



THE MARSHALL GUARDIAN *IN MEMORY OF THE HARRISON COUNTY BOYS*



Dedicated to the memory of the **Sergeant William Williston Heartsill** Company F 2nd Texas Cavalry, C.S.A

Next Meeting...

Tuesday,

April 21st, 2026

6:30 P.M.

Program:

Frank Crisp. More unknown Confederate Facts.



Jose Tequila Restaurant

**1205 East End Blvd.
South**

Marshall, TX 75672

Phone:

903-472-5695

Bring a Friend



2025 Texas Division Awards: Superior Camp Award, Four Star Camp Award, 100% Retention Award, Best Camp Newsletter Award.

2025 SCV National Outstanding Camp Award, 2023 & 2024 SCV National, ATM Superior Camp Winner

Greeting Compatriots:

There is a great deal to be excited about as we head into April, and I am proud of the energy and dedication this Camp continues to show. It has been gratifying to watch our membership grow this year. We already sworn in two new members in 2026, and this month we welcome yet another, T.J. Burrow Sr. Please join me in extending a warm welcome to him as he joins our Camp family.

This month also marks a proud milestone for our community visibility. Our new permanent Camp sign on S. Washington is now in place, and I want to extend my sincere thanks to the members who gave their time to make that installation happen. Our Highway 59 billboard is also going back up soon, and by the time you are reading this, it is proudly on display. As always, the billboard serves to recognize and celebrate April as Confederate History Month, a powerful and public reminder of the history we are committed to honoring and preserving. I also want to again extend my heartfelt thanks to our cemetery cleanup crew for their continued dedication to preserving the graves of our fallen veterans. Our program this month features our Adjutant, Frank Crisp, presenting on Texans who accomplished truly remarkable things. I encourage everyone to be present for it. At our March meeting our Camp formally endorsed Charles Lauret for SCV 1st Lt. Commander in Chief. Beyond our regular meeting, the ATM picnic at Mansfield and the Battle of Pleasant Hill re-enactment are both on the calendar in April offering opportunities to gather with SCV Brothers and honor our ancestors' history.

In your service, Website address, wwheartsill.org

Robb McMahan, Commander

Camp Meeting, March 17th. Pictures by Albert Colvin



Robb gets our meeting going.



1st Lt. Commander Pete



2nd Lt. Commander Daryl



Charles & Charles



David, Bobby & Phil



Mr. & Mrs. James Meador



Dave & Tommy



Larry Morrow, Owen & Pete



Randy reports on sign



Swearing in Brian Morrow



New member Brian Morrow



TJ Sr. introduces himself



TJ Burrow Jr. new MOS&B



Charles Lauret



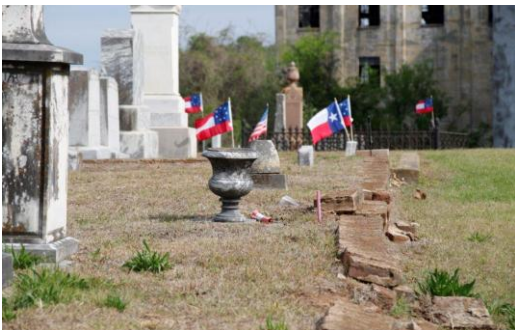
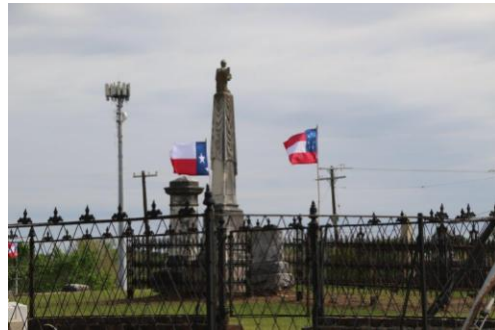
Our endorsement for Lt. CinC

Camp's mini billboard on S. Washington March 20th, 2026, photos by Albert



Thanks for all who came and helped. Thanks to Keith for the location.

