



SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS, TEXAS DIVISION

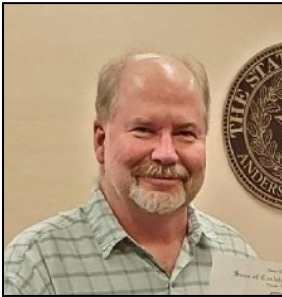
THE JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP NEWS

www.reaganscvcamp.org

VOLUME 16, ISSUE 6

JUNE 2024

COMMANDER HEITMAN'S DISPATCH



Fellow Gentlemen of the South,

I am confident that you W.O.N.A. scholars are familiar with most of the historical figures that participated in the recent Great Unpleasantness, circa 1861.

Today's short history lesson is on Daniel Harvey Hill .. that is Lieutenant-General D.H. Hill, Army of Tennessee et al.

Did you know that General Hill was an accomplished scholar of the Arts of Arithmetic – a Professor of Math – Washington College [Washington – Lee University today .. that is until the social-justice-warriors of metro-Virginia successfully expunge "Lee" from the school's name].

Awhile back, I ran across Professor Hill's college textbook *Elements of Algebra* (1854). Now, Algebra brings to mind unpleasant memories from 8th Grade for me. I am convinced that if this textbook was incorporated into my journey to compute when *Train-A would pass-by Train-B*, my "D+ average" would have shirley become a solid "B" instead. Furthermore, my 8th Grade [yankee] Math Professor, Mr. Dilts [really],

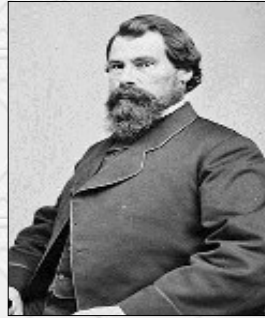
would have had little reason to shower me with his 'Michigan-Snowbird' passive-aggressive scorn, generally categorizing me as an ignorant Texan. Being the smart-mouth Texan that I 'was', played 'some' into Mr. Dilts disposition during 3rd Period Algebra.

Instead of calculating worthless word-problems about some train leaving Philadelphia, I would of marinated myself in righteous word-problems such as:

A man in Cincinnati purchased 10,000 pounds of bad pork, at 1 cent per pound, and paid so much per pound to put it through a chemical process, by which it would appear sound, and then sold it at an advanced price, clearing \$450 by the fraud. The price at which he sold the pork per pound, multiplied by the cost per pound of the chemical process, was 3 cents. What is the price at which he sold it, and the cost of the chemical process..?

Ans. He sold it at 6 cents per pound, and the cost of the process was 1/2 cent per pound.

At the Women's Rights Convention, held at Syracuse, New York, composed of 150 delegates, the old maids, childless-wives, and bedlamites were to each other as the number 5, 7, and 3. How many were there of each class..? Answer. 50, 70, and 30.



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

Write your school board member and insist on Southern Literature being incorporated into all primary through secondary scholastic texts – especially in the Arts of Math. Bring Professor Hill back into the classroom ☺

Getting the right native-stock on the School Boards of the South could do a great justice to the learning of our youth.

We will have a short 25-Question Math-Arts Quiz at our July meeting.

Hope to see you there,

Ed Heitman - Commander

CAMP MEETINGS

4th Tuesday of Each Month
 06:30 PM
 With a meal served at each meeting.
 Commercial Bank of Texas on the corner of N. Mallard & E. Lacy Street

The Bank is located just south of the Anderson County Courthouse Annex.

Guests are welcome!
 Bring the family.

www.reaganscvcamp.org
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The John H. Reagan Camp is requesting donations from those who would be willing to contribute financially to help keep the Confederate Heroes Memorial Plaza landscape manicured. **If you would be willing to donate, please contact Richard Thornton at 903-731-1557 or email tx_tsar@hotmail.com.**



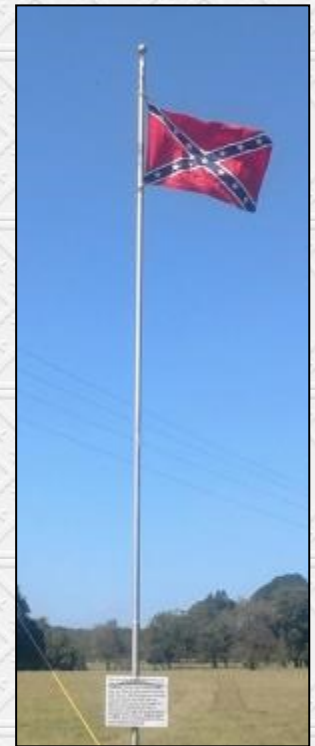
Seven Days' Battles, (June 25–July 1, 1862), was a series of [American Civil War](#) battles in which a [Confederate](#) army under General [Robert E. Lee](#) drove back General George B. [McClellan's](#) Union forces and thwarted the Northern attempt to capture the Confederate capital of [Richmond](#), Virginia. Above Picture: Confederate soldiers overrun a Union battery during the Battle of Glendale on June 30, 1862, among the last fights of the Seven Days. (Don Troiani (B.1949)/Bridgeman Images)

Prayer List


- Compatriot Forrest Bradberry
- Compatriot Gary Gibson & his wife, Lynn
- Compatriot J.B. Mason
- Compatriot Doug Smith (complications from several hip surgeries)
- Past Reagan Camp Historian Gary Williams
- Former Camp Commander Rudy Ray
- United Daughters of the Confederacy
- The Sovereign State of Texas

