



Clarion Call



Texas Society, Military Order of Stars and Bars



Volume 2, Issue 2

August 2006

Page 1

FROM THE COMMANDER

Gary M. Loudermilk, Commander

As we enter the "Dog Days" of summer, it is a good time to reflect on this year's achievements and look forward to 2007.

Our "year" actually began in Nashville last July when the MOSB held its National Reunion completely separate from the SCV for the first time. Overall it was a successful event as we began to establish new guidelines under which future reunions will be held.

In May of this year we held the Texas Society Reunion in Waxahachie and had an above-average turn out and an outstanding meeting. I think the old hotel in which we met, plus the renovated courthouse and other sights to see, added to the participant's enjoyment of the reunion. Our guest speaker in the business meeting was Commander Jeff Massey and, as usual, he did a superb job.

We also had reports from several Society Officers regarding recruiting, communications, handling of dues, application processing, etc. I think we all left Waxahachie feeling we not only had a pleasant social event, but also a meaningful business meeting.

Meanwhile many of our Chapters have been very active in various ways to honor our ancestors, which, after all, is our primary mission. Some especially

note-worthy projects were undertaken and completed by Chapters 276, 273 and 264. Their efforts resulted in placing new monuments and markers, and they have a right to be justly proud of their achievements.

MOSB Scholarship Awards were again given to Texans with Janet Lynn Haynes of Tyler and Christopher James Block of Orange both winning a General Patrick R. Cleburne Scholarship.

In July the MOSB National Reunion was held in Mobile, Alabama and our Society was well represented there. Elsewhere in the newsletter is a report of that reunion by our Society Historian, David Whitaker, so I will not comment further on it, except to say that I personally thought it the best reunion we have had.

The Texas Society has the foundation and ability to be a leader of our great organization and as we approach 2007 I ask that each of you consider stepping forward and accepting personal responsibility for some activity, function or event that will benefit the Order.

The future looks good for the MOSB and each of us needs to be a part of it!

God Bless the South!

Gary M. Loudermilk
Commander, Texas Society

Clarion Call

Is published for members and friends of Texas Society, MOS&B.

Gary M. Loudermilk, Publisher

Bob G. Davidson, Editor

Any correspondence should be directed to Gary M. Loudermilk, Cmdr. Texas Society 2801 14th Street, Brownwood TX 76801 gmdl@bwoodtx.com



**Texas Society Officers
2005-2007**

Commander

Gary M. Loudermilk Brownwood, Texas
gmdl@bwoodtx.com

Lieutenant Commander

Jim Templin Ennis, Texas
hjtemp@sbcglobal.net

Chief of Staff/Editor

Bob G. Davidson Tyler, Texas
graycirce@cs.com

Adjutant

Gary L. Loudermilk Haskell, Texas
MOSB264@valornet.com

Judge Advocate

Ray Dickens Houston, Texas
dudensing@aol.com

Parliamentarian

Gary Bates Midland, Texas
gbates@johnsonmiller.com

Inspector General

Steve von Roeder Austin, Texas
Steve.vonRoeder@austinenergy.com

Genealogist

Henry Seale Texas City, Texas
henryseale@aol.com

Color Sergeant

Glenn Toal Ennis, Texas
glensuzy@ectisp.net

Historian

David Whitaker Kemah, Texas
d.e.whitaker@att.net

Chaplain

Ewell Loudermilk San Angelo, Texas
ewell.loudermilk@verizon.com

Communications Officer

Barney Hillburn Hallsville, Texas
kaynbarn@worldnet.att.net

FROM THE LT. COMMANDER

Jim Templin, Lt. Commander

It has been a really great year for the MOSB in Texas. We held our first stand alone State Convention in Waxahachie in May, and were well represented at the National Convention in Mobile in July. The local chapters seem to be doing well, although we did suffer some losses early on. I urge all local chapters to meet regularly, have a good program, and begin to plan projects. The best way to get the members involved is to give them something to do and to take pride in having done. The project of adopting a Confederate Officer's grave is one that all chapters should do. The cost is not that great, the work required is not too hard, and the benefits are great. Remember, it is our duty to our Confederate Officer ancestors to honor their service.

