

# The Griffin Messenger

The Monthly Newsletter of the  
Colonel William H. Griffin SCV Camp #2235  
July, 2014                      Volume 2, Issue 7

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 General,  
United Confederate Veterans

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## Officers & Staff

Commander - Jeff Western  
Lt. Commander - Jack Dyess  
Adjutant - Don Brannon  
Chaplain - Bill Agerton  
Webmaster - David Soriano  
Editor - Celia Brannon

**Our next meeting will be Tuesday, July 1, at 6:30 pm  
Don Cruz, Mexican Restaurant  
3155 Denton Highway, Haltom City**



# Commander's Report

Hello!

It's already time to plan for our next meeting again. Last month we lost one of our auxilliary members, Jan Cowley. Jan was a true historian and honored her ancestors in many lineage groups. Our condolences go to her family, she will be missed by our camp. I am sorry I missed her funeral; I was out of town working.

In July we will be meeting in the main part of the restaurant at Don Cruz's in the area where we had our Chartering meeting. The reason for this is that they have had to start charging to use the private rooms due to the cost of turning on the separate air conditioning. He said he didn't want us to leave and had no problem at all with us using the other area for meetings including the programs.

The Texas Division Reunion was very good. Our members had a chance to meet and talk with several other members and their wives from all over the state and even with Commander in Chief Michael Givens. I learned a lot while visiting with everyone. I will be awarding the Division awards that were presented to some of our camp members at the meeting.

There will be some major changes ahead for our camp in the very near future.

Jeff Western

Commander Camp 2235

# Lt. Commander's Report

Our next camp meeting will be 6:30 PM for food and 7:00 PM for the program Tuesday, July 1 at Don Cruz's Seafood and Mexican Grill, 3155 Denton Hwy., Haltom City, TX, 76117. This will probably be our last meeting at this location. The owner has told us that in the future we the meeting room will require a \$100 rental. Please try to think of a place we can meet and share it with the group at the next meeting.

The Texas SCV Division gave special recognition to several of our members at the State Convention in Houston on June 7. Our program this month will be the presentation of the Division awards. I have not been made privy to who will be receiving the awards but I have been told that there are several. Please make every effort to attend to congratulate the awardees or to accept an award as the case may be. I do know that our scrapbook won third place statewide.

I realize that summer is here with all of its attendant activities. Many are traveling, vacationing, cruising, playing ball, fishing, boating and who knows what else. However, do not forget about our camp meeting.

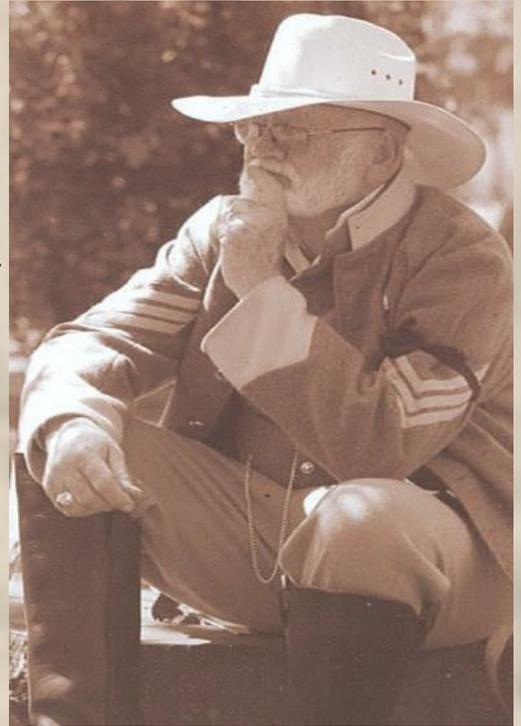
We have some important business to discuss this month. For example, in addition to selecting a new meeting location, the national SCV convention is coming up in July. We are authorized two delegates from our camp. However, the camp must elect them and we must have a quorum in order to do so. If we fail to have a quorum, we will not have any voting delegates at the national convention. Last month we were one voting member short of having a quorum thus preventing the conduct of business.

Remember, our camp is unique in that we have two categories of members: voting and non-voting. Voting members are those camp members who are also members in good standing of the SCV. Although the SCV parent organization restricts non-voting members from voting, they DO have the right of voice. That means any member can express their opinion on any subject, are encouraged to do so and, in fact, we expect them to do so. Every member's opinion needs to be voiced. Every members needs to hear what others are thinking. And, voting members need to take those opinions into account when they vote.

Please make every effort to attend this meeting. It is very important that you do so.