Officers for 2024

- Commander - Ed Heitman
- 1st Lt. - 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 

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

July 23, 2024 - Camp Meeting 6:30 pm

August 27, 2024 - Camp Meeting 6:30 pm

Sept 24, 2024 - Camp Meeting 6:30 pm

October 22, 2024 - Camp Meeting 6:30 pm

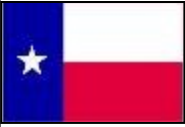
“NOTHING FILLS ME WITH DEEPER SADNESS THAN TO SEE A SOUTHERN MAN APOLOGIZING FOR THE DEFENSE WE MADE OF OUR INHERITANCE. OUR CAUSE WAS SO JUST, SO SACRED, THAT HAD I KNOWN ALL THAT HAS COME TO PASS, HAD I KNOWN WHAT WAS TO BE INFLICTED UPON ME, ALL THAT MY COUNTRY WAS TO SUFFER, ALL THAT OUR POSTERITY WAS TO ENDURE, I WOULD DO IT ALL OVER AGAIN.”

-PRESIDENT JEFFERSON DAVIS-

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.

“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-



JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP

JUNE MEETING PICTURES

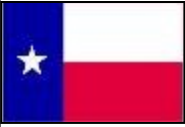


The monthly meeting for June was held on June 25th in the Commercial Bank of Texas Community Room. The night started off with a deep south meal of fried chicken, pinto beans with ham, stewed yellow squash, and pan fried new potatoes and onions. We had several compatriots who were unable to make it due to vacations and work, but we still had eleven in attendance. Following the meal, we got to hear part one of Marc Robinson's historical program. He had a fascinating PowerPoint presentation about his Great Great Great Grandfather and Grandmother, their family, and other Confederates who migrated to Brazil after the war. You can see notes from this very interesting program on the following pages.



Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, July 23rd at 6:30 pm.



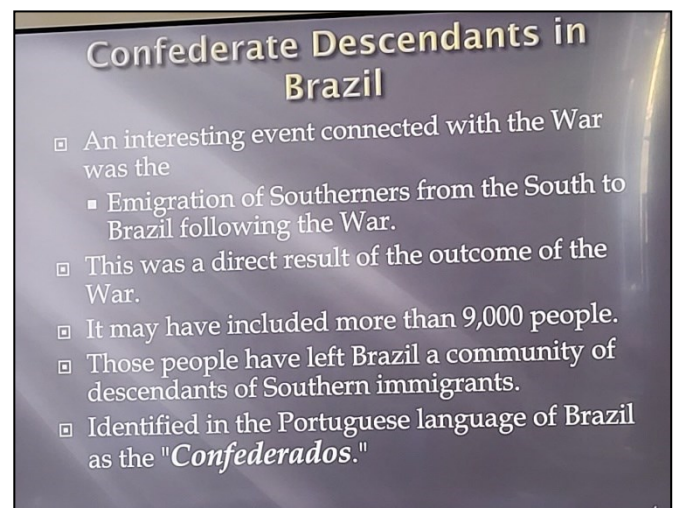
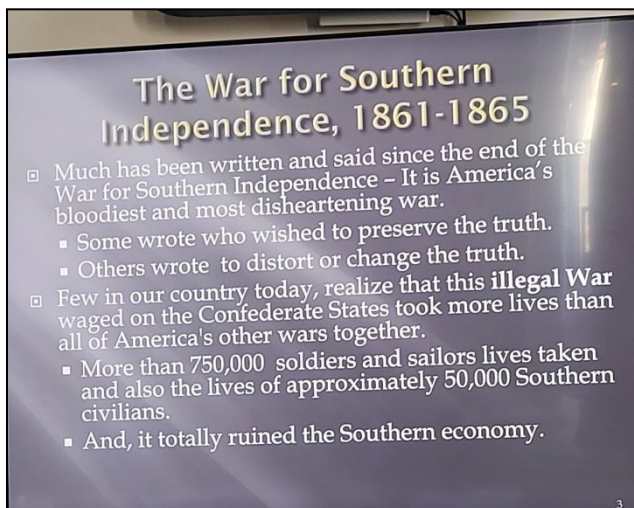
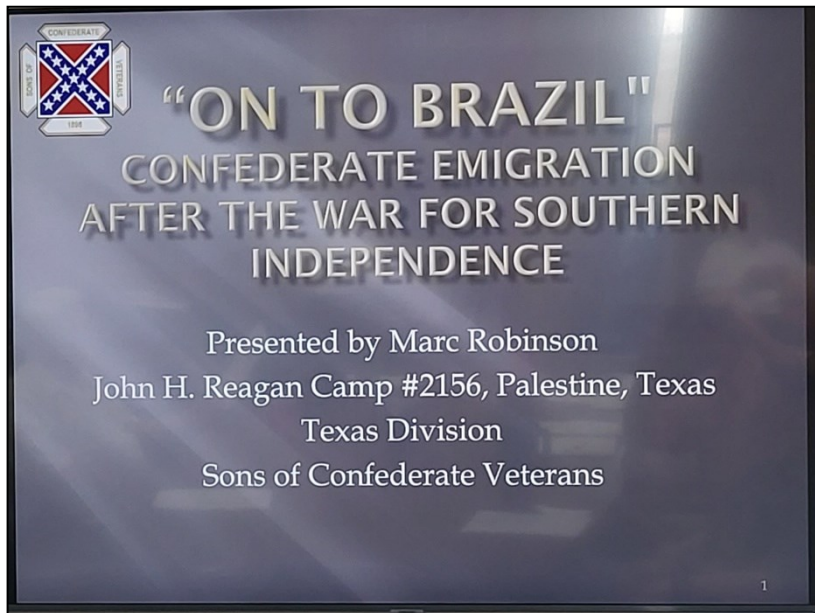