Cemetery flagging 3/28, getting ready for Confederate Heritage month. Pictures by Albert



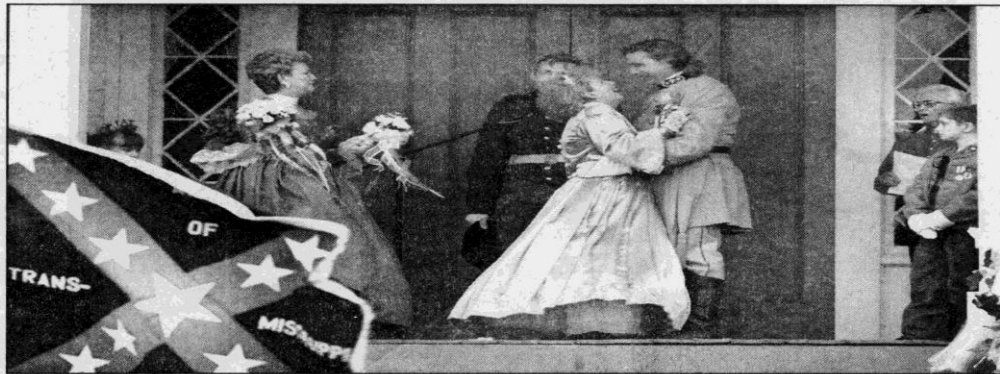
Remembering Mrs. Lynda



Yellow Roses on left from our Camp



Her Ladies Appreciation medals



Lynda Estes and Paul Gramling stand on the porch of the Caspiana House on the campus of LSU after joining in marriage Saturday afternoon. Participants wore full attire from the 1860s. Jim Hudelson/The Times

Wedding steps back into history

■ Celebration included Confederate traditions, attire.

By Brian Allen
The Times

Paul Gramling Jr. and Lynda Estes have an extraordinary love of their Southern heritage. So when the couple got married Saturday, no ordinary wedding would suffice.

Surrounded by about 100 guests, almost all dressed in the attire of the 1860s, Gramling and Estes had a Confederate wedding on the steps of LSU's Caspiana House. Gramling was clad in the uniform of a Confederate general, Estes in a gray satin five-bone hoop skirt trimmed in roses made of seed pearls.

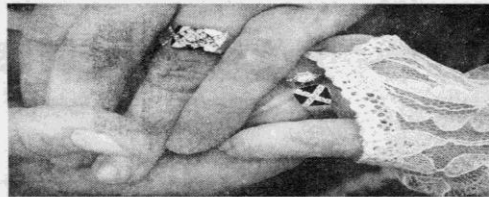
Tuning out youth soccer being played a few hun-

Online

To see more photos from the wedding, click on **Photo Gallery** at www.shreveporttimes.com about midday Monday.

dred yards away and traffic passing nearby on East Kings Highway, it was possible to imagine oneself in an entirely different era. As the couple kissed, a cannon was fired in the background and they walked from the steps under a saber arch in the arms of well-wishers.

Traditions change throughout time. But on any day in any era, a wedding is time for celebration. The couple met in 1997 at a national convention for their respective organizations in Nashville. The



Estes and Gramling chose rings with St. Andrew's cross, one of many designs used on Confederate flags.

groom is commander of the Sons of Confederate Veterans Army of the Trans-Mississippi. The bride is chaplain of the Louisiana Division of United Daughters of the Confederacy.

Both said the unusual wedding was the only wedding for them.

"This was something we both wanted to do. And with April being Confederate History Month, this was the perfect time to do it," Paul Gramling said. "It's an opportunity to get married in a way that my ancestors might have gotten married."

■ See WEDDING 3B

Wedding: National commander in chief gives bride away

■ Continued from 1B

"There was no other decision. We had both been involved in our organizations for several years," Lynda Gramling said. "I've always been interested in my Southern heritage and history. I just want to mark graves, make sure monuments stay in place and teach the truth."

