



David's Dispatch

1st Lt. David Richard Reynolds Camp #2270
Sons of Confederate Veterans
Mount Pleasant, Texas



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Winner of Outstanding Camp 2021 at National Reunion
Winner of the Texas Division Best Newsletter Award 2017, 2018, 2020 & 2021
2021 Outstanding Camp & 2021 Best Website
Winner of the SCV National Best Newsletter Award 2016, 2017 & 2018

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COMMANDER'S CORNER

by Danny "Kid" Tillery



Hope everyone is doing well. Sorry I missed the last meeting, but work does come first. Thanks Dennis for stepping up. Want each of us to remember Buffalo in our prayers. I talked to him a little while ago. It seems that we almost lost him last Friday. He was in ICU in Mt. Pleasant hospital. Now he is recovering in physical therapy in Longview. His COPD almost got the best of him. He seems in good spirits. Hope to see each of you at the next meeting on May 23. We will have a short

program by Rodney.

Commander, Kid Tillery

NEXT MEETING

Monday, April 18th 6:30 p.m.

Refreshments at 6:00 p.m.

Old Union Community Center

Hwy 67E, Mount Pleasant, Texas

UPCOMING EVENTS

2022 National Reunion - Cartersville, GA

2022 Texas Division Reunion-June 3-5 in

McKinney, TX. Info can be found at

<https://scvtexas.org>

Jefferson Pilgrim Parade April 30 10am

Battle for Jefferson March 17. Re-enactor registration for this year's event (April 29-May 1) can be found at:

<https://www.battleofjefferson.com/re-enactors-portal>

Our Charge...

"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." Remember, it is your duty to see that the true history of the South is presented to future generations!

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



A BLAST FROM THE PAST

Battle of Pleasant Hill

The **Battle of Pleasant Hill** occurred on April 9, 1864 and formed part of the [Red River Campaign](#) during the [American Civil War](#) when Union forces aimed to occupy the [Louisiana](#) state capital, [Shreveport](#).

The battle was essentially a continuation of the [Battle of Mansfield](#), a Confederate victory, which had caused the Union commander, Major General [Nathaniel P. Banks](#), to send his wagons, with most of his artillery, downriver in retreat. However, both sides had been reinforced through the night, and when the Confederate commander, Major General [Richard Taylor](#) launched an assault against the Union line, it was repulsed though at a high cost in casualties; the Union army retreated the next day. The majority of historians consider the battle to be a Union

tactical victory, although some consider it to be a draw from Pleasant Hill.^[11]



Pleasant Hill and Louisiana in 1864

On the morning of the April 9, Franklin ordered the baggage train to proceed to Grand Ecore. It left Pleasant Hill at 11 a.m., and included many pieces of artillery. Most of Franklin's Cavalry (commanded by Brig. Gen. Albert Lindley Lee) and the [XIII Corps](#) left with it.^[12] This included the *Corps D'Afrique* commanded by Colonel William H. Dickey (wounded on April 8) and Brig. Gen. [Thomas E. G. Ransom](#)'s detachment of the XIII Corps, now under the command of Brig. Gen. Robert A. Cameron — Ransom was also wounded on the April 8.^{[13][14]} The baggage train made slow progress and was still only a few miles from Pleasant Hill when the major fighting began later that day. Brig. Gen. [Charles P. Stone](#), Chief of Staff, and others, attempted to get Cameron to return to Pleasant Hill throughout the day, but he failed to do so — he stated that he never received any written orders to return.^[14] Banks doesn't appear to have been fully aware of the exact orders Cameron had received from Franklin.

The Union side lost 18 pieces of artillery at the Battle of Mansfield.^[15] These were turned on the Union forces the next day at Pleasant Hill. Confederate Brig. Gen. [Jean Jacques Alexandre Alfred Mouton](#) was killed during the Battle of Mansfield, April 8, 1864; Brig. Gen. [Camille J. de Polignac](#) commanded Mouton's forces at Pleasant Hill.

Confederate [Trans-Mississippi Department](#) commander Lt. Gen. [Edmund Kirby Smith](#), who was at [Shreveport](#), received a dispatch from Taylor that reached him at 4 a.m., April 9. It informed him of the Battle of Mansfield. Smith then rode 45 miles (72 km) to Pleasant Hill, but did not reach there in time for the battle — arriving around nightfall.^[16]

Among the Union regiments fighting at Pleasant Hill on April 9 was the [47th Pennsylvania Infantry Regiment](#). Part of the Second Brigade in Emory's XIX Corps, the 47th Pennsylvania was the only regiment from the Keystone State to fight in the Union's 1864 [Red River Campaign](#).^[17] Led by Col. Tilghman H. Good, the 47th Pennsylvania sustained a significant number of casualties, including several men who were captured by Confederate troops. Held initially at Pleasant Hill, POWs from the 47th Pennsylvania and other Union regiments were marched and moved by rail to the largest CSA prison west of the Mississippi, [Camp Ford](#), which was situated near Tyler, Texas. Other members of the 47th ended up at Camp Groce near Hempstead, Texas, and/or at the Confederate hospital in Shreveport.

