

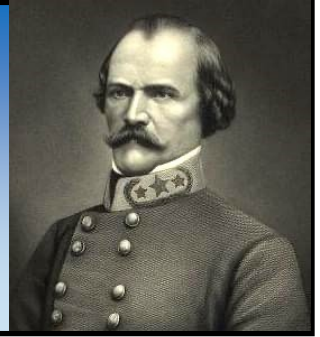


THE PICKET LINE

Albert Sidney Johnston Camp #983

DECATUR TX

MARCH 2024



Camp Commander/Editor

Jim Cox

Email: jimcox1630@gmail.com

1st Lt. Commander

Bruce Cunningham

2nd Lt. Commander

Brandon Davis

Adjutant

Keith Hulsey

Chaplain

Allen Glanville

Color Guard Sgt.

Kim Price

March Camp Meeting . . .

This month we were excited to recognize the twenty-eighth (28th) Anniversary of Albert Sidney Johnston Camp 983. 1st Lt. Cmdr. Bruce Cunningham gave an excellent presentation outlining the beginning of the camp and the original charter members. *(Page two has photo and story.)*

Chaplain Allen Glanville also gave a great program on one of the unsung heroes of the Confederacy, Major General William Mahone. *(See photo and note on page two.)*

Exciting events are coming up for Confederate History Month that includes a flagging at Greenwood Cemetery *(page 3)* and the Medal of Honor Parade in Gainesville on April 27th. Be sure and keep up with all the events listed on page eight.

General Headquarters is extending a Very Special Membership Offer on April 1st. Please refer to the ad below and take advantage of SCV Life Membership Sale. *(see below.)*



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**SCV Life
Membership
Sale!**

One day only!

Ages 12 to 64
\$650

Ages 65 to 79
\$325

Ages 80 & up
\$160

April 1, 2024

Call the Membership Office
at (931) 380-1844
or visit our website,
www.scv.org

Call early- limited to the first 100 members to pay!
Must be paid in-full on April 1st, 9am-3pm, CT

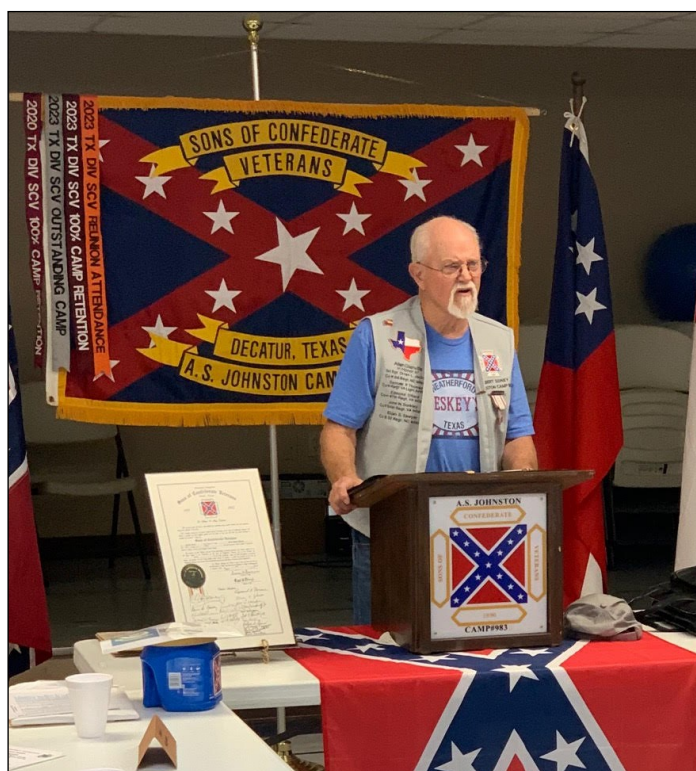


Camp Programs



1st. Lt. Cmdr. Bruce Cunningham (pictured left) gave a great talk on the history of our ASJ camp 983 and all the original charter members. Our camp has had a solid foundation for 28 years as we to continue to build upon traditions established by our founders. Charter members such as Bob Holloway, Raymond Florence, Ed Maddox, Roy Slonaker, W.B. Woodruff, Jr., and Cecil Pegues were instrumental in establishing our camp.

