



# Shotguns and Bowie Knives



Newsletter of Terry's Texas Rangers Camp #1937

Cleburne, Texas

*Sons of Confederate Veterans*

April 2017- Number 192

## Shootin' from the Hip

by Commander Steve Wells

Doug Barron and I participated in the parade honoring Gen. Hiram Granbury on Sat. March 18th. There were contingents from other SCV camps there as well supporting the Granbury camp and their commander, Dickie Freeman. The parade was witnessed by several hundreds (thousands?) of people, and was well received by the public. Of special interest to me was how the city of Granbury put up numerous LARGE posters (like: "Over-The-Street") promoting the event. Also, one of the Granbury SCV members just recently purchased a brand new, six-pound cannon from Kentucky, I believe. He is a retired Ft. Worth policeman and expressed interest in learning artillery skills from our camp.

Next Saturday, April 8th, our camp has been invited to participate in a parade in Gainesville in honor of Medal of Honor veterans. It would be nice to have as many members of our camp as possible participate in that event, in support of the SCV camp there, as they have said they would help us clean up the Barron Cemetery.

Our camp also participated in the Cleburne Heritage Association's annual banquet this past Saturday, April 1st. They said they wanted "Past, Present, and Future." The attendees were pleased and we had a positive experience representing our Confederate ancestors.

April's camp meeting on this coming Monday, April 10<sup>th</sup> will feature

J. Pat Baughman speaking on the Scots in the War Between the States.

At our meeting in May, Bob Rubel will be speaking on the Texas Division Meeting to be held in June and the amendments that need to be passed by the camps attending the meeting.

Finally, on Ap. 24th, Robert McMinn has arranged for our camp to attend the Historical Commission meeting at the Courthouse, in celebration of Confederate Heritage Month. Again, we would like as many members as possible to attend, in or out of uniform. As a further benefit, we will be supported by ladies of the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC).

May Southern Virtues Prevail!  
Steve Wells, Commander, Camp 1937



## April - Confederate History Month

Confederate History Month is designated by six state governments in the Southern United States for the purpose of recognizing and honoring the history of the Confederate States of America. April has traditionally been chosen. The six states are: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas.

# Confederate of the Month



**Elisha F. Paxton**  
**Rockbridge County, Virginia**

Paxton was born in Rockbridge County, Virginia. He was the son of Elisha Paxton and Margaret McNutt, a Presbyterian family, and his grandfather was American Revolutionary War veteran William Paxton.

In 1845 he attended Washington College in Lexington, Virginia, and in 1847 he entered Yale University located in New Haven, Connecticut. Paxton then attended the University of Virginia Law School in Charlottesville in 1849, graduating at the top of his class. When fully grown Paxton was described as "five feet ten inches high, heavily built and of great bodily strength", a physique that inspired his childhood nickname, "Bull". He was known not to drink alcohol.

Upon graduating Paxton settled in Virginia and became a lawyer, then a bank president in Lexington. He also later worked as a planter, and then moved to Ohio. After passing the state's bar examination, he worked for several years in Ohio prosecuting land claims. His law practice ended in 1860 because of his failing eyesight, but this did not stop him from becoming prominent in political matters. His "blunt and outspoken views" on behalf of the secession of South Carolina caused a rift in his friendship with Lexington resident Thomas J. Jackson; the two men did not speak to each other until after each had joined the Confederate Army.

When he was 26, Paxton married 23-year-old Elizabeth Hannah White (died February 16, 1872) on November 2, 1854. She was the daughter of Matthew White and lived in Lexington.

At the start of the Civil War in 1861, Paxton chose to follow his home state and the Confederate cause. Despite a lack of any military training, Paxton entered the Confederate Army on April 18 as a first lieutenant of the Rockbridge Rifles, part of Col. James F. Preston's 4th Virginia Infantry Regiment.