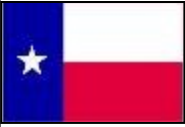
JUNE HISTORICAL PROGRAM

BY MARC ROBINSON



Marc Robinson provided the historical program for June as he presented 'Part 1' of "On To Brazil". The program was about his G-G-Great Grandfather and Grandmother, and it was **extremely** interesting! He has allowed us to include the slides from his PowerPoint presentation for those who were unable to attend. Marc had a lot of information that he gave that made the presentation extremely interesting, but there is no way that I can come close to remembering it all. He will give part two at next month's meeting. It will be a program that you will want to see in person.





JUNE HISTORICAL PROGRAM

BY MARC ROBINSON



My ancestors who emigrated to Brazil

- ❑ My Great Great Grandfather and Grandmother, William "Bluford" Nettle and Margaret Burleson Nettle emigrated from Texas to Brazil in 1866 from their home in Hill County, where they were living and farming at that particular time.
- ❑ The Grand Lodge of Texas records show that William B. Nettle was a member of the Dawson Masonic Lodge #155 A.F. & A.M. just prior to leaving Texas for Brazil.
- ❑ The Nettle's were living in eastern Hill County Texas.
- ❑ Fred McMillan organized about 100 men and their families from Hill, Navarro, and McLennan Counties that left on a ship from Galveston to set sail for Brazil and a fresh start.
- ❑ Reason they left was that they simply did not want to live under a "Yankee regime," as they called it.

❑ Writer/researcher Gary Hawkins stated the situation well,
"It's impossible to exaggerate the harsh feelings of defeated Southerners toward the Northern army. They might have been willing to accept military defeat, but when their families were burned out of their homes, robbed, and left to starve, a deeper resentment began to take hold. A resentment against America itself."

With citizens starving and property in distress, unscrupulous Yankee agents purchased estates at fire-sale prices....Congress piled on by branding 3.5 million Southerners traitors and depriving them of their citizenship. Northern newspapers called for mass hangings. Jefferson Davis was thrown in jail. It's no wonder that thousands of Southerners began to pack up and flee to almost anywhere else."

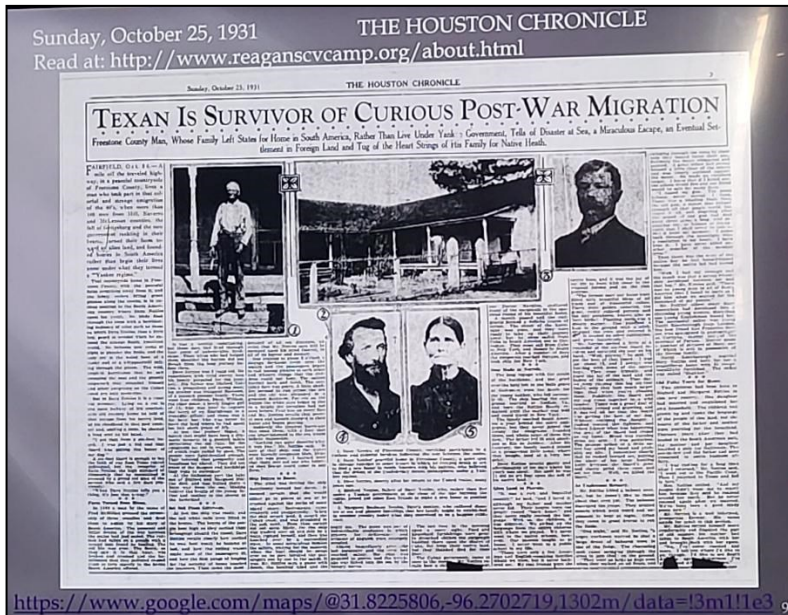
My ancestors who immigrated to Brazil

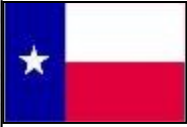
- ❑ The Nettle family had four children when they left Hill County, Dave who was 6 years of age, Ewell age 13, Mary age 14, and a 2 year old baby boy who was buried on Galveston Island, a little way from the sea, just prior to setting sail from their Texas homeland.
- ❑ The Houston Chronicle, on Sunday, October 25, 1931 printed an interview of my GG grandfather, Dave Nettle, who was 6 years old when the family departed Texas for Brazil in 1866.

The picture on the left is a newspaper article that was written about Marc's GGG Grandfather. Marc told us some fascinating stories about them sailing to Brazil, being shipwrecked, finally getting to Brazil, and about life there. He was able to know all of this from the article that is shown on the left.

This article can be found on the Reagan Camp website at www.reagansvcamp.org/about.html.

When you get on the page, scan down toward the bottom and click on "Brazil migration of some Confederates to avoid reconstruction: An interesting interview/ article appeared in 1931 issue of the Houston Chronicle". Once you are there, you can enlarge the article so you can read it. It's very interesting..





JUNE HISTORICAL PROGRAM

BY MARC ROBINSON



My ancestors who immigrated to Brazil



W. B. Nettle buried beside his 4 year old granddaughter, Edith Edenborough. (No other family member buried in cemetery.)

NETTLE, William B. - Jan 9, 1826 - June 11, 1892 - (MASONIC) Died while visiting his daughter, Mary and her husband Nevill Edenborough in Coleman County, Texas.