Chaplain Allen Glanville (pictured right) gave a very informative presentation on the life of Maj. General William Mahone, a decorated Confederate General, winning many battles against the Union.



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.”

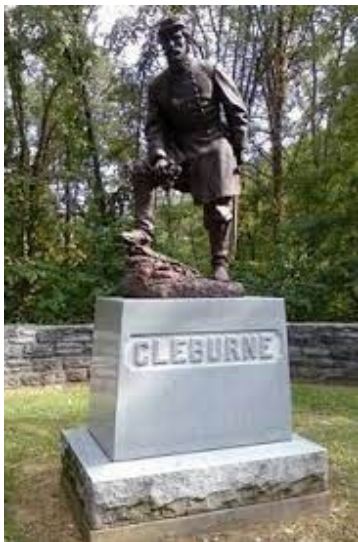
Lt. General Stephen Dill Lee, Commander General, United Confederate Veterans, New Orleans, Louisiana, April 25, 1906



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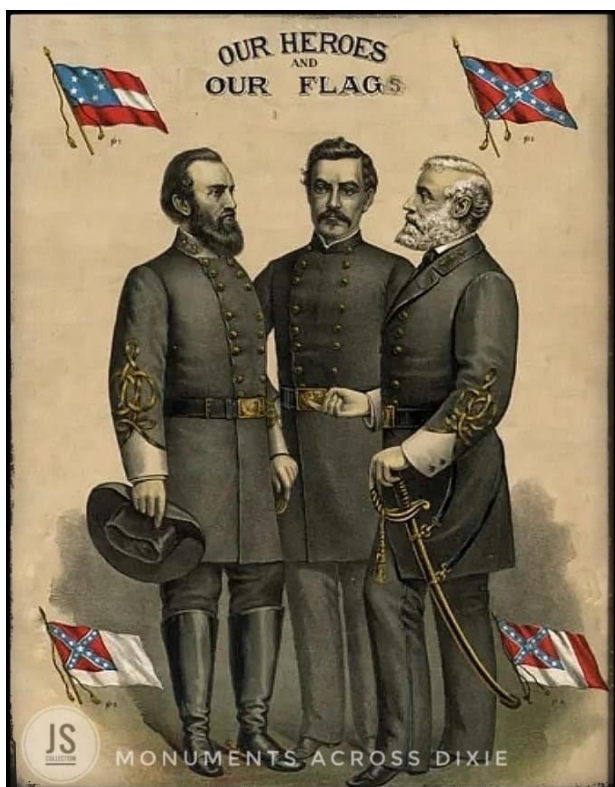
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Maj. Gen. Patrick Cleburne Confederate Irish Hero



"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."



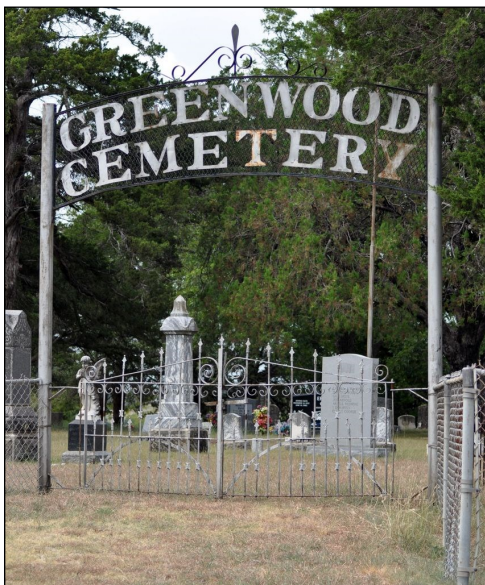
Next Camp meeting
April 11th,
6:30 PM
FUMC Wesley Bldg.
102 E. Main, Decatur, TX



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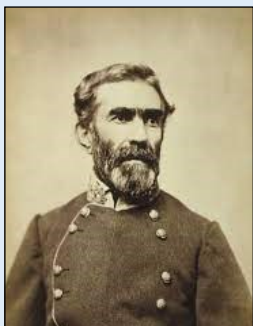
April is Confederate History Month!



