



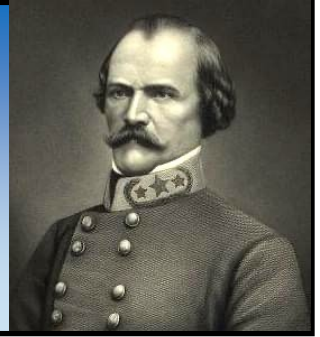
THE PICKET LINE

Albert Sidney Johnston Camp #983

*Successor to Ben McCulloch Camp #30
United Confederate Veterans*

DECATUR TX

MARCH 2025



Commanders Report



The camp was privileged to have **Sheran Weible, UDC Texas Division Recorder of Military Service Awards**, as our special guest speaker from Stephenville. Mrs. Weible's presentation was very informative and included how SCV members can apply for UDC War Service medals. Mrs. Weible said there are three classifications of medals that the United Daughters of the Confederacy award: Cross of Military Service, National Defense Medal, and Armed Forces Expeditionary Service Medal. All the medals require the recipient be a lineal descendants of Confederate

military personnel and serve at least 90 days in the US Armed Services. Cost of these medals are covered by the local UDC Chapters at \$100 each. Our camp has several compatriots eligible for these medals and will begin the process for qualifying for awards. It is a great honor to each of our camp veterans to receive these special medals.

The Calendar of Events for 2025 was reviewed and certain events assigned to camp members for coordination. April will be a full and active month since we will be celebrating Confederate Heritage Month. Please review the Events listed on page 7 and make plans to be a part of these activities.



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1st Lt. Cmdr. Cunningham is needing volunteers to work in the upcoming Celtic Festival. Please contact 1st Lt. Cmdr. Cunningham if you can be of assistance.

Jim Cox,
Camp Commander
2nd Lt. Cmdr., Texas Division



*Pictured at right
Speaker:*

*Sheran Weible,
UDC Texas Division*

www.asjohnstoncamp983.com



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HAPPY 29TH ANNIVERSARY CAMP 983

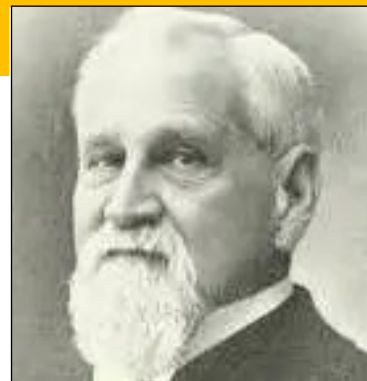


Camp Officers & members (l-r) Commander Jim Cox, Color Sgt. Scott Harris, Quartermaster K.E. Price, 2nd Lt. Commander Ed Harrelson, Adjutant Keith Hulsey, Chaplain Allen Glanville, Friend of SCV Karen Kelley, 1st Lt. Commander Bruce Cunningham, and Brandon Davis.

THE CHARGE OF STEPHEN DILL LEE

“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 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*





Maj. Gen. Patrick Cleburne Confederate Irish Hero



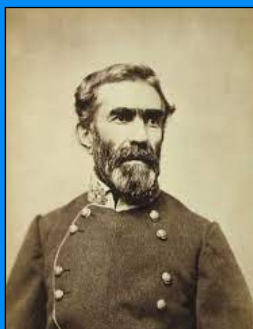
"I am with the South in life or death, in victory or defeat. I believe the North is about to wage a brutal and unholy war on a people who have done them no wrong, in violation of the Constitution and the fundamental principles of government. They no longer acknowledge that all government derives its validity from the consent of the governed. They are about to invade our peaceful homes, destroy our property, and murder our men and dishonor our women. We propose no invasion of the North, no attack on them, and only ask to be left alone."



"Surrender means that the history of this heroic struggle will be written by the enemy; that our youth will be trained by Northern school teachers; will learn from Northern school books their version of the War; will be impressed by all the influences of history and education to regard our gallant dead as traitors, and our maimed veterans as fit subjects for derision."