After looking and looking, Marc was able to find the location of the grave of his Great Great Great Grandfather. He has a Masonic headstone on his grave. The picture on the left shows that headstone, the cemetery, and the headstone of William Bluford Nettle's 4 year old granddaughter.

My ancestors who immigrated to Brazil



Nettle Cemetery, approx. 5 miles northwest of Fairfield, Freestone County Texas on Nettle home place. Margaret's father (my GGG Grandfather), Hopson Burleson, gave them approximately 350 acres off of Grindstone Creek when they returned from Brazil. This land is located at the south end of Hopson's Mexican Land Grant he obtained in 1835 a year after arriving in Texas and fighting Indians for Mexican Govt. (His land grant included a league and a labor of land. (4428.4 plus 177.1 acres))



Grave markers located at Hopson Burleson Memorial Cemetery, Freestone County Texas



All five younger brothers of my GGG Grandmother, Margaret Burleson Nettle, served in the Confederate States Army. Three never to return home.



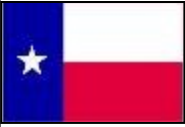
The John H. Reagan Camp 2156 hosted a Four Marker dedication ceremony and three re-interments for Burleson Brothers at Hopson Burleson Memorial Cemetery in Freestone County Texas on May 5, 2012



My ancestors who immigrated to Brazil



Dave (D. O.) Nettle was 6 years old in 1866 when the Nettle family left Galveston, Texas for Brazil. He was 21 when he returned. He and his wife, Emma Harris Nettle are buried in the Cade Cemetery Freestone County Texas just west of Streetman, Texas.



JUNE HISTORICAL PROGRAM BY MARC ROBINSON



Confederate Descendants in Brazil

- ❑ Descendants are all over the country of Brazil.
- ❑ The largest community, and by far the most important is located in the **State of São Paulo**.
- ❑ This community, founded by the Southerners, has grown into the town of "**Americana**."
- ❑ It's older mother city, Vila Santa Bárbara (today Santa Bárbara D'Oeste), is only a few miles apart.
- ❑ These two cities are the gravity center of the community of Southern descendants in Brazil.
- ❑ Since 1954, the Fraternity of American Descendants has headquartered there.

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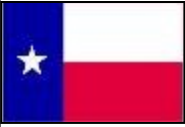


Picture on left, Marc points to the location of Camp Cemetery near Americana, Brazil. This is where the Confederates who died in Brazil are buried. Their proud descendants are still being buried in this cemetery.

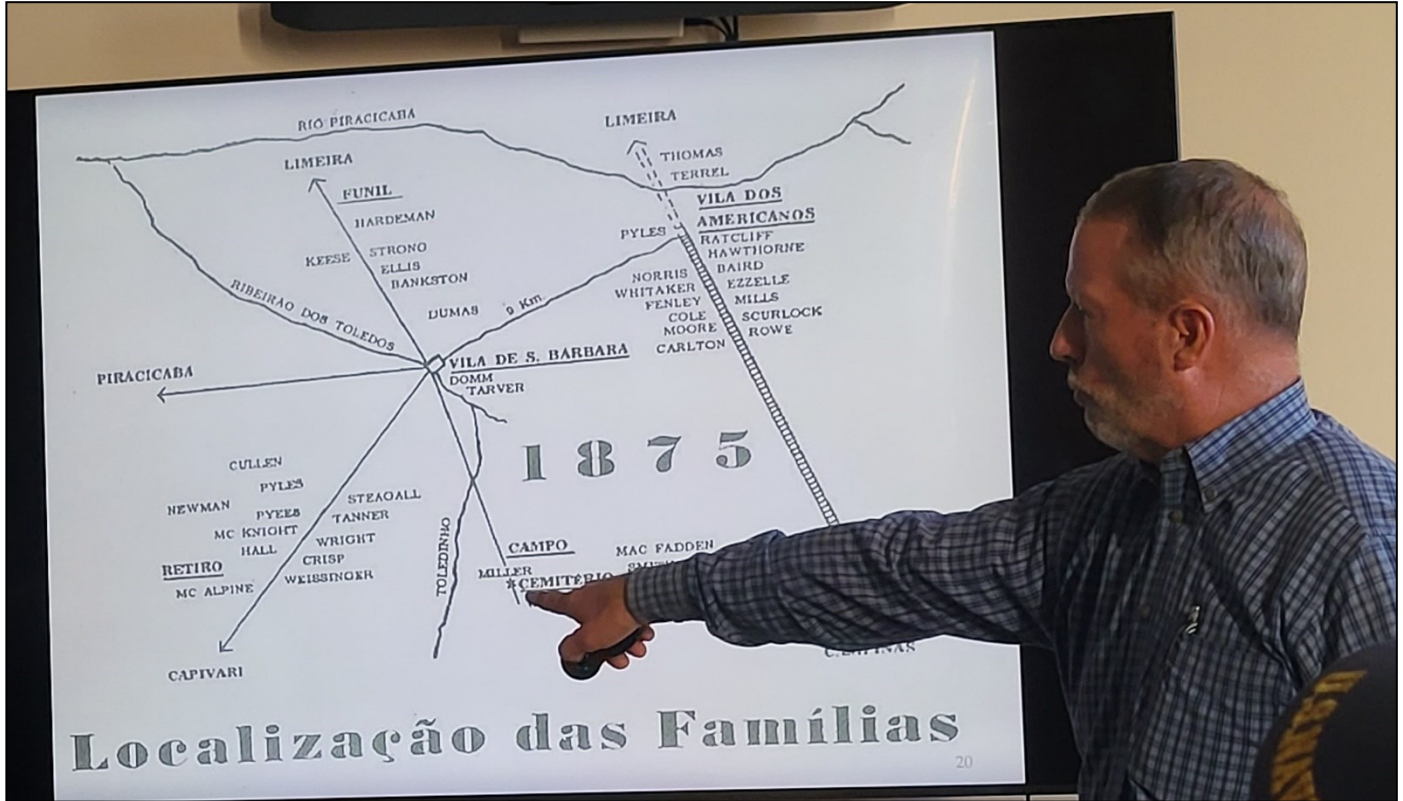
Picture at bottom right: Marc points to where his ancestors landed when they migrated to Brazil.