Sincerely,

Jack





# Collectors' Corner

Many of you attended this year's Texas Division Reunion, but several of you did not. This year's Reunion Medal was one of the best I have seen. In this issue, we are going to take a look at the 2014 Texas Reunion Medal. This year the reunion was hosted by the Granbury's Texas Brigade Camp #1479, out of Spring, Texas. In past years we have been able to see the design of the reunion medal, but this year they kept a pretty good secret as to how the new medal was going to look.

The ribbon on this medal is reminiscent of the Bonnie Blue Flag, bearing a single white "Lone Star" attached to the middle. The planchet is a bronzed colored stylized cross, with a star in the center of the cross. The outer arms of the cross have an inscription, north and south arms say "Deo Vindice" and west and east arms bear the dates 1861-1865. The inner arms of the cross are also marked with 2014 Reunion, Texas Division, and dated June 6-8, 2014. The back side of the planchet, has the name of the host camp, Granbury's Texas Brigade. As I strolled around the hotel I heard several brothers discussing how good looking this year's medal is, and that they may wear it all year long. Granbury's Texas Brigade did an outstanding job with this medal, as well as with the reunion. I had the opportunity to meet and get to know several members of this camp, and it's Commander, Sean Theiss.

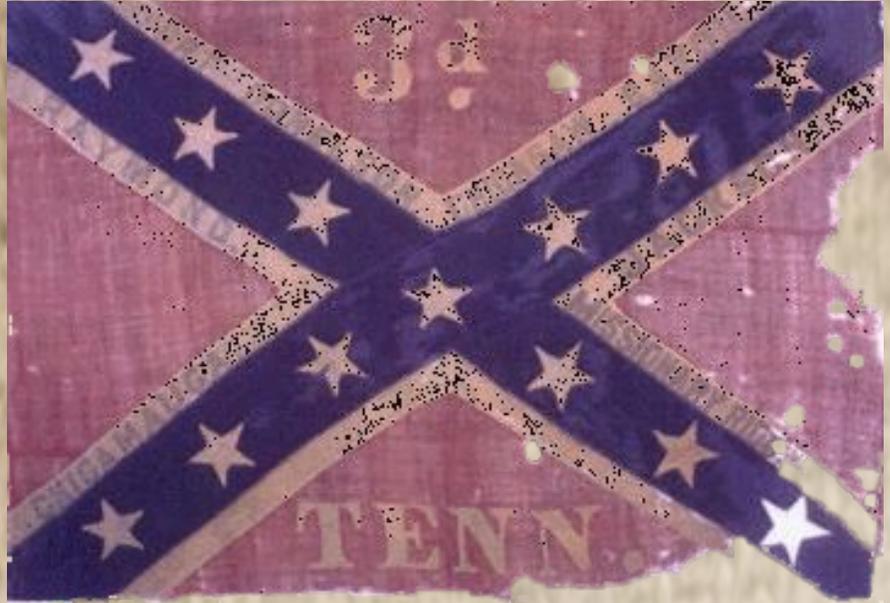
Boys, General Granbury would be proud, Deo Vindice !

I have been made aware that several of my brothers throughout the Confederate States read this newsletter and my article. If you have Reunion Medals left over from your state or national reunions please contact me at [Texas249th@gmail.com](mailto:Texas249th@gmail.com) I am always interested in purchasing medals and using them in my articles. These medals are as unique as the states and the camps that produce them, all works of art, they should be seen by all and documented as SCV history.





## ncestor Spotlight



The Kirkland family and the 3rd Regiment, Tennessee Mounted Infantry (Lillard's)

The 3rd Infantry Regiment Provisional Army was organized in May, 1861, at Knoxville, Tennessee, and mustered into Confederate service in June at Lynchburg, Virginia. Its members were recruited in the counties of Knox, Monroe, Jefferson, Polk, Blount, McMinn, Meigs, and Sullivan. There were 10 members of the Kirkland family in this unit. The Kirklands ranged in rank from Private and Sergeant, up to Lieutenant. The oldest member of the family to serve in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Regiment was the 3<sup>rd</sup> Great Grandfather of Don Brannon, Jesse Kirkland. Other Kirklands in this unit are his sons, nephews, and cousins. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Regiment was engaged at Manassas, then during February 1862, returned to Tennessee. It then fought at Tazewell and Cumberland Gap and later was involved in the Kentucky operations. It moved to Mississippi and East Louisiana, it was captured at Vicksburg on July 3, 1863. Exchanged and reorganized as cavalry, the regiment was assigned to Vaughn's Brigade. It participated in the Knoxville Campaign, fought at Piedmont and with Early in the Shenandoah Valley, and skirmished in East Tennessee. In April, 1865, it moved to Charlotte, North Carolina, and became part of President Davis' escort until surrendering at Washington, Georgia, on May 9.