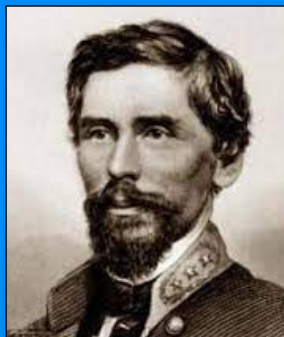
Notable March Birthdays



Gen. Braxton Bragg
Mar. 22, 1817 NC



Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton
Mar. 28, 1818. SC



Maj. Gen. Patrick Cleburne
Mar. 17, 1828 (Ireland)



Brig. Gen. Hiram Granbury
Mar. 1, 1831 MS



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Pictured above (Left to right)

Cmdr. Cox presenting Camp Challenge Coin to Sheran Weible, UDC Texas Division, and her husband, Cliff Weible, compatriot of the Second Frontier District Camp 1904 in DeLeon TX

Commander Cox presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Past 2nd Lt. Cmdr. Brandon Davis for his excellent time of service to the camp.



ADJUTANT REPORT



Hello all, thanks to those who attended our monthly meeting. March is upon us and we have a lot of upcoming events planned this spring and summer. We plan on flagging cemeteries on Saturday April 5 so mark your calendars, we would really like to have a great turnout for this. We had a great speaker this month, Sheran Weible from the TX Div. UDC. She made us aware of many medals that the members of our camp could be eligible for. Thanks again to all who came to support her. I look forward to the next meeting.

Deo Vindice,
Keith Hulsey, Adjutant



Like us on Facebook: Sons of Confederate Veterans Camp 983 AS Johnston



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Camp Commander/Editor

Jim Cox

Email: jimcox1630@gmail.com

1st Lt. Commander

Bruce Cunningham

2nd Lt. Commander

Ed Harrelson

Adjutant

Keith Hulsey

Chaplain

Allen Glanville

Quartermaster

K.E. Price

Color Guard Sgt.

Scott Harris

CIVIL WAR FLAGS AT SEA

Exclusive of signal flags, there were four distinctive types of naval flags in use:

Ensign
Jack
Commission Pennant
Broad Pennant



The Union and Confederate navies had their own distinctive flags and flag terminology. Although the Confederate Navy's flag usage was based on US Navy tradition, the actual flags differed considerably.

The precise number and size of flags issued depended on the ship's rating and its theater of operations, with those operating on inland waters being issued fewer & smaller flags.

CONFEDERATE STATES



Confederate Naval Ensign from May 4, 1862 - May 26, 1863



Confederate Naval Ensign from May 26, 1863 - March 4, 1865



Confederate Naval Ensign after March 4, 1865

ENSIGN

For both Union and Confederate navies, the ensign was the national flag, with a few minor modifications.

The Union ensign changed little during the course of the war, with stars being added for the entry of new states into the Union.

The Confederate national flag underwent two major changes (in 1863 and 1865) following the adoption of the first national flag in 1861. These changes caused the naval ensign to be altered accordingly.

The ensign was normally flown from the aftermost mast or flagstaff.

According to regulations, warships were issued as many as 14 ensigns, in sizes ranging from 5 feet to 36 feet in length. The four smallest ensigns were called "boat flags" and were intended to be flown from the stern of a boat, as opposed to as Ship.

UNITED STATES



U.S. Naval Ensign 1861 - 1863



U.S. Naval Ensign 1863 - 1865

JACK

The naval jack matched the top inner quarter, also called the union or canton, of the ensign.

The naval jack was flown from the front part of the ship when in port, or when approaching port when a pilot was needed.

Each ship was issued up to eight jacks, measuring from 5 1/2 to 14 1/2 feet in length.



Confederate Naval Jack from March 4, 1863 - May 26, 1863



Confederate Naval Jack after May 26, 1863



U.S. Naval Jack

COMMISSION PENNANT

Narrow Pennant

The narrow pennant signified that a vessel was a commissioned warship of its government's navy.

The narrow pennant was flown from the main mast of sail-rigged ships, or from the centermost flagstaff of other ship types.

Up to eight commission pennants could be issued to each warship, with the largest 70 feet in length.



Confederate Commission Pennant from March 4, 1863 - May 26, 1863



Confederate Commission Pennant after May 26, 1863



U.S. Commission Pennant

OFFICERS' FLAGS

Broad Pennant

Distinctive officers' flags were flown from either the main mast or mizzenmast (the aftermost mast), depending on seniority, and indicated that the ship carried the command of a fleet or squadron, hence the term "flagship."

Although the flag regulations changed during the war, especially in the Union navy when the rank system was altered, a plain blue, red and white rectangular flag signified that the fleet was under the command of an admiral. A blue flag indicated the most senior rank and a white the most junior.

A swallow-tailed broad pennant with stars, also colored either blue, red or white, indicated that the ship was under the command of a lower ranking officer, usually a commodore or captain.