Jim Templin,
Lt. Commander, Texas Society



In This Issue

From the Commander	1
Texas Society Officers	2
From the Lt. Commander	2
Who Owns Beauvoir?	2
2006 National MOSB Reunion	3
Civil War Casualty	4
Beauvoir - July 20, 2006	4
The Funeral of Jefferson Davis	5
What is Going on in Texas Society	
Colonel B.H. Norsworthy #276	6
Colonel W.H. Parsons #273	6
First Engagement ... was in Texas	7
Last Ground Battle ... was in Texas	7
General Walter Payne Lane	Back

Who Owns Beauvoir?

Bob G. Davidson, Chief of Staff

Posted on the SCV Headquarters website: SCV wins title to Beauvoir

The download for this item is a letter from Edward E. Funchess on the letterhead of **Mississippi Division Sons of Confederate Veterans**, along with the six page **Order and Opinion of the Court**.

The letter begins:
"On June 29, 2006, I received word from our attorneys, the Hon. Wayne Easterling, and the Hon. Paul B. Johnson III, that the hearing in the matter of the Mississippi Division SCV versus the Beauvoir Board of Directors was favorably concluded by the Hon. Denise Owens, Chancellor, Chancery Court in Hinds County, Mississippi, and an ORDER has been issued, which I have attached."

That order names Plaintiffs:

Mississippi Division of the United Sons of Confederate Veterans, An Unincorporated Association, by and through Edward Funchess, its Commander; and Edward Funchess, Individually, and on Behalf of all Members of the Mississippi Division of the United Sons of Confederate Veterans

Defendants:

Mississippi Division of the United Sons of Confederate Veterans, A Mississippi Non-Profit Corporation; and Daniel P. Edney, Ron Stowers, Robert Murphree, Lamar Roberts, and Stan Newman, In Their Official Capacity as Directors of Said Corporation

Defendant is USCV, Inc. Plaintiff is USCV. SCV is not mentioned.

2006 Reunion of the Military Order of the Stars & Bars

David G. Whitaker, Texas Society Historian

The 2006 MOSB Annual Reunion was held July 21-22 in Mobile, Alabama, at the Marriott Hotel. Approximately 130 members, many with their wives, from all over the south and as far away as Alaska were there to celebrate our first "Stand-alone" Reunion in our 68 years of existence. Everyone conducted themselves as Southern Gentlemen. It was a very pleasant experience and many of the long-time members said it was the best Reunion yet.

Since it was an election year we were called upon to choose between two very capable men to be our new Commander General; Collin G. Pulley Jr. of Virginia and Philip Law of Alabama. A vote was taken and Philip Law was selected to be our new leader. We were very proud of fellow Texan, Dale Fowlkes, for giving a very stirring speech seconding the nomination. It is interesting to note that Texas had the most votes to cast in this election.

Dr. Anthony Hodges of Tennessee was unopposed for the position of Lt. Commander.

Ten Texans were present. They were: Commander of the Army of the Trans-Mississippi, Dale Fowlkes; ATM Councilor, Bob Crook; Texas Society Commander, Gary M. Loudermilk; Texas Society Lt. Commander, Jim Templin; Texas Society Chief of Staff, Bob Davidson; Texas Society Color Sergeant, Glen Toal, and Texas Society Historian, David Whitaker. Others are Will Bowen, Ross Leone, Jr. and George Perry.

Texans elected to leadership positions for 2006-2008 are Bob Crook, Commander of the Army of Trans-Mississippi, and Gary M. Loudermilk, Councilor for the Army of Trans-Mississippi.