- ❑ The immigrants bought land in the State of São Paulo at 22 cents an acre, and in the States of Pará, Espírito Santo, Bahia, Rio de Janeiro and Santa Catarina; some went to Santarém, Pará State, the Vale do Rio Doce region as well as to Iguape and most to Vila Santa Bárbara.
- ❑ The **community that grew up around Vila Santa Bárbara was the most important and would grow into Americana**, now an important textile center.
- ❑ Source: Os Confederados web site <http://confederados.com.br/>





JUNE HISTORICAL PROGRAM BY MARC ROBINSON



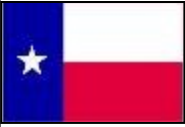
The picture above shows where the land was located that the “Confederados” purchased in Brazil. Marc is pointing to the location of Camp Cemetery. It is the cemetery where the Confederados are buried.

Marc told us that the Confederates brought their Southern cooking to the Brazilians. They taught them how to make fried chicken, coleslaw, and banana pudding. These were welcome dishes to the Brazilians since they had never had them before. The picture on the lower left is a flyer for the Festa Confederada that is held annually. This is where the Brazilian descendants of the Confederates honor their ancestor’s memory.

Confederate Descendants in Brazil

- The descendants gather at the **Campo Cemetery** every quarter session of the year, on its second Sunday, for a religious service, a discussion of topics related to Fraternity, and a traditional lunch.
- Each family brings dishes, desserts, drinks and all present enjoy Brazilian and Southern favorites in a communal style. Examples Southern favorites include *frango frito* (fried chicken), *salada repolho* (coleslaw), and *pudim de banana* (guess).
- The old-timers chat in the familiar **Southern drawl**, while children run and play, speaking Portuguese and very little English
- There is also the annual *Festa Confederada*, a fund raising event to support the maintenance of the Campo Cemetery.

Flyer for the 2020 Confederate Festa in Brazil



JUNE HISTORICAL PROGRAM

BY MARC ROBINSON



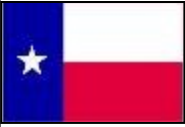
The Festa dos Confederados

- ❑ Flags are raised during the Festa; the Brazilian flag, the Confederate Battle flag, and two other flags are raised near the patio as the Brazilian national anthem is played.
- ❑ When the flags are up, a tribute to the Confederacy begins.
- ❑ A type of Miss Teen pageant with Miss Tennessee, Miss Georgia, etc. parade through with their Confederate uniformed escorts.
- ❑ Announcements, presentations, and awards are given as the girls are changing their dresses for a new dance.
- ❑ Then the same girls with the same escorts dance the Virginia Reel, a waltz, a square dance to Dixie, line dances set to Irish type music.



The picture on the middle right shows the ladies in their yellow dresses as "The Yellow Rose of Texas" is played. Below left shows the beauty contest with women representing Confederate states. This is a major event in Brazil.