Edwin L. Deason, national commander in chief of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, was on hand to give away the bride. "I think it's an honor. It's just in observance and a wealth of respect for what we can be proud of here."

Deason said that while these weddings aren't necessarily a daily oc-

currence, he receives several invitations throughout the course of the year. "It's definitely enough to keep me busy."

The ceremony was performed by Keenan Williams, chaplain for the Army of the Trans-Mississippi. He read traditional period vows from a Methodist prayer book dating to the 1860s. It's usually kept in a glass case and only brought out for special events such as this.

"I perform about one of these a year, and I enjoy doing it," Williams said. "There are a couple of things in life that are times to really put on a celebration. Couples do different things for their weddings, but this is fine."

Confederate history month events

Today: Battle of Pleasant Hill re-enactment at 2 p.m. at the battleground two miles north of Pleasant Hill on state Highway 175. A chartering ceremony for the Col. James Hamilton Beard Camp of the Sons of Confederate Veterans at Evergreen Cemetery near Kingston in DeSoto Parish has been canceled.

Thursday: Col. James Hamilton Beard Camp Sons of Confederate Veterans banquet at 7 p.m. at Logansport Chamber of Commerce.

April 20: open house and reception from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at Natchitoches Art Center on Second Street in Natchitoches. A reception will be at 6 p.m.

April 28: memorial service at 2 p.m. at Ramah Cemetery near Ashland in Natchitoches Parish.

April 29: Confederate headstone dedication at 2 p.m. at Wallace Baptist Church near Butler in DeSoto Parish.



Sons of Confederate Veterans
Army of Trans-Mississippi



ATM Field Day!

on the Battlefield!

Saturday April 18, 2026

This year's event will be returning to the Mansfield Battle Park in Mansfield, La. This year's program with focus on the role of troops from Texas, Arkansas, Missouri as well as Partisan troops in the Red River Campaign!

So plan to spend the day celebrating our Honorable History and Heritage!

SAVE the DATE!!

Speakers!

★

Food!

★



Music!

★

Games!

★

Fellowship!

10:30 to 2:30

Battle for Jefferson

CIVIL WAR REENACTMENT

Produced by the Historic Jefferson Foundation, an All Volunteer Committee and the Men and Women of the Trans-Mississippi Volunteer Infantry



Locations: Throughout
Historic Downtown
Jefferson and
Cypress River Ranch,
1552 FM 2203,
Jefferson, TX

Event Headquarters located at
The Jeffersonian Institute,
120 East Austin Street



FRIDAY, MAY 1st

ALL DAY Ticket Sales & Re-enactor Registration

ALL DAY Period Sutlers

9AM - 1:30PM Student Living History

7:30 - 10PM Illumination at Oakwood Cemetery

SATURDAY, MAY 2nd

ALL DAY Ticket Sales & Re-enactor Registration

ALL DAY Period Sutlers

10AM Pilgrimage Parade & Town Skirmish

11:15AM "Secret Codes of the Underground Railroad" by Pleasant Hill Quilters

2PM Ladies' Tea

4PM 1st Battle for Jefferson Re-enactment

8 - 11PM "Muskets & Magnolias" Grand Ball

SUNDAY, MAY 3rd

9AM - Close Period Sutlers

9AM Period Church Service

10AM Presentation of Colors

1:30PM 2nd Battle for Jefferson Re-enactment

MAY 1-3, 2026

Come to Jefferson and celebrate our American history! Registration & advance tickets:
www.BattleforJefferson.com
(903) 733-1035

10 AM parade start



Sons of Confederate Veterans
129th Annual Texas Division Reunion
 Tyler, Texas June 5-6, 2026
 Hosted by Walker's Greyhounds Camp #2338, Tyler, Texas



Name: _____

Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

SCV Camp Name: _____ Number _____ Division _____

Current Rank, Title, or Position: _____

Spouse Name (For Name Badge): _____

Note: Please only provide your spouse's name if they are attending a Reunion Meal or Tour.