Carol Jan Cowley passed away Friday, June 6, 2014. Service: 2 p.m. Friday, June 13, at Shannon Rose Hill Funeral Chapel. She was born Aug. 2, 1937, in Fort Worth to Raymond J. Brown and Nana Darlene Reagan. She was married 50 years to her beloved husband, Don R. Cowley. She graduated from Elmhurst College in Elmhurst, Ill. She was an enthusiastic genealogist who had memberships in Six Flags DAR, U.S. Daughters of 1812, the Fort Worth Genealogical Society, SOOB, Nyanca Court #34, Ladies Oriental Shrine of North America and Ladies of El Texa Grotto. Survivors: Husband, Don; stepsons, Gilbert of California and Neil of Barcelona, Spain; six grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Published in Star-Telegram on June 11, 2014

Jan Cowley was an Auxilliary Member of our Camp. She will be deeply missed.

# 150 years ago this month...

- July 2, 1864 U. S. Senate grants a charter to the Northern Pacific Railroad
- July 4, 1864 "Retreating Joe" Johnston, as he is now called in the Richmond papers, withdraws to his previously prepared Chattahoochee Line
- July 4, 1864 Battle of Helena
- July 5, 1864 Horace Greeley receives a letter with a Confederate proposal for peace negotiations to be held in Canada. He forwards the letter to President Lincoln
- July 5, 1864 Jubal Early [CS] crosses the Potomac River at Harper's Ferry and enters Maryland with a division of men. He begins heading east to Washington
- July 6, 1864 Federal commanders in Washington D. C. begin recalling troops to defend the city from Jubal Early
- July 7, 1864 Congress appropriates \$2 million for restoration of Ford's Theater
- July 8, 1864 Army of the Ohio under General John Schofield [US] crosses the Chattahoochee River at Soper (Soap) Creek
- July 9, 1864 Battle of the Monocacy - General Lew Wallace [US] with an irregular force of 6,000 men is routed by Jubal Early's 10,000 man battle-hardened division.
- July 11, 1864 Jubal Early reaches Washington D. C. suburbs. In the past few days, however, more than 20,000 Union soldiers from various commands have arrived to defend the city.
- July 12, 1864 Jubal Early withdraws from Washington D. C.
- July 14, 1864 Battle of Tupelo or Harrisburg - General A. J. Smith [US] repulses repeated, uncoordinated attacks by Generals Stephen D. Lee [CS] and Nathan Bedford Forrest [CS], who retire at noon. Smith, short of supplies, withdraws to Memphis the following day.
- July 14, 1864 Crossing the Potomac at White's Ford near Leesburg, Jubal Early's division returns to Virginia
- July 16, 1864 General Jubal Early [CS] leaves Leesburg and heads west to the Shenandoah Valley.
- July 17, 1864 General Joseph E. Johnston relieved of command of the Army of Tennessee. John Bell Hood replaces him.
- July 18, 1864 Horace Greeley is sent to Canada to negotiate an end to the Civil War. Lincoln gives him broad powers to come to a settlement, only requiring that it include the restoration of the Union and a renunciation of slavery. The Confederates would not accept the conditions
- July 20, 1864 Battle of Peachtree Creek, John Bell Hood [CS] attacks George Thomas after he crosses Peachtree Creek.
- July 22, 1864 Battle of Atlanta -Major General William Hardee [CS] hits James McPherson's [US] line from the south while Major General B. F. Cheatham [CS] attacks his corps along its wide front. In spite of McPherson's death the Union wins the battle. Also, during the Battle of Atlanta, Major General James McPherson, commander of the Army of the Tennessee is killed when he accidentally crosses Confederate lines. Also, Major General W. H. T. Walker is killed by Union forces while scouting a position before the Battle of Atlanta
- July 24, 1864 Second battle of Kernstown - Jubal Early's [CS] move to the Shenandoah Valley is blocked by George Crook [US], at least for a while. After a violent assault on the Union left by John Breckinridge the federal line broke and pulled back to Harpers Ferry
- July 26, 1864 W. T. Sherman appoints O. O. Howard commander of the Army of the Tennessee also General George Stoneman leaves from Kennesaw Mountain to raid Macon, Georgia
- July 28, 1864 Fugitive slave laws abolished, Battle of Ezra Church
- July 30, 1864 Battle of the Crater or Crater Battle

**2014 TEXAS DIVISION REUNION  
JUNE 6-8, 2014  
HOUSTON, TEXAS  
Granbury's Texas Brigade Camp 1479  
did a fantastic job of hosting the event!**



Camp Commander, Jeff Western seemed to be really enjoying the opening ceremonies.

Five members of the Camp traveled to Houston for the 2014 Texas Division Reunion. Picture are Jeff Western, Diane and Jack Dyess, Don and Celia Brannon.



Lt. Commander, Jack Dyess visits with at one of the business meetings.