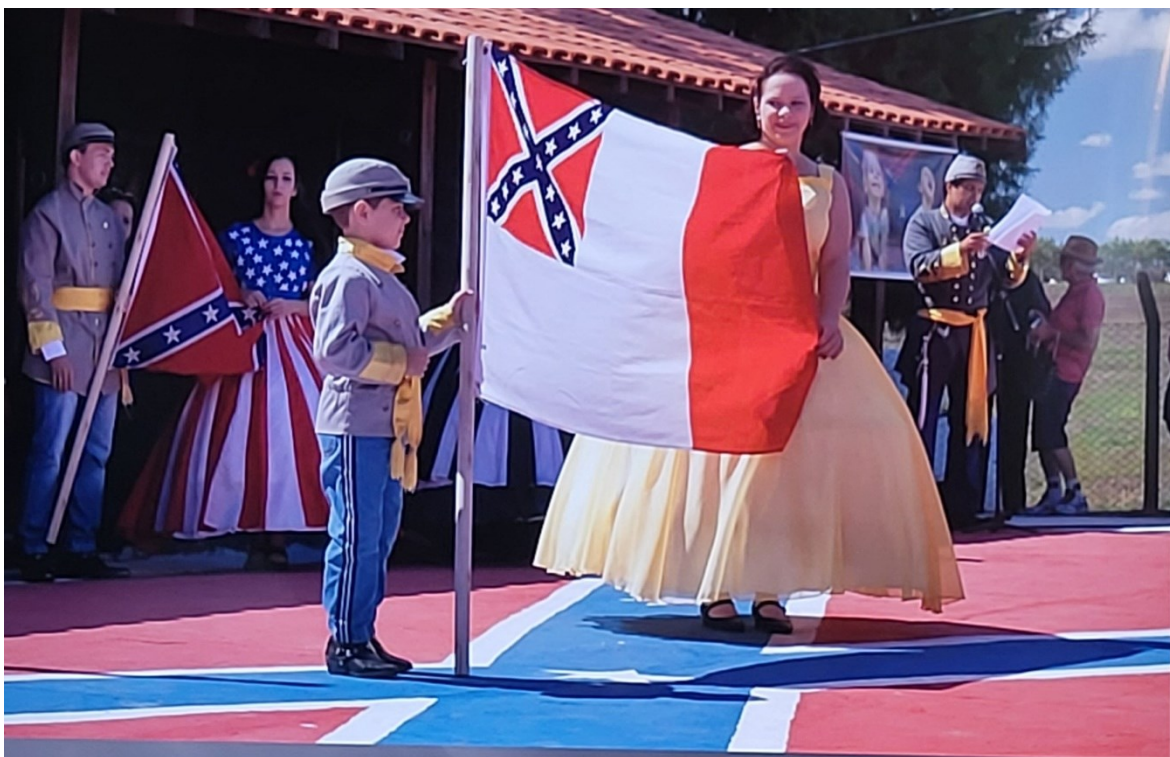


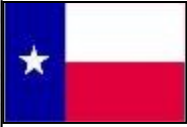
JUNE HISTORICAL PROGRAM BY MARC ROBINSON



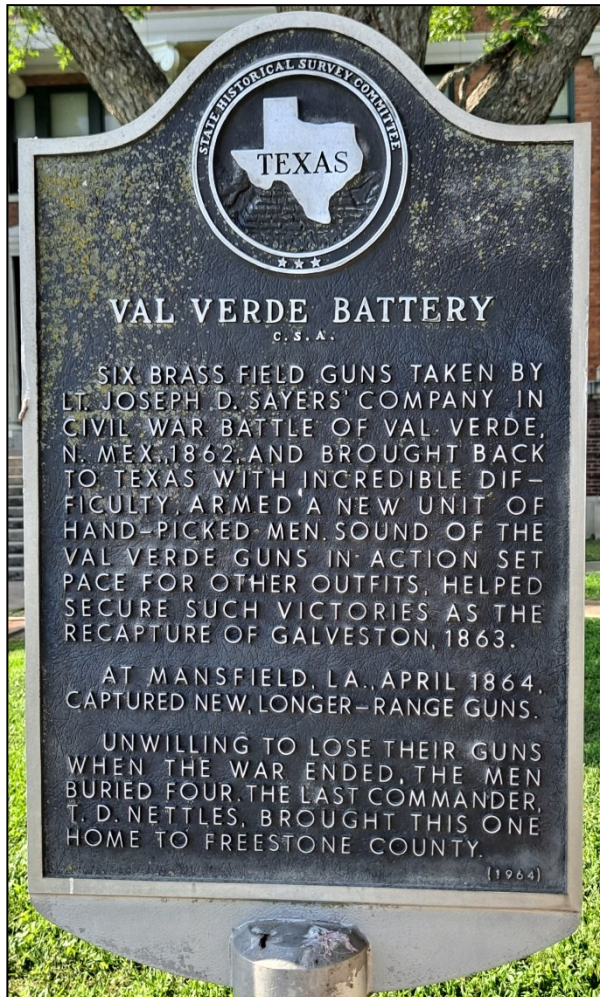
Above are proud descendants of Confederate veterans. Brazil even has a Sons of Confederate Veterans camp.

Below is another picture where young descendants proudly display Confederate flags and clothing.

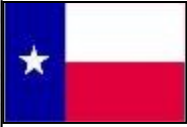




JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP MEMBERS HAVE A CONNECTION TO THE VAL VERDE BATTERY CANNON



The cannon pictured here is located on the Courthouse Square in Fairfield. Two members of the John H. Reagan camp have a special connection to the Val Verde Cannon. Commander Ed Heitman's Great-Grandpa William Alphonse Ferguson [and his brothers] of Company A - 4th Regiment TMV - 4th Texas Cavalry and his fellow cohorts of Sibley's Brigade [including 1st Lt. David Franklin's G-G-G Grandfather William J. Chaffin] captured "this" and five other cannon at the Battle of Valverde - February 21st - 1862 - through a flurry of snow and lead. Grandpa Ferguson was wounded at Valverde .. but not as severely as those yankees trying to keep their 'cannon'.

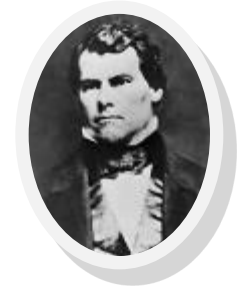


JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP

JUNE IN THE LIFE OF JOHN H. REAGAN



June 6, 1857- John H. Reagan made 1st speech in bid for US Rep. at Palestine.



June 10, 1891- John H. Reagan's official appointment by Gov. Hogg as 1st Railroad Commissioner of Texas.

June 19, 1896- John H. Reagan 5th recipient of honorary doctorate at Tulane Univ., New Orleans, La.



June 23, 1865- John H. Reagan's letter to Gov. A.J. Hamilton asking for pardon and release from Federal Prison, Boston Harbor.

Other important dates in June

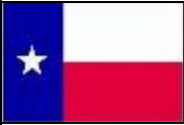
June 23, 1861- Co. G (Reagan Guards) 1st Texas Vol. Regt., Hoods Brigade, org. in Palestine by J.R. Woodward.



