marble markers for these soldiers. These impressive upright monuments have a Southern Cross above the words "Unknown Soldier CSA."

Heading up the work crew was Ronnie Hatfield of Palestine and other members of the 12th Texas Infantry Reenactors, including well-known Anderson County historian Forrest Bradbury, Jr. Hatfield, called "Sarge," is 1st Sgt. And oftentimes Company commander of the 12th. Most all these reenactors came from as far as 200 miles away to give their time and skill to set up and install the new markers. It was gratifying to see all of these people gathered to preserve local Civil War history.

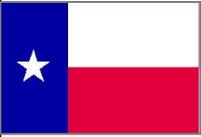
Every time I read or study the day-to-day hardships of the average Confederate soldier, it never ceases to impress and amaze me. The likelihood of any of these men who served the

Confederate State of America during 1861-1865 surviving seems to have been against all odds. The War Between the States was especially grueling for Texans because in addition to all the other hardships, they had to travel the longest distance to get there-to the seat of war. And for those lucky enough to survive, they had the longest journey home. The hope, grit, and valor of our Southern ancestors is inspirational. The fact that so many Confederate soldiers survived their war-time experience and returned home to their families and lives and helped rebuild the nation is an everlasting tribute and testament to that intangible and timeless quality known as the "Southern Spirit."

(Gary A. Williams is a charter member of the John H. Reagan Camp #2156, Sons of Confederate Veterans, Palestine, Texas. He holds the office of Historian and has served as 2nd Lt. Commander. Mr. Williams also served on the Board of the Anderson County Historical Commission for eight years and held the office of Vice-Chairman for four years.)



17th and 18th Regiments of Granbury's Brigade. Oldest one in existence. From the Texas State Library



**JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP 2156 TOOK PART IN
TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL COMMISSION'S
CONFEDERATE REUNION GROUNDS
MEXIA, TEXAS CIVIL WAR WEEKEND**



Left: L-R, Jim Wright, Norman Stubbs, Tom James, Jesse Giles, Marc Robinson, Sidney Hullum, and Frank Moore served on the Reagan Camp's 12 pound mountain howitzer during the battle on Saturday.

Below: A photo taken during the re-enacted battle on Saturday of the two day event at the CRG.

Below: Chaplain Rod Skelton of the Reagan Camp and East Texas Brigade SCV, delivers a wonderful sermon Sunday morning at the Confederate Reunion Grounds Pavilion.



"Rally Around the Flag" with the Stone Fort Camp #1944 from Nacogdoches.

by: Dwain Schoppe

To celebrate Confederate History month, Stone Fort Camp held their 9th annual "Rally Around the Flag" barbeque. I decided to take my wife, Rhonda, and her father, Elmer Boatman to visit our Southern Brethren at Stone Fort Camp's big celebration. I introduced myself to the Camp Commander, Dudley Mosele, and he welcomed me whole heartedly as representative of the John H. Reagan Camp. With storm clouds over head, the ceremony began with prayer and posting the colors of the U.S. Flag. My father-in-law, Mr. Elmer Boatman was asked to post the colors of the U.S. Flag. Elmer is a World War 2 veteran that was wounded 67 years ago on the exact same date. His wound came just two weeks from the war being over. Truly, an American hero.



Mr. Elmer Boatman Posting Colors

Stone Fort Camp had free Barbeque for all. As we set down for the wonderful meal, I spotted Mr. Norris White. I invited him to sit with us and we discussed his presentations for John H. Reagan Camp. With award presentations and various speeches, a short history of the trials and tribulations of the Confederate soldier was presented to the crowd. It was time for the Honor Guard salute and firing of the cannons. With Mr. Johnny Key as Sgt. Of the Guard, an excellent volley with musket was demonstrated. The firing of four cannon ended the festivities for the day. My sincere appreciation to the Stone Fort Camp for their dedication to our Confederate Heritage

Stone Fort Camp Honor Guard



Free Barbeque for All





I AM A CONFEDERATE SOLDIER!

BY RONNIE HATFIELD
COPYRIGHT 2002



I am the Confederate Soldier! I bear no shame for what I've done!

The Cause for which I fought was pure, though the battle was not won.

I fought that war to free myself, from what I deemed as unjust rule!

Not to keep a race in servitude. God knows me better. He's no fool.

I am 15. I am 50. From Mississippi! From Alabam!
From Florida and Georgia! From 13 states in Dixieland!

I went to war and left my loved ones, so that yours might safely sleep!

I walked from Texas to Gettysburg. I slept in snow so cold and deep.

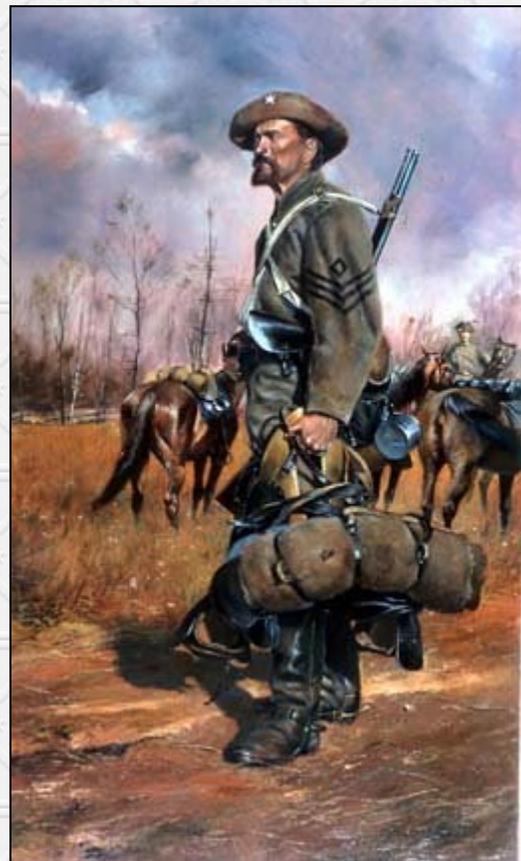
The bloodline of my father, who loved this land as much as I,
is passed now to your tender care, to honor until you die!

Tell your children of my sacrifice! Let not my blood be spilled in vain!

Teach them honor, pride, and heritage! Show them fields my blood has stained!

When you speak my name, speak proudly! Tell your daughters and your sons!

For I am the Confederate soldier! I bear no shame for what I've done!





JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP #2156

c/o Daniel Dyer, Adjutant/Treasurer
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E-mail: reh53@embarqmail.com
Phone: (903) 538-0130
Newsletter Editor
(Editor this issue—Marc Robinson)

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

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 General,
United Confederate Veterans,
New Orleans, Louisiana, April 25, 1906.



Camp meetings: 2nd Saturday of
Each Month - 06:00 PM
Light meal served at each meeting.
First Christian Church
113 East Crawford Street
Palestine, Texas

Turn north on N. Sycamore St. off of
Spring St. (Hwy 19, 84, & 287)
travel three blocks, turn right on
Crawford St., go one block Church is