All the members came away with a sense of unity and with the knowledge that the descendant society of Confederate Officers will be around for a long time.

Editor's Note: David Whitaker has accepted an appointment as an Aide-de-Camp to the General Executive Council.

MOSB National Reunion - Mobile, Alabama

Excerpts from Reports

Gentlemen, The MOSB Convention was well prepared and transpired with a wonderful, cooperative spirit. The Friday luncheon was at the Bragg Mitchell House with a program on the CSS Alabama. Saturday's luncheon was at the USS Alabama with a program on the CSS Hunley. The spirit of unity was wonderful. I really believe the MOSB will rise to new heights. I left Mobile encouraged.

John Killian

Gentlemen, Over 100 MOSB Members (not including family and guests) were in attendance at varying times. That is 5% of the entire membership. A very impressive turnout, when gas is

\$3/gallon. We missed PCG Dan Jones due to illness. But Lt. Commander General Collin Pulley covered, and did an excellent job of presiding. The General Staff was prepped and exceptionally capable. The Historical Symposia was a wonderful new addition to the convention schedule. Mr. Walter Brian Cisco, author of the new Wade Hampton book, was a guest speaker. Dr. Hodges and I spoke on the history of the United Confederate Veterans, and PCIC Earl Faggert spoke on Being a Patriotic Southerner in Modern Times. The Saturday Night Ball and Banquet was well attended with 100 men and ladies in attendance. The 5th Alabama Band came down from Tuscaloosa and did a fantastic job. They played for several hours and were greatly appreciated. The attendees heard from the Order's newest Honorary Member, Col. John Eidsmoe, who was unanimously approved by the convention delegates on Friday. Though from South Dakota, Colonel Eidsmoe is a great supporter of Southern Heritage. He is also a high-powered political, historical and theological scholar. He will certainly be a boon to the Order. Present during the banquet was "Joe Kane", and Mardi Gras revelers paraded through the attendees, tossing beads and coins.

The awards were presented, with

Dale Fowlkes, DCS, receiving the "Distinguished Commanders Status".

Anthony Hodges received the Robert E. Lee Chalice; George Valsame, Phil Law and Nick Warren received the MOSB Department Gold Stars. My hats off to all the attendees, the Alabama convention committee, the national convention committee and all of the attending delegates and families. It was a GREAT convention.

Jeff Massey, PCG, DCS MOSB



National Officer Election Results

Commander General Philip Law of Alabama
Lt. Commander General Anthony Hodges of Tennessee

Army of Northern Virginia Election Results

Commander Bret Bradshaw

Councilors Ray Gill and Rodney Williams

Army of Tennessee Officers Election Results

Commander John T. Mason

Councilors Danleigh Corbett and Buddy Burch

Army of the Trans-Mississippi Election Results

Gentlemen, I am pleased to report that the ATM elected the following quality men to office:

Commander Robert W. Crook

Councilors Gary M. Loudermilk and Nick Warren

This reunion was a pleasure from start to finish and a credit to our Order. The men of Alabama are to be congratulated for a job well done.

Dale Fowlkes, Past MOSB-ATM Commander

Civil War Casualty

Chattanooga Free Times Press
By Lauren Gregory, Staff Writer
Wednesday, July 26, 2006

A local Civil War enthusiast remained in critical condition at Erlanger hospital Tuesday after attempting to defuse a cannon shell that an explosives expert said likely was "just as live today as the day (it was) shot."

Lawrence Christopher, 63, was working in an outbuilding at his Dalton, Ga., home on Monday when the explosion occurred, according to reports from the Whitfield County Sheriff's Office. His grandson, Josh Locke, had been helping him, reports stated. Both victims were taken to Hamilton Medical Center in Dalton, where the grandson was treated and released. Mr. Christopher then was airlifted to Erlanger in Chattanooga, hospital officials confirmed. Immediately after the accident, emergency workers called a U.S. Department of Defense unit from Fort Benning, Ga., to inspect several more live explosive devices, the sheriff's office reported. Those devices were taken to a remote location Tuesday and destroyed. W.V. Ridley said he heard a loud explosion and found Mr. Christopher with severe head wounds and fingers dangling from his hand. Mr. Christopher and his grandson had been drilling a hole in the Civil War-era relic to flush out the powder inside, friend and fellow history buff Marvin Sowder said. Mr. Christopher had perfected that process after practicing it "hundreds of times," Mr. Sowder said.