June 24, 1861- Co H, 1st Texas Vol. Inf. Regt., Hoods Brigade, org. in Palestine by J.G Deveroux; A.T. Rainey was Capt.



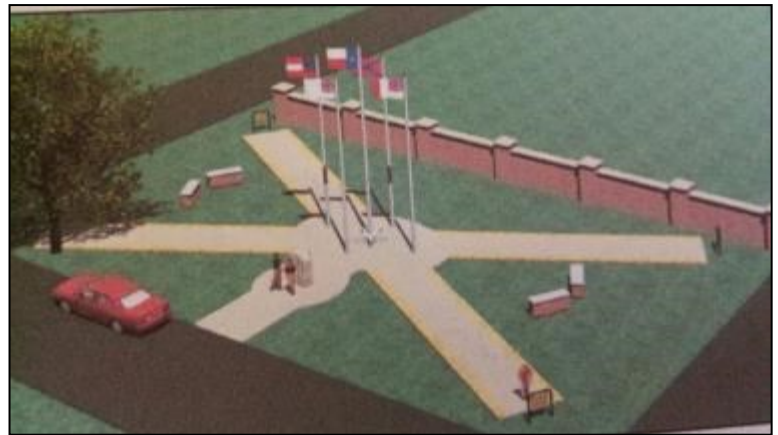
June 21, 1900- Hood's Brigade veterans began 3 day convention in Palestine.



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



Many Americans have forgotten that freedom isn't free at all. There have been hundreds of thousands of Americans who have willingly given their life for their country so that we could continue to have the rights of free men. But there is a group of people in our country who have decided that they have the right to take away the rights of others, especially if those others do not agree with their agenda. These people have no respect for the true history of anything that goes against what they want. Although they cannot change true history, they are changing the history books and in so doing are changing what people are taught about the history of our country. These people don't care if they are dishonoring our Confederate ancestors. They care nothing about our ancestor's service. Do you care about preserving your ancestor's service? If so, you can do so by having his service noted in the Confederate Veteran's Memorial Plaza with a paver that will include his name and service information on it for only \$50. It will last for years and years to come and will let countless people see his name and information. It is a wonderful way to give him the recognition that he deserves.



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

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

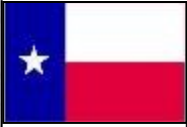


ROBERT E. LEE CALENDAR

JUNE 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 June 1864 - to Jeff Davis My daily prayer to the great Ruler of the world is that He may shield you from harm, guard you from evil & give you peace the world cannot take away
2 undated - You cannot be a true man until you learn to obey	3 June, 1863 - to wife I trust that a kind Providence will watch over us, & notwithstanding our weakness & sins will yet give us a name & place among the nations of the earth.	4 June, 1864 - to wife We are all in the hands of our Merciful God, whom I know will order all things for our good & upon Him is my whole faith & reliance.	5 June, 1839 - to his wife Mildness & forbearance, tempered by firmness & judgment, will strengthen their [children] affection for you, while it will maintain your control over them.	6 undated - to Markie I shall therefore have the great pleasure of being at Arlington Saturday where my affections & attachments are more strongly placed than at any other place in the World.	7 undated - No tears at Arlington! No tears!	8 June, 1863 - to wife What a beautiful world god has given us! What a shame that men endowed with reason & knowledge of right should mar His gifts.
9 June, 1861 - to wife I should like to retire to private life, if I could be with you & the children, but if I can be of any service to the state or her cause I must continue.	10 June, 1862 - to wife I cannot help grieving [grandson's death] but when I reflect upon his great gain by his merciful transition from earth to Heaven, I think we ought to rejoice.	11 June, 1863 - to Charlotte Wicham Some good is always mixed with the evil in this world	12 undated - to wife My trust is in our Heavenly Father to whom my supplications continually ascend for you, my children, & my country!	13 June, 1863 - I grieve over the desolation of the country& the distress to innocent women & children occasioned by spiteful excursions of the enemy, unworthy of a civilized nation.	14 June, 1864 - to Jeff Davis We have only to do our whole duty, & everything will be well.	15 June, 1869 - to Robert You will have to get married if you wish to prosper.
16 undated - I have great reluctance to speak on political subjects. I have, however, said I think all who can should register & vote.	17 June, 1865 - to Col. Taylor Tell [our returned soldiers] they must all set to work & if they cannot do what they prefer, do what they can.	18 undated - to College Faculty We must be very careful how we are influenced by hearsay.	19 undated - to wife In this time of great suffering to the state & country, our private distresses we must bear with resignation like Christians.	20 undated - to Robert With the improvement of your farm, proceeds will increase & with experience, judgment, & economy, will augment greatly.	21 undated - to Trustees I need not enlarge upon the importance of a good library to the advancement of the college. A useful literary institution cannot be maintained without it.	22 June, 1851 - to Custis I am opposed to the theory of doing wrong that good may come of it. I hold to the belief that you must act right whatever the consequences.
23 undated - I am fond of independence. It is that feeling that prompts me to come up strictly to the requirements of law & regulations.	24 June, 1861 - No one can say what is in the future, nor is it wise to anticipate evil. But it is well to prepare for what may reasonably happen & be provided for the worst.	25 undated - to Custis In regard to duty do your duty in all things—you cannot do more—you should never wish to do less.	26 undated - to Agnes You know how pleased I am at the presence of strangers, what a cheerful mood their company produces	27 June, 1863 - to his men It must be remembered that we make war only upon armed men & that we cannot take vengeance for the wrongs our people have suffered.	28 undated - As a general principle you should not force young men to their duty, but let them do it voluntarily & thereby develop their characters.	29 June, 1854 - to Markie Nor is it possible for us always to do 'the good that we would,' & omit 'the evil we would not.'
30 June, 1864 - to wife Do you recollect what a happy day 31 years ago this was? How many hopes & pleasures it gave birth to! God has been merciful & kind to us.						