The 4th Virginia fought on July 21 during the First Battle of Bull Run (First Manassas) in Brig. Gen. Thomas J. Jackson's First Brigade of the Army of the Shenandoah, soon to be known as the Stonewall Brigade. Paxton was wounded in an arm during this battle and his actions won him praise from his comrades. After recovering, Paxton was elected major of the 27th Virginia Infantry on October 14, 1861, but was not re-elected to the position the following spring because of his "heavy-handedness and a lack of tact". On May 30, 1862, Paxton was appointed aide-de-camp to Jackson's staff, and participated in the Valley Campaign of the Shenandoah Valley and the Seven Days Battles, both in Virginia.

By August 4, 1862, Paxton was made Jackson's assistant quartermaster, and fought in the Northern Virginia Campaign. Paxton was appointed assistant adjutant general (chief of staff) on Jackson's staff on August 15, and took part in the Second Battle of Manassas on August 28-30, and then in the Maryland Campaign and the Battle of Sharpsburg on September 17.

During the Battle of Fredericksburg on December 13, Paxton and his brigade in the division of Brig. Gen. William B. Taliaferro were on the right of the Confederate defense when Union Maj. Gen. George G. Meade's division made a brief (and unsupported) successful attack, but Paxton's men counterattacked and drove the Federals off.

By the spring of 1863, Bull Paxton, who a member of his staff described as a "rather profane and godless man" found new solace in religion, possibly because of his association with the religious Stonewall Jackson. He started carrying a pocket Bible and on the night before the Battle of Chancellorsville, he admitted a premonition of his death and prepared himself for it. On the second day of battle, the brigade was part of Jackson's audacious flanking movement around Union Maj. Gen. Joseph Hooker's army. Paxton and his brigade were stationed to guard Germanna Junction on May 2, and that night his men were ordered to the front line.

After Jackson was wounded, command of the Second Corps went briefly to Maj. Gen. A.P. Hill, but when he too was hit, cavalry commander Maj. Gen. J.E.B. Stuart was given command. On May 3 Paxton led his men through densely wooded terrain towards the Union position. He was on foot at the head of his brigade when he was shot through his chest, killing him within an hour. Lt. Randolph Barton of Paxton's staff wrote that Paxton fell only two feet away from him. "I placed my arm under him, when he muttered, 'Tie up my arm', and died. He was not shot in the arm, but through the heart." Later that day army commander Gen. Robert E. Lee sent a wire to the authorities in the Confederate capitol of Richmond, saying:

The enemy was dislodged from all his positions around Chancellorsville and driven back towards the Rappahannock, over which he is now retreating. We have to thank Almighty God for a great victory. I regret to state that Gen'l Paxton was killed, Gen'l Jackson severely and Gen'l [Heth] and D. H. Hill slightly wounded.

Paxton was initially buried at Guinea Station, Virginia, a short distance from where Jackson lay dying. He was later brought back to Lexington and was re-buried there in the Stonewall Jackson Memorial Cemetery, within a few feet of his former commander.