Officials did not comment Tuesday on whether the projectile was recovered locally. Mr. Sowder called the resulting explosion a "freakish accident." He said Mr. Christopher sells items he obtains from "all over the country" on the Internet to make a living and is known in some circles as "the Godfather of relics." Mr. Sowder, equally passionate about the era, said he never would dare attempt to defuse an explosive shell himself. Neither would Chris Tolbert, special agent in charge of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation's Calhoun office. Joseph Kennedy, resident agent in charge of the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives office in Chattanooga, also said he would not attempt to defuse such a projectile. "The best thing to do is leave it alone," Mr. Tolbert said. Such explosives are filled with black powder, a substance that remains extremely heat- and friction-sensitive indefinitely if not exposed to moisture. The GBI's bomb squad does not attempt to remove powder from such devices, he added, opting

instead to destroy them with a remote device. Mr. Kennedy advises those who might come across a piece of ammunition with an uncertain history to take the precaution of calling local police or the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives' bomb hotline. "If a trained bomb technician won't drill into a cannonball, a regular individual shouldn't even think about it," he said.

Mr. Kennedy cautioned that accidents can occur in established collections, as well. "There's no telling how many cannonballs are sitting on peoples' bookshelves or mantles we don't know about," he said. "Unfortunately, it's only when things like this happen that we get a few calls."

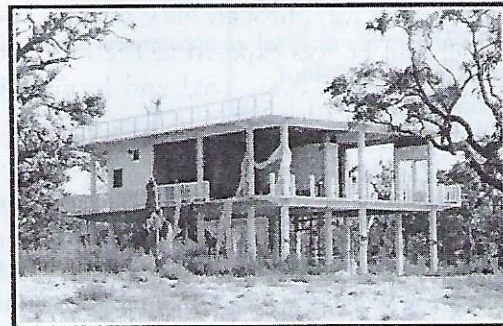
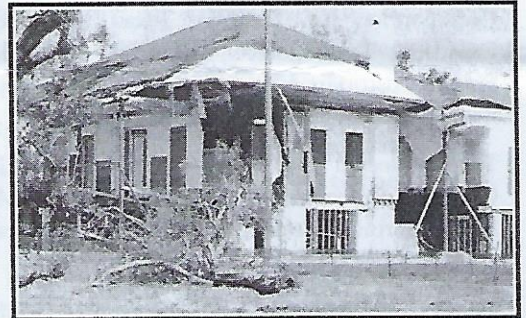
Staff writer Matt Anderson contributed to this story.

Beauvoir - July 20, 2006

Bob G. Davidson, Chief of Staff

On the way to the MOSB Reunion in Mobile, we drove the Mississippi coast, and visited Beauvoir.

Work is going on - machines are moving, and the property is fenced, with a gate keeper on duty.



Still, as you can see, even after eleven months, not even all the downed trees have been removed.

The scope of the damage on the coast is hard to realize from television. Just the volume of debris must have been overwhelming. How do you remove - and where do you put - hundreds of houses - and high rise buildings - and restaurants - not to mention trees and general trash?

The Funeral of Jefferson Davis

by Calvin Johnson, Kennesaw, Georgia 30152

The one hundred fifteenth anniversary of the death of Jefferson Davis will take place on December 6, 2004.

Many memorable observances will be sponsored to honor this American Icon.