Description of the battlefield

In 1864, Pleasant Hill was a small village, situated about 2 miles (3.2 km) north the current village of Pleasant Hill — a new village that later grew up nearby (in order to be closer to the railroad) and that took the same name, after the old village was abandoned. The site of old village is today referred to as the "Old town" or "Old Pleasant Hill". Dr. Harris H. Beecher, Assistant-Surgeon, 114th New York Volunteer Infantry Regiment, present at the battle, described the village of Pleasant Hill as

a town of about twelve or fifteen houses, situated on a clearing in the woods, of a mile or so in extent, and elevated a trifle above the general level of the surrounding country.

In 1864, the countryside in this part of Louisiana mostly consisted of pine forests and scrub oaks. According to Banks,

The shortest and only practicable road from Natchitoches to Shreveport was the stage road through Pleasant Hill and Mansfield (distance 100 miles), through a barren, sandy country, with less water and less forage, the greater portion an unbroken pine forest.^[19]

A newspaper described Pleasant Hill as "a little village situated on a low ridge, containing in peace-times probably 300 inhabitants."^[20] It further stated that,

The battle-field of Pleasant Hill...is a large, open field, which had once been cultivated, but is now overgrown with weeds and bushes. The slightly-elevated centre of the field, from which the name Pleasant Hill is taken is nothing more than a long mound, hardly worthy of the name of hill. A semi-circular belt of timber runs around the field on the Shreveport side.^[20]

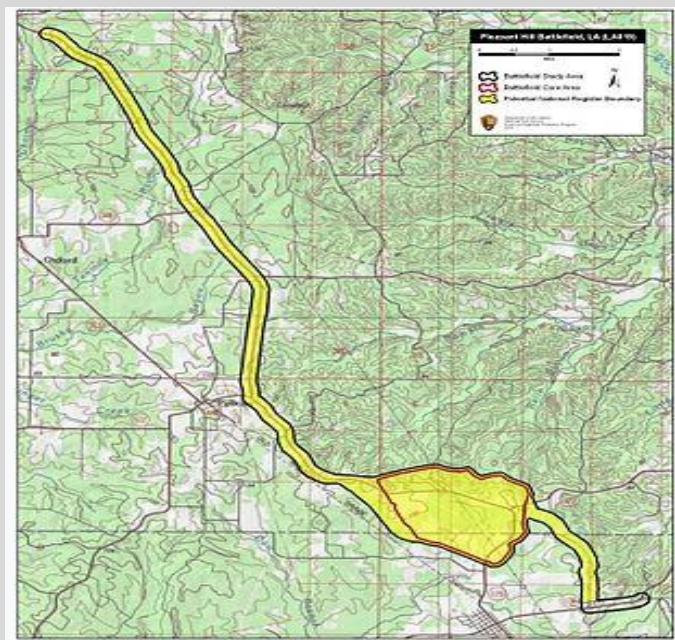
Historian John Winters describes Pleasant Hill as a "piney-woods summer resort consisting of a dozen or more houses clustered along a cleared knoll, offered Banks many advantages as a battlefield, but because of the great distance from the main supply base at Alexandria and the serious lack of sufficient drinking water for an entire army, Banks could not hold this position for any length of time. During the one day, April 9, most of the rain water stored in the cisterns was depleted. Without making a final decision concerning the future of his campaign, Banks sent his wagon trains . . . on the way toward Grand Ecore. . ."

Battle

According to Maj. Gen. Nathaniel P. Banks' Report of the Battle,

The enemy began to reconnoiter the new position we had assumed at 11 o'clock on the morning of the 9th, and as early as 1 or 2 o'clock opened a sharp fire of skirmishers,

which was kept up at intervals during the afternoon.¹



Map of Pleasant Hill Battlefield

According to Maj. Gen. Nathaniel P. Banks' Report of the Battle,

The enemy began to reconnoiter the new position we had assumed at 11 o'clock on the morning of the 9th, and as early as 1 or 2 o'clock opened a sharp fire of skirmishers, which was kept up at intervals during the afternoon.