Albert Sidney Johnston Camp 983 will begin Confederate History Month by honoring Confederate Veterans gravesites. **2nd Lt. Cmdr. Brandon Davis** will be leading this event of placing Battle Flags at each marker. We will meet at Greenwood Cemetery, near the community of Greenwood (North of Decatur on Hwy 51) on Saturday, April 6th, at 10 AM. Afterward, we will have lunch together in Greenwood at a special café.



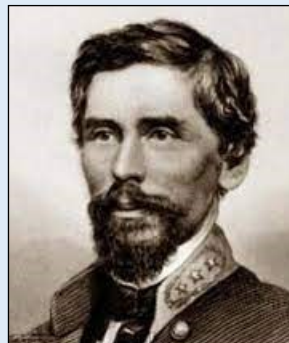
Notable March Birthdays



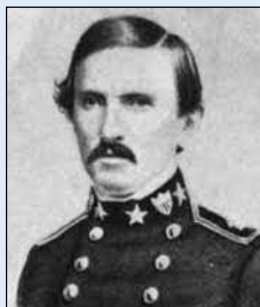
Gen. Braxton Bragg
Mar. 22, 1817 NC



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



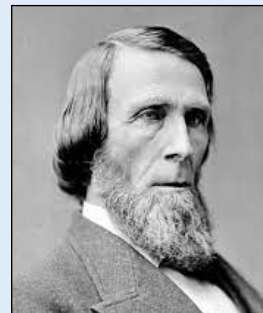
Maj. Gen. Patrick Cleburne
Mar. 17, 1828 (Ireland)



Maj. Gen. George Crittenden
Mar. 20, 1812 KY



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



Brig. Gen. Samuel Maxey
Mar. 30, 1825 KY



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IRON CROSS PRESENTATION



Texas Division Commander Michael Hurley welcoming all guest to the Iron Cross Ceremony for his ancestor, Edwin Stone Collins. The location was the Curtis Cemetery in Weatherford, TX.



3rd Brigade offering a salute to Pvt. Edwin Stone Collins.

Pictured below from left to right; 3rd Brig. Lt. Cmdr. Calvin, TX Div. 1st Lt. Cmdr. Shelby Little, Div. Cmdr. Michael Hurley, Div. 2nd Lt. Cmdr. Jim Cox, Chief of Staff Allen Hearrean, and 3rd Brig. Cmdr. Joe Allcock.



The Order of the Black Rose was present to conduct their ceremony to honor Edwin Curtis Stone.





Civil War Treasure: What Happened to the Mysterious Lost Gold of Richmond's Banks?

Robert S. Davis, March 18, 2024, blueandgrayeducation.org

The Confederate States of America did not surrender but, in the last days of the fighting in the Civil War, it faded into history. The most famous of that conflict's many lost gold stories come from those final days.

By 1865, the southern government was bankrupt, relying solely on donations and a controversial loan. Virginia borrowed \$300,000 in gold and silver coins from the banks of Richmond. Despite denials by some, the money was indeed borrowed for the Confederate government. Confederate officials repeatedly directed payments be made in gold from Richmond's banks as evidence. This gold, kept separate from the Confederate government's gold, was loaned to the Confederate government in exchange for cotton securities. In other words, Confederate cotton served as security for the loan.

On April 2, 1865, Jefferson Davis and his government escaped Richmond, leading to his capture by federal cavalry at Irwinville, Georgia, on May 10. The last of the Confederate treasury was paid out along Davis' escape, but what remained of the Richmond banks' funds was left behind at the Bank of the State of Georgia in Washington, Georgia.

Union Captain Lot Abraham arrived in Washington on May 5, with 50 men from the Fourth Iowa Cavalry. Representatives of the Richmond banks arrived on May 8. They decided to ship the coins overland by wagon to the railhead at Abbeville, South Carolina, and eventually back to Virginia. Abraham provided seven federal soldiers to escort the five wagons.

The treasure train set out from Washington on May 24, 1865. Fourteen Tennessee cavalymen and one Alabama soldier set out to rob the wagons. The wagons and their escort traveled 18 miles and camped on the Moss farm near the Savannah River. Around midnight, the pursuers raided the wagons. The seven guards offered no resistance, and the bandits filled whatever they had with coins. Some of the Federal soldiers also looted.