TEXAS CIVIL WAR HISTORY IN JUNE

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



June 1, 1864 On this day, celebrated Confederate partisan Adam Rankin (Stovepipe) Johnson was promoted to the rank of brigadier general. Johnson was born in Henderson, Kentucky, and moved to Texas in 1854. There he gained a reputation as the surveyor of much virgin territory in West Texas, as an Indian fighter, and as a stage driver for the Butterfield Overland Mail. With the outbreak of the Civil War Johnson returned to Kentucky and enlisted as a scout under Nathan Bedford Forrest. His subsequent exploits as commander of the Texas Partisan Rangers within the federal lines in Kentucky earned him a colonel's commission in August 1862 and a promotion to brigadier general in 1864. One of his most remarkable feats was the capture of Newburgh, Indiana, from a sizable Union garrison with only twelve men and two joints of stovepipe mounted on the running gear of an abandoned wagon. This episode won him his nickname. Johnson was blinded and captured at a skirmish at Grubb's Crossroads in August 1864. Upon his release he returned to Texas, where he lived for his remaining sixty years and founded the town of Marble Falls, "the blind man's town."

June 11, 1865 On this day, an estimated fifty desperados broke into the state treasury in Austin, one of the boldest crimes in Texas history. The robbery occurred during the chaotic period immediately after the downfall of the Confederacy in the spring of 1865. Gen. Nathan G. Shelley informed George R. Freeman, a Confederate veteran and leader of a small company of volunteer militia, that the robbery was imminent. By the time Freeman and about twenty of his troops arrived at the treasury, the robbers were in the building. A brief gunfight erupted in which one of the robbers was mortally wounded; all the other robbers fled toward Mount Bonnell, west of Austin, carrying with them about \$17,000 in specie, more than half of the gold and silver in the state treasury. None was ever captured. The loot was never recovered, although some of the money was found strewn between the treasury building and Mount Bonnell. Freeman and his company of volunteers were later recognized by the state for their service in defending the public treasury, but the resolution providing a reward for their services never passed the legislature.

June 19, 1865 On this day ("Juneteenth"), Union General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston and issued General Order Number 3, which read in part, "The people of Texas are informed that, in accordance with a proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of personal rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves, and the connection heretofore existing between them becomes that between employer and hired labor." The tidings of freedom reached the approximately 250,000 slaves in Texas gradually as individual plantation owners informed their bondsmen over the months following the end of the war. The news elicited an array of personal celebrations, some of which have been described in *The Slave Narratives of Texas* (1974). The first broader celebrations of Juneteenth were used as political rallies and to teach freed African American about their voting rights. Within a short time, however, Juneteenth was marked by festivities throughout the state, some of which were organized by official Juneteenth committees.

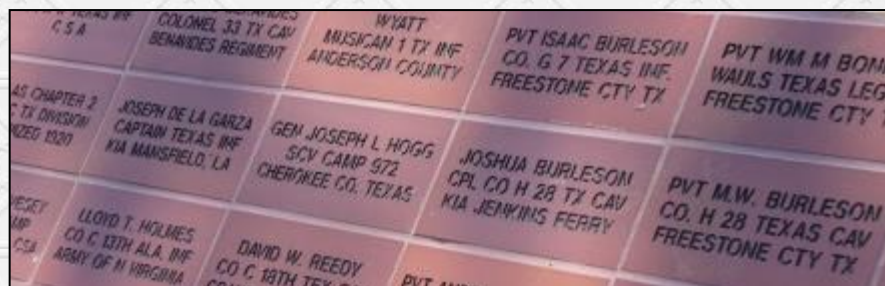
June 25, 1864 - On this day, a skirmish between Confederate and Union forces was fought at Las Rusias, a colonia located one mile north of the Rio Grande in southwest Cameron County. Confederate officer Refugio Benavides of Laredo led a company and joined John Salmon (Rip) Ford to overrun Union forces. Ford, a colonel of the Second Texas Cavalry who engaged in border operations protecting Confederate-Mexican trade, praised Benavides for his gallant conduct during the battle. Las Rusias had also been the site of a skirmish on April 25, 1846, when Mexican troops ambushed an American patrol; the shedding of "American blood upon American soil" sparked the Mexican War.



CONFEDERATE VETERANS MEMORIAL PLAZA INFORMATION



The Confederate Veterans Memorial Plaza had the official opening and dedication on April 13, 2013. It is a beautiful Memorial to the Confederate Veterans. Although it is open for visitors, there is still room along the sidewalks for you to purchase a brick paver in the name of your confederate ancestor. This will ensure that your ancestor's service to the confederacy will not be forgotten, but will be remembered for years to come. If you would like to make a donation for a paver, please contact Dan Dyer at E-mail: danielder497@yahoo.com or 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.



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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.

Commercial Bank of Texas on the
corner of N. Mallard & E. Lacy Street

The Bank is located just south of the
Anderson County Courthouse
Annex.