Artist: Alonzo Chappel

Jefferson Davis graduated from West Point Military Academy, served valiantly during the War with Mexico, was Secretary of War under Franklin Pierce, was United States Senator from Mississippi and was President of the Confederate States of America. He also wrote, "The Rise and Fall of the Confederate Government."

Davis was the happiest, with wife Varina, at their last home that was called "Beauvoir". Beauvoir, today, is a memorial shrine to Jefferson Davis with museum and Presidential Library. Located on the Mississippi Gulf Coast it is open daily. (Editor's note: This article was written prior to Hurricane Katrina of 2005.)

Jefferson Davis left Beauvoir, in November 1889, on a trip to the plantation called Brierfield. There, he took care of family business. On the way through New Orleans the weather turned colder and he was exposed to the rain and cold. Davis came down with a severe cold and bronchitis that was further complicated by Malaria.

Milo Cooper, a former servant to the Davis family, traveled the long distance from Florida when he heard that Davis was sick. It is written that, upon entering Davis' sick room in New Orleans, Louisiana, Cooper burst into tears and threw himself on his knees in prayer that God would spare the life of Davis and bless his family.

Varina was by her husband's side when Jefferson Davis died between 12:30 and 1:00 on the morning of December 6, 1889.

The news of Davis' death was front page news of many Southern newspapers. The praises and tributes read similar to this one from New Orleans:

"Throughout the South there are lamentations and tears; in every country on the globe where there are lovers of liberty there is mourning; wherever there are men who admire heroic patriotism; dauntless resolution, fortitude, or intellectual power and supremacy, there is sincere sorrowing. The beloved of our land, the unfaltering upholder of constitutional liberty, the typical hero and sage, is no more; the fearless heart that beats with sympathy for all mankind is stilled forever, a great light is gone - - - -
- Jefferson Davis Is Dead!"

Varina Davis was said to have been in a state of shock over the death of her husband. Their daughter Margaret accepted the many letters of condolences that arrived, including telegrams from every governor of the former Confederate states. The first came from Louisiana's Governor Francis T. Nichols and Mississippi's Governor Robert Lowry.

The mortal body of Jefferson Davis laid in state at the city hall of New Orleans from midnight on December 6th to the 11th. He was dressed in Confederate gray and flowers adorned the city hall. Confederate flags and the Union flag were hung from above. Thousands of mourners came from out of town to join the residents of New Orleans to pay their respects to the man who once was the South's beloved leader. The men saluted their former leader and the women bowed their heads in prayer. Tears filled the eyes of young people who were born at the time Jefferson Davis was president of the Confederacy. The church bells rang throughout the city.

Those who served as honor guards at the city hall were men of the Army of Northern Virginia Association, the Army of Tennessee, and the Washington Artillery who were in constant attendance.

On December 11, 1889, twenty thousand people lined the streets of New Orleans as the body of Jefferson Davis was taken, by funeral carriage, to Metairie Cemetery in the crescent city. The funeral procession included those who wore the gray during the War Between the States. All flags flew at half mast. Metairie was a temporary burial site. In 1893, Davis was reburied in Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond, Virginia.

It is sad that the War Department of the United States did not lower the United States flag in his honor. Jefferson Davis was the only former Secretary of War who had ever been denied the honor.

Jefferson Davis, today, is studied and admired by those who believe in constitutional government and freedom.