Confederate Broad Pennant



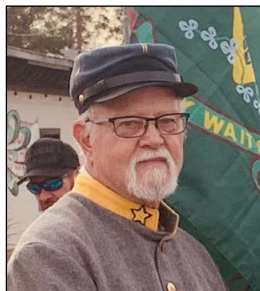
U.S. Broad Pennant

Flags from both navies often varied from the prescribed regulations, particularly in the placement and number of stars, and the use of decorative devices, like anchors, in the canton of the ensign.

Confederate warships are also known to have flown non-regulation flags on occasion, including state flags and special presentation flags.

Seagoing warships of both navies were also issued sets of foreign flags. These flags served a variety of purposes. On entering the port of a foreign nation it was common naval practice to fly from the foremast that country's national flag as a courtesy.

Foreign flags were commonly used as a ruse de guerre, or ruse of war, to fool enemy ships, a practice often used by Confederate commerce raiders.



Camp Birthdays

Happy Birthday Camp Chaplain Allen Glanville, March 31st! Allen has been a member of the SCV since 2023. His ancestor Orren Lemon Jackson, born 1834 & deceased 1890, Edgecombe, Nash County, North Carolina, enlisted 1862 with 13th North Carolina Batt., Co. D, and elected 1st Sgt. He was later reassigned to 66th Regt N.C. Infantry and fought under Gen. Joseph Johnson. Orren is Jonathan “Stonewall” Jackson’s 3rd cousin 2X removed.

BOOK REVIEW

Houston Displayed, or, Who Won the Battle of San Jacinto?

By Robert M. Coleman, edited with an introduction by Stephen L. Hardin.

In 1837 a slender 38 page pamphlet purportedly written by “A Farmer in the Army” appeared on the scene in the early days of the Republic of Texas. It had been printed in Velasco and the author had dared to assert that General Sam Houston (now the President) had *almost nothing to do* with achieving military victory, that he had tried to avoid combat, and that he had finally fought only because the rank-and-file demanded it.

The anonymous author also cast many personal aspersions on Houston’s conduct and character—alleging drunkenness, drug abuse, erratic behavior, and even an attempted suicide. Needless to say, Sam Houston was not amused. He knew that Robert M. Coleman, who had served as a colonel on Houston’s general staff, was the likely author. He had Coleman thrown in jail and had his political associates engage in what we today call “damage control.” Think of this age as an early Texas political swamp. Sometimes “Truth is stranger than fiction” or the official narrative is not all that its purported to be. The original 1837 Velasco edition is extremely rare: only five copies have survived in public institutions (Yale, the University of Texas, Austin Public Library, Sam Houston State University, and the J.P. Bryan Museum in Galveston). It was reprinted in facsimile in 1964 by the **Brick Row Book Shop** in Austin, with an introduction by John H. Jenkins—and even this edition is hard to locate today. The new edition, number 13 in the Library of Texas series, offers readers a scholarly introduction by Professor Stephen L. Hardin, an accurate text and explanatory footnotes, a bibliography, and an index. It was printed in an edition of 500 copies. At \$40 and 132 pages, it offers more than the original 38-page pamphlet, in a handsome and legible typeface! This edited original is an essential reference for any Texas collection.



April Camp Meeting at Grace Baptist Church Fellowship Hall,

600 S. Trinity, Decatur on Thursday, April 10th, at 6:30 PM.



UPCOMING EVENTS

April is Confederate History Month

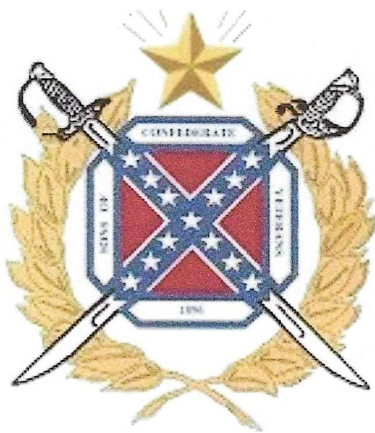
ASJ Camp Cemetery Flagging	April 5, 2025
ASJ Camp Meeting	April 10, 2025
Medal of Honor Parade (<i>Gainesville</i>)	April 12, 2025
TX Div-Wide Confederate Heritage Picnic (<i>Mexia</i>)	April 19, 2025
Decatur Celtic Festival	May 2-3, 2025
ASJ Camp Meeting	May 8, 2025
"Attack on Ft. Parker" (<i>Groesbeck</i>)	May 29-Jun 1
Texas Division Reunion (<i>Mineral Wells</i>)	June 6-8, 2025
ASJ Camp Meeting	June 12, 2025
ASJ Camp Meeting	July 10, 2025
130th National Reunion (<i>Houston</i>)	July 16-20, 2025
Old Settlers Reunion (<i>Decatur</i>)	July 21-26, 2025
ASJ Meeting	August 14, 2025
ASJ Meeting	September 11, 2025
ASJ Meeting	October 9, 2025
ASJ Meeting	November 14, 2025
ASJ Meeting (Christmas Dinner)	December 5, 2025