Bank agents totaled the money lost at \$251,029.90. What remained in the wagons, \$159,929.90, eventually went to the United States Treasury. Stories swirled that much of the gold remained hidden, but almost all of the money was, extraordinarily, eventually recovered.

After a lengthy federal investigation, the Richmond bankers obtained government permission to receive the assets. However, a Congressional resolution in late March 1867 ordered that the Treasury retain the funds.

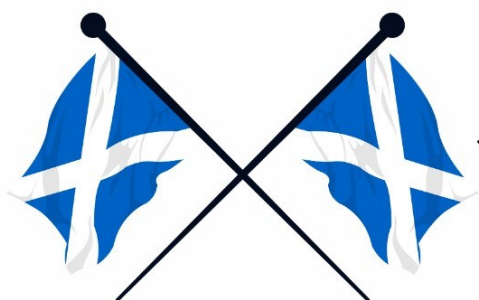
Throughout the 1870s and 1880s, attorneys for various claimants and successors tried to obtain the money. On June 22, 1893, the U.S. Court of Claims decreed that the claimants receive only \$16,987.88. Critics argue that the greatest thief became the United States government!





Decatur Celtic Festival

- Live Traditional Music
- Food Trucks
- Shortbread Competition
- Clan Wars
- Raffle Drawings
- Scottish-American Country Dance



May 4th 2024

Wise County Fairgrounds

3101 FM 51, Decatur, TX 76234

For more information, visit DecaturCelticFestival.com



Upcoming Events

DEC Meeting (<i>Waco</i>)	March 23, 2024
ATM Battle of Mansfield (<i>Mansfield LA</i>)	April 6, 2024
ASJ Camp Meeting	April 11, 2024
TX Div-Wide Confederate History Month Celebration	April 20, 2024
Medal of Honor Parade (<i>Gainesville</i>)	April 27, 2024
Decatur Celtic Festival	May 3-4, 2024
ASJ Camp Meeting	May 9, 2024
Texas Division Reunion (<i>San Antonio</i>)	June 7-9, 2024
ASJ Camp Meeting	June 13, 2024
Sam Davis Christian Youth Camp (<i>Gainesville</i>)	July 1-6, 2024
ASJ Camp Meeting	July 11, 2024
National Reunion (<i>Charleston, SC</i>)	July 16-21, 2024
ASJ Meeting	August 8, 2024
ASJ Meeting	September 12, 2024
ASJ Meeting	October 10, 2024
ASJ Meeting	November 14, 2024



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!

- Blanco State Park is located to the South of Blanco, TX at 101 Park Road 23, Blanco, TX 78606
- Location is 1 hr drive from SA, and Austin, 2 hrs from Waco, 3.5 hrs from Houston, and 4 hrs from Dallas.
- The historic CCC built Picnic Pavillon sits on the banks overlooking the beautiful spring fed Blanco River
- Enjoy the Texas Hill Country in the Spring time.
- Hiking, fishing, and bird watching!
- Camping and RV Hook Ups are available
- Pavillon features a playground, kitchen with stove, refrigerator, and large bbq grill on site.
- Bring your favorite Dish for an old fashioned potluck!
- Important Note: \$5.00 entrance fee per person is required for entry to the park (children under the age of 12 are free).

April 20, 2024
Save the Date!
Blanco State Park
Blanco, TX
Lunch at 12 Noon



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127th TEXAS DIVISION REUNION

SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

SAN ANTONIO

**ONLY 30 DAYS LEFT TO GET
YOUR EARLY BIRD SPECIALS!**

ALL ACCESS TO...
COMMANDER'S RECEPTION
MERITORIOUS AWARDS LUNCHEON
LONESTAR SOUTHERN BALL & BANQUET
ALL AT ONE AMAZING PRICE!

**\$150 per Couple,
\$85 for Singles.**

**GET YOUR TICKETS NOW AT
hoodstexasbrigade.net
SPECIALS END MARCH 31, 2024**

Any registrations that are postmarked March 30, will still be accepted. All remaining early bird registration specials will need to be emailed to:

*2024txdivreunion@scvhoods153.net OR
commander@scvhoods153.net on March 31!*