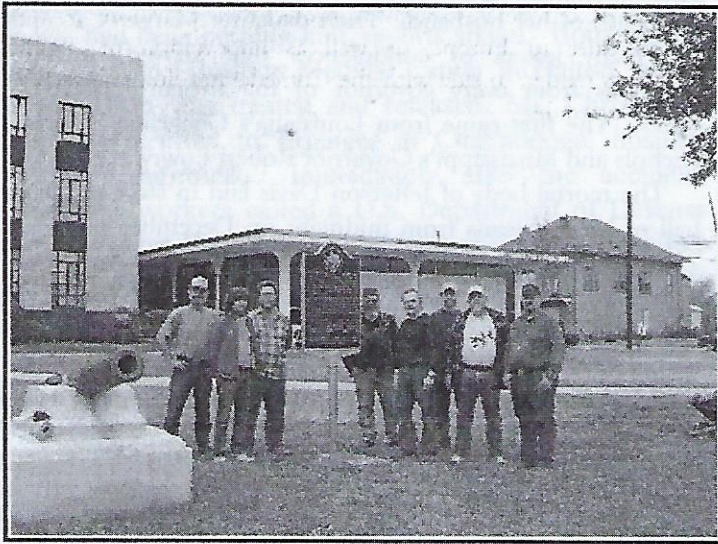
The information for this letter comes from an article in the 1990, first quarter, edition of Southern Partisan Magazine. The article was entitled, "Jefferson Davis' Death" and was written by Peggy Robbins.

WHAT IS GOING ON IN THE TEXAS SOCIETY

Col. B.H. Norsworthy Chapter 276, Orange Orange County and the Civil War Installation of Texas State Historical Marker

Granvel J. Block

Work crew after installing the Texas State Historical Marker on the Orange County Court House lawn. Shown in the picture are members of the Col. Benjamin H. Norsworthy Chapter 276, and Walter P. Lane Camp 1745, of Orange, Texas.



L/R Kenny Peveto, Rick Smith, Ray Broomes, Allen Connel, Granvel Block, Bobby Tisdale, Mike Bean, and Greg Lambert

ORANGE COUNTY AND THE CIVIL WAR

SHORTLY AFTER THE VOTERS OF ORANGE COUNTY AND TEXAS APPROVED SECESSION IN 1861, THREE MILITARY COMPANIES WERE RAISED IN THE COUNTY FOR CONFEDERATE SERVICE; THE ORANGE LIGHT GUARD, THE ORANGE GREYS AND HANNAH'S COMPANY.

ADDITIONAL FORCES, INCLUDING THE ORANGE COUNTY COAST GUARD AND SEVERAL COMPANIES OF STATE TROOPS, WERE LATER RAISED FOR LOCAL DEFENSE.

ORANGE COUNTY, TEN MILES SOUTH OF THE NIBLETT'S BLUFF LOCATION OF C.S.A. CAMP PLEASANT IN LOUISIANA, WAS PART OF AN IMPORTANT ROUTE FOR CONFEDERATE FORCES AND SUPPLIES.

A C.S.A. POST OFFICE WAS LOCATED AT ORANGE IN 1861.

THE TEXAS AND NEW ORLEANS RAILROAD WAS OPENED THROUGH THE COUNTY, THOUGH VARIOUS PROBLEMS RENDERED IT UNSERVICEABLE THROUGH MUCH OF THE WAR. RUMORS OF A FEDERAL ATTACK ON THE COAST IN 1863 PROMPTED STEPPED-UP DEFENSE PREPARATIONS. A PRIMARY SUPPLY DEPOT WAS ESTABLISHED IN JULY TO SERVE NEARBY CAMP PLEASANT AND A CONFEDERATE HOSPITAL OPENED IN ORANGE.

LOCAL PREPAREDNESS PROVIDED AN ADDITIONAL DETERRENT TO U.S. TROOPS AT THE BATTLE OF SABINE PASS IN SEPTEMBER. AFTER THE CONFEDERATE SURRENDER IN 1865, OCCUPATION FORCES LED BY THE 37TH ILLINOIS VOLUNTEERS ARRIVED IN ORANGE COUNTY, AND RECONSTRUCTION SOON FOLLOWED.