Holiday Inn & Conference Center Tyler
5701 South Broadway, Tyler, Texas 75703 ~ Phone 903-561-5800
SCV Convention Rate includes Full Hot Breakfast Buffet
\$ 129.00 per Night + taxes

For SCV rate, rooms must be reserved by May 22, 2026

Date	Time	Event	Price	Qty	Total
SCV REUNION EARLY BIRD	March 1, 2026	Includes ticket for Commander's Reception, Awards Luncheon, Tour and Grand Ball (\$175.00 value)	\$150.00		
Friday, June 5, 2026	7:30 PM	Commander's Reception- Desserts, Cobblers, Brownies and Coffee	\$25.00		
Saturday, June 6, 2026	12:00 PM	SCV Awards Luncheon- Chicken Fried Steak, Salad, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Rolls, Banana Puddin'	\$35.00		
Saturday, June 6, 2026	2:00 PM	Tour of Tyler - Goodman Mansion, Ordnance Plant site, Camp Ford site, and "Spirits of Oakwood" Tour Oakwood Cemetery, Air Conditioned Bus provided.	\$50.00		
Saturday, June 6, 2026	7:00 PM	SCV Banquet/Grand Ball	\$60.00		
Ancestor Memorials ~ Each		<i>You Must Submit Ancestor Info on Separate Form</i>	\$10.00		
Extra Reunion Medal		Note: 1 Medal is included with your registration, order extras here	\$25.00		
		FINAL TOTAL - Registration, Tours, Extra Medals			

ENTREE CHOICE FOR SOUTHERN BALL AND BANQUET YOU MUST CHOOSE ONE:

- _____ CHOICE #1 BEEF TENDERLOIN
 _____ CHOICE #2 LEMON PEPPER CHICKEN

Please Make Checks Payable to: "Sons of Confederate Veterans #2338"
Mail the Form & Check to 733 W 3rd Ave. Corsicana, TX 75110

James J. Briggs Co. H, 1st Texas Inf. 1836-1928

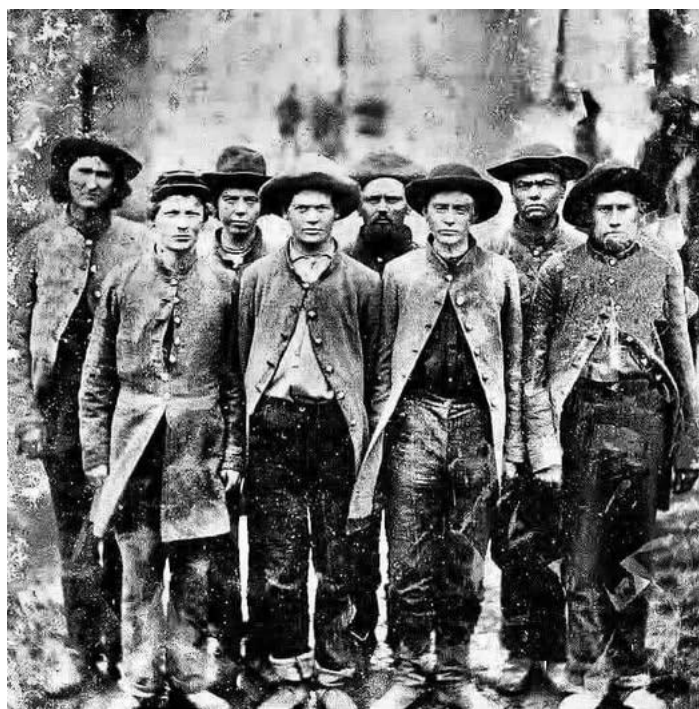
Karen and I were going to one of TJ's baseball games in Tatum and I pushed her to go early so we could go to Harris Chapel Cemetery 5 miles off Hwy 43 on FM 959. I was taking her to the graves of her G-Grandparents. I drove around the cemetery until I found their grave and then I saw a Battle Flag flying on a 6ft steel pole. The flag was in terrible shape. I walked over to the grave and saw a normal tombstone for James J. Briggs and at its foot was a VA marker that had been laid flat. He was a member of the "Hoods Brigade" Co. H, 1st Texas. That was why there was a Battle Flag as he fought under the Army of Northern Virginia.