## Texas Division Guardian Program

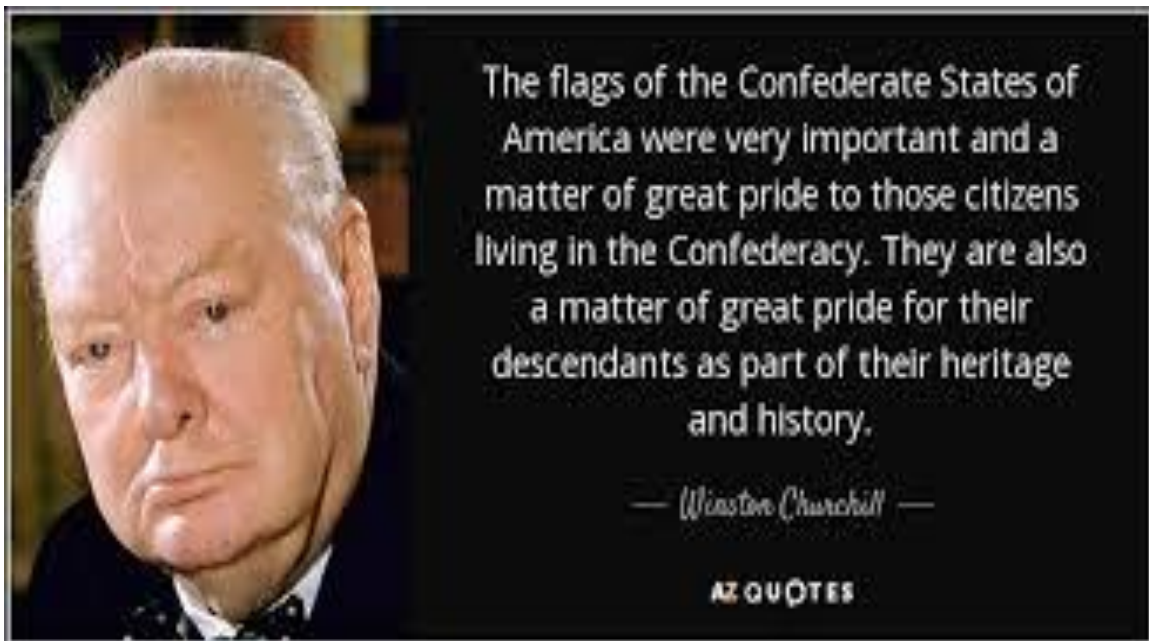
### Terry's Texas Rangers Camp Members Who Are Caring for Confederate Veterans' Graves

Mike Smith - Guardian  
Bob Rubel - Guardian  
Wade Chaney - Guardian  
Ben Davis - Guardian  
Brian Rubel - Guardian  
Kevin Rubel - Guardian  
Melvin Burt - Guardian  
Michael Simons - Guardian

These eight TTR members are caring for a total of 80 Confederate Veteran's Graves.

For more information about the Texas Division Guardian Program, contact

Bob Rubel, Commander, at (817) 483-6288 or (817) 929-5576.





## Chaplain's Corner

### The Trials of Life.

When they come as they surely will do Remember that Jesus is Faithful .  
Matthew 8:17 Tells us He takes On our Infirmities and carries away our  
Diseases. We are Claiming this Verse as we face another battle with Cancer  
with my wife.

God bless the South and God bless Texas  
Chaplain Michael Simons



Michael Smith and his dog Max were out recently to clean the Gen. Pat Cleburne monument at West Chambers and Buffalo streets. Smith is an adjutant with Terry's Texas Rangers, a history preservation group that volunteers to keep the monument of Cleburne's namesake clean.

Todd Glasscock/CTR

## **Name Badges**

Terry's Texas Rangers Camp #1937 personalized name badges can be purchased at Bennett's Printing & Office Supply. They are located at 300 E. Chambers in Cleburne. The local telephone number is 817-641-9861.

There are two types of name badges - one with a pin on the back and the other with a magnetic clip. Bennett's Printing would be glad to answer any questions that you have on the name badges.

## **Uniforms for Terry's Texas Rangers**

Mercury Sutler - Tom and Thelma Barry are our source for uniforms for Terry's Texas Rangers. They have been our suppliers for many years. They are based in Livingston, Texas. Their telephone number is 936-327-3707. They will be glad to help you. When you call just let them know you are interested in uniforms for the Terry's Texas Rangers Camp #1937 in Cleburne, Texas.

Email: [mercurys@livingston.net](mailto:mercurys@livingston.net)

They also have a website: [www.mercurysutler.com](http://www.mercurysutler.com)

The best Kepi's headgear can be purchased from J.S. Smith Co., Old Gettysburg Village, 777 Baltimore, Gettysburg, PA 17325

Store phone # 717-334-6912, Home # 717-637-6569

Email: [www.gettysburgbattlefieldtours.com/j-s-smith-company/](http://www.gettysburgbattlefieldtours.com/j-s-smith-company/)

## **Camp Chatter**

On April 4th at the track meet in Springtown, Morgan Gregory, grandson of Adjutant Michael Smith, won 1st in 110 hurdles, 1st in 300 hurdles, 2nd in 4 x 200 relay and 3rd in triple jump.