TEXAS SESQUICENTENNIAL 1836-1986

Col. W. H. Parsons Chapter #273 Military Order of the Stars and Bars Report for July 30, 2006

The Col. W. H. Parsons Chapter, located in Ennis, Texas has had an active year. The highlight of this year was the dedication of the marker placed in honor of Capt. Simon Bowden Farrar in the Smith Cemetery near Ennis. The dedication was attended by approximately one hundred people. The chapter had raised the \$350.00 to buy the marker, which is gray granite and measures eighteen by thirty inches, and tells the story of the accomplishments of Capt. Farrar. This is the third marker this chapter has placed; the first two to Col. Lowrance and Capt. Edmund Creuzbaur.

At our quarterly meeting on July 27, the members voted to adopt the grave of Captain Mark Latimer and his family in the Myrtle Cemetery in Ennis. We will obtain the "Cross of Honor" for his grave, and will landscape the family plot. Capt. Latimer's wife was one of the founders of the Daffan-Latimer Chapter of the UDC in Ennis.

Two of our members attended the National Reunion in Mobile, with Jim Templin serving as Sergeant-at-Arms and Glenn Toal as the assistant.

The chapter meets quarterly, on the fourth Thursday of the first month of each quarter.

*The First Engagement
of the Late Unpleasantness Was in Texas*
Civil War Event to be Commemorated

2/17/2006 Posted By: Jim Forsyth

A reenactment is planned on Alamo Plaza (San Antonio, Texas) Saturday to mark the 145th anniversary of the little known first confrontation of the Civil War, the surrender of the federal Department of Texas to a militia of the new Confederate government of Texas headed by legendary Texas Ranger Ben McCullough.

The surrender was in reality the first 'engagement' of the Civil War, and it netted the new Confederate forces badly needed supplies, according to Doug Vair. "The United States Army in Texas had a huge cache of munitions, cannons, weapons, artillery, rifles, supplies, tents, all to supply a large array of forts across the Indian Territory of west Texas. The surrender of Maj. Gen. David Twiggs and the several hundred men under his command on February 18, 1861 followed quickly after Texas' lightning decision to secede.

"A special session of the Texas Legislature was called in mid-January of 1861 and appointed a secession convention, which voted overwhelmingly to secede from the union and join the five southern states which had already committed to the Confederacy. Texas Governor Sam Houston, who opposed secession, was removed from office.

"The new Texas government then sent Colonel McCullough at the head of a thousand man Texas militia to take all of these supplies of the US Army and get General Twiggs to surrender. These supplies actually sustained the Confederate Army during the early days of the war. So in fact, the Confederate Army retook the Alamo from the US Government in February of 1861."

Twiggs, who was a Southerner, was cashiered for treason by the Buchanan Administration in Washington, and eventually resigned his commission and was made an officer in the Confederate Army, and for a time was the Confederate military governor of New Orleans. He died in 1862. Vair points out that one of the most interesting sidelights of the Twiggs surrender was the actions of a colonel of Twiggs' staff named Robert E. Lee. "He was stationed overseeing the forts in west Texas," Vair said. "When he heard what was happening, Lee rode in and was told by the Texas rangers that he had to surrender. Lee said he wasn't going to surrender to anybody, and he went off to Virginia to ponder his future, and the rest is history."

Editor's Note:

On February 13, 1861, General Scott ordered his (Robert E. Lee's) return to Washington to assume command of the Union army.

*The Last Ground Battle
of the Late Unpleasantness Was in Texas*
Battle of Palmito Ranch

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The American Civil War **Battle of Palmito Ranch** was fought on May 12 and May 13, 1865, and in the kaleidoscope of events following the surrender of Robert E. Lee's army, was nearly ignored. It was the last major clash of arms in the war.

Early in 1865, both sides in Texas made a gentlemen's agreement that there was no point to further hostilities. By that time, most Union troops had pulled out from Texas for campaigns in the east. The Confederates sought to protect their remaining ports for cotton sales to Europe, as well as importation of supplies. Mexicans tended to side with the Confederates due to a lucrative smuggling trade.