James Jefferson Briggs was born on July 4th, 1836 at Woodfort County KY. And he died on Sept. 26, 1928 at the Confederate Soldiers Home in Austin, TX. At age 92. He had 4 children, 2 daughters and 2 sons. He lost his wife Amanda after 37 years of marriage in 1902.

He joined service at Palestine and traveled with the others to New Orleans where he was sworn in on June 24, 1861 and they were shipped to Richmond. For most of 1862 he served as a wagon teamster and ambulance driver. Something went wrong in Jan. 1863 as he was AWOL for Jan. Feb., & March; he was captured by an Alabama Cavalry unit and returned. In May of 1863 he was court marshaled and lost a month's pay as his fine. On Oct. 27th, 1863 he was severely wounded at Darby Town Rd. VA. Records of the General Hospital #9 in Richmond shows he laid wounded in the field for 2 days and they removed a ball from near his spine that also broke the 10th rib, they also removed a large piece of cloth from his coat as the ball passed through. He was sent to St. Francis de Sales Hospital in Richmond. From there he was sent to a hospital in Brookhaven, MS for 60 days, from there he was sent to Way Hospital in Meridian, MS. and then was furloughed with Lee's surrender in April 1865 he was done. He has family buried around him but I don't know who placed the flagpole. The next time I went to a ballgame I placed a new flag on his grave. Rest in Peace!



Private D.M. Walker of Navarro County, Texas member of the Corsicana Invincibles that formed part of the Marshall Guards, Company E, 1st Texas Infantry. Discharged prior to the Second Battle of Manassas for being underage, he chose to stay and fight with his friends. He was killed in action August 29th 1862.



During the American Civil War, the average Soldier, North and South, was 25 years old. He stood around 5 ft. 8 inches tall, and weighed about 147 lbs.

The odds of being killed in battle were 1 in 65, and of being wounded 1 in 10. Around 1 in 12 would die of disease. They came from all walks of life.

Pictured is the 20th Tennessee Infantry Regiment, typical of both Confederate and Federal Regiments. When we see images of slain men on the field of battle, we have to remember that for every fallen man, there would be approximately 4 or 5 more who were wounded.

We're fortunate to be able to utilize original images as a resource and reference to help with our impressions, however we must not forget these were real men with very real lives, hopes, and dreams.

A Surprise Award



NON-CAMP BALLENTINE AWARD RECIPIENT

During our annual Lee-Jackson Banquet on January 31st, it was announced that the 2025 recipient of the George H. Ballentine Memorial Service Award was our Camp First Lieutenant Commander Jim Pederson.

For the past several years, we have been awarding a George H. Ballentine Memorial Service Award, which includes a certificate and medal, to a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans **outside** our camp that demonstrates the same ideals and principles that George Ballentine did. It was announced during our Lee-Jackson Banquet that this year's recipient was William M. "Bill" Elliott, of the W.W. Heartsill Camp #314, in Marshall. Compatriot Elliott is the Commander of the 5th Brigade, Chairman of the Texas Division Awards Committee, Chairman of the Texas Division Guardian Program, and Texas Division Chief of Staff.

Camp Commander Jonathan Bozeman awarded Compatriot Elliott with his certificate and medal during the Texas Division Executive Committee (DEC) meeting on Saturday, March 7.