Don and Celia Brannon at the Magnolias and Sabres Ball



Jack and Diane Dyess at the Magnolias and Sabres Ball.

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Jack Dyess visits with Rocky Sprott from the Panhandle.



The Dyesses enjoyed the dance floor.



Commander Jeff Western accepts an envelope of Division level awards to be presented to members at our July meeting.



Members of our camp got to catch up with friends from camps in Houston and Weatherford.



L-R Texas Division Commander, Johnnie Holley; Commander in Chief Michael Givins and Commander of the host camp, Granbury's Texas Bridgade Camp 1479, Sean Theiss



Jeff Western and Larry Martin, Commander of the Gov. Sam WT Lanham Camp 586



Camp members with members of the Gov. Sam WT Lanham Camp 586, waiting for the first business meeting to begin.



At left Commander in Chief Michael Givins popped into our hotel room for a photo opp!



Don and Celia Brannon

## Schedule of 2014 General SCV Reunion

### Wednesday – July 16, 2014

Registration	12:00 noon - 5:00 pm
Harbor Tour (Meet and Greet)	6:00 pm - 10:00 pm

### Thursday – July 17, 2014

Registration	7:00 am - 5:00 pm
Gen. Forrest Cavalry Breakfast	7:00 am - 8:00 am
Opening Ceremonies	8:00 am - 9:00 am
Business Session I	9:15 am - 12:00 pm
Ladies Morning Tour	9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Preservation Luncheon	12:30 pm - 2:00 pm
Fort and Battle site Tour	2:30 pm - 5:30 pm
Heritage Dinner	6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

### Friday – July 18, 2014

Chaplains Breakfast	7:00 am
Business Session II	8:30 am - 12:00 noon
OCR Business Session I	8:00 am - 12:00 noon
Lt. Richard Kirkland	12:30 pm - 2:30 pm
Awards Luncheon	
H. L. Hunley Tours	9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Memorial Service	3:45 pm - 4:45 pm
Oratory Contest and Social	8:00 PM

### Saturday – July 19, 2014

ATM Meeting	8:00 am – 9:15 am
ANV	8:00 am – 9:15 am
Business Session III	9:30 am – 12:00
OCR Business Session II	9:00 am – 12:00
Commander's Reception	6:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Grand Banquet & Ball	7:00 pm - midnight

## TOURS

**General P G T Beauregard Harbor Meet and Greet Tour** will be a two hour dinner cruise through Charleston Harbor passing by *Castle Pinckney* (used as a prison for a portion of the war), *Fort Johnson* (where the signal shot was fired to alert Confederate batteries around Charleston harbor to fire on Fort Sumter), *Fort Moultrie* (where Major Anderson left to occupy Fort Sumter bringing about the first shots of the War), and *Fort Sumter* (the site where the War Between the States began). During the tour a memorial wreath will be placed near the spot where the H.L. Hunley submarine and her crew came to rest on their successful yet fateful night.

**Fort Battle Site Tour** is a bus tour of Forts and battle sites important to the defenses of Charleston: *Fort Lamar*, called the Tower Battery at the time of the battle, is located at Secessionville on James Island, SC. At this site, at 4:00 AM on June 16, 1862, a Federal force, outnumbering Confederate defenders three to one, attack the battery. Three hours later, retreat was sounded. The Federal casualties were 683. Confederate casualties were 206. The bloody engagement at Tower Battery saw that the war was brother against brother as the Campbell brothers were mere yards apart firing shots unbeknownst to each other; *Fort (Battery) Pringle* became the site of some of the heaviest artillery attacks made by the Union fleet during the battle for James Island; and *Battery Tynes* was constructed in 1863 to cut off Union forces from occupying the upper Stone River. It also protected the bridge from Johns Island to James Island.

**H L Hunley Tour** Is another bus tour allowing you to see the recovered and preserved Hunley submarine. The view into the crew compartment is spectacular. The Hunley crew created maritime history the night of the first ever successful submarine attack. The gift shop will be open and contains many unique items that may interest you.

**Ladies Tour – City Market and Confederate Museum:** Revolutionary War Veteran Charles Cotesworth Pinckney ceded the land to the City of Charleston in 1788 that would become the City Market. He stipulated that a public market be built on the site and that it remain in use as a public market into perpetuity. The City Market, one of the oldest in the country, is significant enough to be part of a permanent exhibit entitled “Life in Coastal South Carolina c. 1840” at the American History Museum of the Smithsonian Institute in Washington DC. At the head of the City Market resides a Greek Revival-style Market Hall. The structure was completed in 1841, and today houses the Daughters of the Confederacy Museum. The upper room of the hall initially served as a large assembly room, and later as a military recruiting office at the outbreak of the War.