Michael Hatch's son, Jacob, received two more merit badges at the most recent Boy Scout court of honor. He completed the Engineering and Theatre merit badges.



## Quotable Confederates

"He walked with long, ungraceful strides, enormous feet adding to the spectacle, and he sat a horse as if leaning into a strong wind."

- James Robertson Jr, describing the posture of Stonewall Jackson

"I have fought against the people of North because I believed they were seeking to wrest from the South its dearest rights. But I have never cherished toward them bitter or vindictive feelings, and I have never seen the day I did not pray for them."

- Robert E Lee.

"If the enemy is out there tomorrow, we must attack him."

"If he is there, it will be because he is anxious that we should attack him. A good reason, in my judgment, for not doing so."

- Generals Lee and Longstreet, before the second day at Gettysburg

"It was not the want of cavalry that General Lee bewailed for he had enough of it had it been properly used. It was the absence of Stuart himself that he felt so keenly; for it seemed as if his cavalry were concentrated in Stuart's person, and from him alone could information be expected."

- Henry B. McClellan, on Stuart's absence at Gettysburg



## **Terry's Texas Rangers Camp #1937, SCV**

### **2017 Camp Officers**

For contact information, visit the camp's website at:  
[www.scvcamp1937.org](http://www.scvcamp1937.org)

Commander	Steve Wells
1 <sup>st</sup> Lt. Commander	Doug Barron
2 <sup>nd</sup> Lt. Commander	Randy Simpson
Adjutant	Mike Smith
Chaplain	Michael Simons
Color Sgt./Quartermaster	Cecil Bonham
Camp Surgeon	Robert McMinn
Communications Officer	Doug Barron
Judge Advocate	Melvin Burt
Historian	Vacant
Newsletter Editor	Michael Hatch
Camp Secretary	Bill Hawkins
Color/Honor Guard	Bruce Wilson

#### **Committee Chairmen**

Awards	Bob Rubel
Cemetery	Martin Pullen
Preservation/Heritage	

### PLEDGE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG

"I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, AND TO THE REPUBLIC FOR THE WHICH IT STANDS, ONE NATION, UNDER GOD, INDIVISIBLE, WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL."

### PLEDGE TO THE TEXAS FLAG

"HONOR THE TEXAS FLAG, I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THEE, TEXAS, ONE STATE UNDER GOD, ONE AND INDIVISIBLE."

### SALUTE TO THE CONFEDERATE FLAG

"I SALUTE THE CONFEDERATE FLAG WITH AFFECTION, REVERENCE, AND UNDYING DEVOTION TO THE CAUSE FOR WHICH IT STANDS."

### THE SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS CHARGE

"TO YOU, SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS, WE SUBMIT 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 HE LOVED AND WHICH MADE HIM GLORIOUS AND WHICH YOU ALSO CHERISH. REMEMBER IT IS YOUR DUTY TO SEE THAT THE TRUE HISTORY OF THE SOUTH IS PRESENTED TO FUTURE GENERATIONS."

LT. GEN. STEPHEN D LEE

### SUGGESTED LINKS

SCV National Headquarters

[www.scv.org](http://www.scv.org)

SCV Army of Trans-Mississippi

[www.scv.atm.com](http://www.scv.atm.com)

SCV Texas Division

[www.scv.texas.org](http://www.scv.texas.org)

SCV Terry's Texas Rangers Camp 1937

[www.scvcamp1937.org](http://www.scvcamp1937.org)

SCV Terry's Texas Rangers Camp 1937 Facebook  
[www.facebook.com/texasterrysrangers](http://www.facebook.com/texasterrysrangers)

SCV Texas Division email list- This is for official communications from Division Command to the membership. Excellent for keeping abreast of current events within the SCV.

[http://www.scvtexas.org/Mailing\\_List.html](http://www.scvtexas.org/Mailing_List.html)