Why the needless battle even happened remains something of a mystery — perhaps Union Colonel Theodore H. Barrett had political aspirations. Neither local exports of cotton nor Mexican smuggling had a significant effect on the war. Barrett certainly had very little military experience. It has since been suggested that he had seen little to no combat during the war, and felt to bolster his political desires after the war, he needed to establish a reputation as a *war hero*, possibly reasoning that most of the opposing candidates he would likely later face during an election would most likely be former military men. Barrett instructed Lieutenant Colonel David Branson to attack the rebel encampment at Brazos Santiago Depot near Fort Brown outside Brownsville, commanded by Confederate Major John "Rip" Ford.

Union forces marched upriver from Brazos Santiago to attack the Confederate encampment, and were at first successful, due to the Confederates being under the understanding that hostilities had ceased. However, after some confusion and bitter fighting, the Union forces were then driven back by a relief Confederate force. The next day, the Union forces attacked again, and again to initial success and later failure. Ultimately, the Union force retreated to the coast.

There were 118 Union casualties. Confederate casualties were "a few dozen" wounded, none killed. Like the war's first big battle at First Bull Run, which also yielded little gain for either side, the battle is recorded as a Confederate victory. Like the Battle of New Orleans, it occurs after the war was over and therefore could not affect the outcome. Texas armies formally surrendered on May 26, 1865; Confederate general Kirby Smith surrendered his forces in the Trans-Mississippi Department on June 2.

It is worth noting that private John J. Williams of the 34th Indiana Volunteer Infantry was the last man killed at the Battle at Palmito Ranch, and probably the last combat casualty of the war.



Newsletter of the
Texas Society, Military Order of the Stars and Bars
Gary M. Loudermilk, Commander
2801 14th Street, Brownwood TX 76801

Opinions expressed herein are the opinions of individual writers, and do not necessarily reflect official positions of the organization.



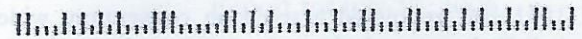
Military Order of the Stars and Bars Pledge

We, the posterity of the Officer Corps and Civil Officials of the Confederacy, do pledge ourselves to commemorate and honor the service of leadership these men rendered in the Cause of the fundamental American principles of self determination and States' Rights and to perpetuate the true history of their deeds for the edification of ourselves, our society, and for generations yet unborn.

7570339433 R045



#261 BOB G DAVIDSON
10858 MOSSWOOD DR
TYLER, TX 75703



WALTER PAYE LANE

1817 - 1892



A native of Ireland, Lane was born in County Cork, February 18, 1817. The family emigrated to America in 1821 and settled in Guernsey County, Ohio.

At the age of 18 Lane went to Louisville and then to Texas where he fought in the battle of San Jacinto.

He cruised the Gulf of Mexico as a crewman of a Texas privateer, fought Indians, taught school, and served during the Mexican War as a captain of a company of rangers.

Between 1849 and 1858 he spent much of his time in mining in California, Nevada, Arizona, and Peru, making and losing several small fortunes.

Lane was elected lieutenant colonel of the 3rd Texas Cavalry, July 2, 1861, with which unit he fought at Pea Ridge (Elkhorn Tavern). He was active in Louisiana in 1863 and fought in the Red River campaign the following year where he was severely wounded in the battle of Mansfield. He was recommended for promotion by Gen. Kirby Smith and was commissioned brigadier general to rank from March 17, 1865, being confirmed by the Confederate Senate the very last day that body met. Lane's brigade was composed of the Texas cavalry regiments of Lane, Baylor, Chisholm, Madison, Walker, and Carter in the division of Maj. Gen. John A. Wharton, ATM.

After the war he returned home to Marshall, Texas, where he was a merchant and wrote his memoirs. As the years passed he became symbolic of the heroic age in Texas history and was long the idol of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas and the United Daughters of the Confederacy.

Never married, he passed in Marshall, Texas, January 28, 1892, and is buried there in Old City Cemetery.