The Significance of Membership In The Sons of Confederate Veterans Cannot Be Overstated. The Veterans Themselves Entrusted Their Legacy To The Sons... A Responsibility Not To Be Taken Lightly. Ours Is Truly A Heritage Of Honor. Deo Vindice.



Texas Divison Confederate Heritage Month Celebration and Picnic!



Come Celebrate Confederate Heritage Month!

- The Confederate Reunion Grounds are located at 1738 FM 2705 Mexia, TX 76667. The Location is 1 hr drive from Dallas and Fort Worth, 2 hrs from Austin, 45 minutes from Waco, 2.5 hrs from Houston, and 2hrs from Tyler, TX.
- The historic 1893 Picnic Pavillon was built for the Reunions of CSA Veterans.
- Enjoy the Central Texas countryside in the springtime.
- Hiking, fishing, and bird watching!
- Visit "Old Val Verde," a Union cannon captured at Mansfield, LA.
- Visit nearby Fort Parker, a replica of the Parker family's compound.
- Bring your favorite dish to an old-fashioned potluck!
- Important Note: A \$5.00 entrance fee per person is required to enter the park (children under 12 are \$2.00, and First Responders, Seniors, and Veterans are \$3.00).

Save the Date!

April 19, 2025

Confederate Reunion
Grounds
Mexia, TX
Lunch Served at Noon



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THE DECATUR CELTIC FESTIVAL



WISE COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS • DECATUR, TEXAS



VIP DINNER



LIVE MUSIC



WORKSHOPS



DANCING

FIDDLE CONTEST

HIGHLAND GAMES

VENDORS

CLAN VILLAGE

FOOD TRUCKS

BEER TENT

RAFFLES

WHISKEY TASTING

BAGPIPES

SHEEPDOG DEMO

SHORTBREAD CONTEST

MAY 2-3, 2025

**CEILIDH VIP
DINNER & DANCE
FRIDAY, MAY 2**

**FESTIVAL &
ACTIVITIES
SATURDAY, MAY 3**



SCAN ME

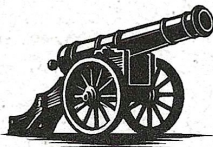


DECATURCELTICFESTIVAL.COM

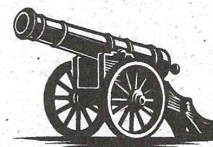




EXPERIENCE THE ADVENTURE OF ATTACK ON FORT PARKER!



MAY 29 - JUN 1



866 PARK RD 35, GROESBECK, TX 76642

Step into history! Witness the thrilling Battle for Fort Parker reenactment—Union surprise attack, cavalry charges, and fierce Confederate defense. Don't miss this unforgettable Civil War event

TICKETS: Available for purchase at the Visitor Center

SPECIAL Unit demonstrations, Sutlery shops,
ATTRACTIONS Concession stand, and more!

SCHEDULE Friday - School day
Saturday- Battles at 11am and 2pm
Sunday - Battle at 1pm

For more information please contact us at attackonfortparker@gmail.com

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

On Instagram @attackonfortparker

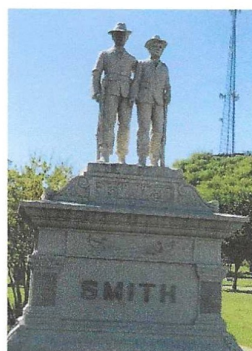


ATTACKONFORTPARKER



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128th TEXAS DIVISION REUNION **SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS** **MINERAL WELLS JUNE 6-8, 2025**

hosted by: SCV Camps:
34th Texas Cavalry #2283-Palo Pinto County
2nd Texas Frontier #1904-DeLeon

With the support of
Texas Society Order of Confederate Rose™, INC.
CACTUS ROSE #23 (DeLeon)
PAINTED ROSE #66 (Mineral Wells)



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Details are available at scv130.com.

This is a rare opportunity for all Texas SCV compatriots to attend a National Reunion close to home.

Mark your calendar and get your registration and hotel reservations in early.