In Memory of the Confederate Companies from Marshall & Harrison County, Texas

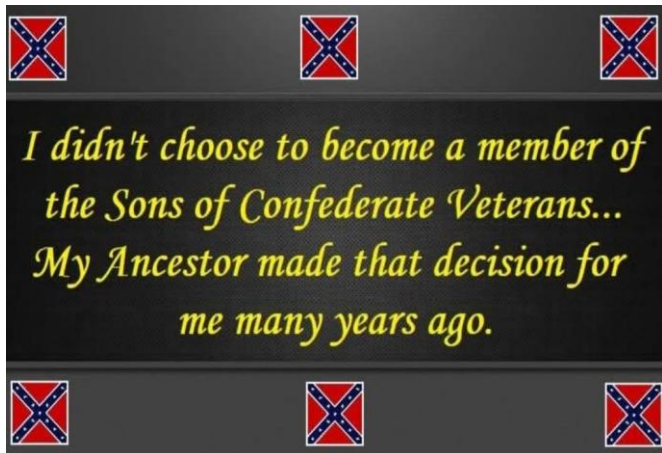
2nd Texas Cavalry Co. F “Walter P. Lane Rangers”
 3rd Texas Cavalry Co A “The Texas Hunters”
 1st Texas Infantry Co. E “The Marshall Guards”
 7th Texas Infantry Co. D “Bass Greys”
 7th Texas Infantry Co. H “Texas Invincibles”
 17th Texas Cavalry Co. E “Hendricks Company”
 17th Texas Cavalry Co. K “Clough Rangers”
 14th Texas Infantry Co. B “Clough and Hill Avengers”
 14th Texas Infantry Co A. “Marshall Mechanics”
 14th Texas Infantry Co. H “Cypress Tigers”
 8th Texas Cavalry Co. F “Harrison County Lancers”
 1st Cavalry Regiment TX Partisans Rangers Co. E
 1st Cavalry Regiment TX Partisans Rangers Co. L

Captain Sam J. Richardson
 Captain T. W. Winston
 Captain F. S. Bass
 Captain K M Van Zandt
 Captain W. B. Hill
 Captain S. B. Hendricks
 Captain Gil McKay
 Captain W. L. Pickens
 Captain N. S. Allen
 Captain John Miller
 Captain Phil Brown
 Captain Hec McKay
 Captain Stephen Webb





We will be passing the Bucket at our meetings for the Flag replacement fund, billboard fund and the newsletter fund.



**Parting thoughts
We must keep on fighting for our ancestors**

2026 Camp Leadership

Robb McMahan
Camp Commander
 (310) 490-4341
 Email: robb@lastrebel.net

Pete Craig
1st Lt Commander
 (903) 926-9990
 Email:petecraig@shreve.net

Daryl P. Ware
2nd Lt. Commander
 (903) 742-1366
 darylware@gmail.com

Frank Crisp
Adjutant/Treasurer
 3478 Strickland Springs Road
 Marshall, TX 75672
 (903) 578-0090
 Email: ftc_785@hotmail.com

Dick Brassell
Chaplain
 479-544-3717
 Pennyb2@hotmail.com

T.J. Henigan
Sgt. at Arms
 (903) 407-2185

Bill Elliott Editor
 903-263-9092 etaia@att.net

March & April Camp members anniversaries and birthdays

April SCV entry dates: 4/16/21 Keith Finklea, TJ Henigan, 4/25/2018, Josh Thomas, 4/16/2021.

April Birthdays: Bill Elliott, 4/2/1957, Chris Hurley 4/19/1969. Robb McMahan, 4/30/1966, Tom Ware 4/7/1968, Spence Williams, 4/7/1958.

May SCV entry dates: Larry Joe Reynolds, 5/19/2014, Pat Tomberlain, 5/27/2015

May birthdays: Rex McGee, 5/19/1947,