At 5 p.m., the Confederate forces launched their attack, charging the entire Union line.^[24] Walker's and Major's attack on the Union right had little success — the Union right, for the most part, held its ground. However, overall, this initial charge by the Confederates was highly successful and many of the positions down the Union left and center were overrun by Churchill's and Parson's forces and the Union positions were forced backwards. However, the Union side succeeded in halting the advance and regained the left and center ground, before driving the Confederates from the field.^[24] The fiercely fought battle lasted about two hours.^[24] Losses were heavy on both sides. The [32nd Iowa Infantry](#) sustained especially heavy casualties, as it was cut off

from the rest of the Union forces during the battle.^[25]

Confederate Brig. Gen. [Hamilton P. Bee](#), with two regiments in columns of four rode swiftly down the Pleasant Hill road toward the enemy lines. The Confederate forces were suddenly attacked at close range by Federals concealed behind a fence. Winters describes the scene, accordingly: "Men toppled from their saddles, wounded horses screamed in anguish, and for a moment pandemonium reigned. Bee's men took temporary shelter . . . in a series of small ravines studded with young pines until they recovered from the shock of the unexpected attack. Bee rallied his men but in the process had two horses shot from under him. Colonel [Xavier B.] Debray was injured when he fell from the saddle of his dead horse. . . . Debray was able to withdraw his men safely to the rear leaving, however, about a third of them killed or wounded on the front.

Banks and his army began their retreat from Pleasant Hill at 1 a.m. on the morning of the April 10 (just a few hours after the battle had ended).

Aftermath

According to Brig. Gen. Hamilton P. Bee, writing from his headquarters at Pleasant Hill on April 10, 1864, he was in possession of the battlefield of Pleasant Hill at daylight on the morning of April 10 and he wrote that,

The day has been passed in burying the dead of both armies and caring for the Federal wounded, our own wounded having been cared for the night before.^[26]

A number of [Union](#) soldiers were captured during the battle (and many more at the Battle of Mansfield), and were taken to [Camp Ford](#), a Confederate prisoner-of-war Camp, near [Tyler, Texas](#).^[29] Most were kept prisoner here for the next year or so, and were not released until a general exchange of prisoners occurred near the end of the war — a small number, however, were released at an earlier date.

After the Battle of Pleasant Hill, Banks and his Union forces retreated to Grand Ecore^{[2][30]} and abandoned plans to capture [Shreveport](#), by then the Louisiana state capital. Some of the wounded, perhaps thirty in number from both Pleasant Hill and Mansfield, were taken to [Minden](#) for treatment. Those who died of their wounds there were interred without markers in the historic [Minden Cemetery](#). They were finally recognized with markers erected on March 25, 2008 by the [Sons of Confederate Veterans](#).

The historian Ludwell Johnson refers to the battle as a Union tactical victory;^[1] the majority of historians agree with this view, although a few consider the action to have been a draw.^[2]

The decisive failure of the Red River Campaign was a rare bit of uplifting news for the Confederacy in a bleak year. Despite the loss of resources (including the mercurial and beloved Brig. Gen. [Tom Green](#), who was killed April 12), the failure of this offensive helped to prolong the war by tying down Union resources from other fronts.

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia



We had good time at the last meeting. We all enjoyed Colonel Sanders chicken pot pies. Everyone enjoyed receiving information from Commander 5th Texas Brigade Bill Elliot. The camp was reminded of the fund raiser pancake breakfast on May 28 from 7 to 11am. 1Lt. Commander Dennis Beckham presented a program on United States Flag Etiquette and presented Chaplain Shawn Tully with the first flag certificate presented by the Ark-La-TX Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution, in recognition of exemplary patriotism in the display of the United States flag. Joe and Rodney were voted to be delegates to the TX SCV Convention. Rodney received Guardian Certificates from Commander 5th Texas Brigade Bill Elliot while Guardian Director Phil Davis read the names of Confederate veterans.

BATTLES FOUGHT DURING THE MONTH OF APRIL



Battle of Fort Gibson - Fort Gibson Mississippi

1 May 1863 - General John C. Pemberton verses General Ulysses S. Grant. Casualties: 1650 Confederate, 1863 Union!

Battle of Chancellorsville - Chancellorsville Virginia

1-5 May 1863 - General Robert E. Lee verses General Joseph Hooker. Casualties: 12,754 Confederate, 16,792 Union!

Battle of Williamsburg - Williamsburg Virginia

LAST CAMP MEETING

5 May 1862 - General Joseph E. Johnston verses General George B. McClellan. Casualties: 1603 Confederate, 2239 Union!

Battle of The Wilderness - The Wildereness Virginia

5-7 May 1864 - General Robert E. Lee verses General Ulysses S. Grant, General George G. Meade. Casualties: 7750 Confederate, 17,666 Union!

Battle of McDowell - McDowell Virginia

May 1862 - General Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson verses General Robert C. Schenck. Casualties: 498 Confederate, 256 Union!

Battle of Spotsylvania Court House - Spotsylvania Court House Virginia

8-20 May 1864 - General Robert E. Lee verses General Ulysses S. Grant. Casualties: 9500 Confederate, 18,399 Union!

Battle of Drewry's Bluff - Drewry's Bluff Virginia

12-16 May 1864 - General P.G.T. Beauregard verses General Benjamin F. Butler. Casualties: 2506 Confederate, 4160 Union!

Battle of Resaca - Resaca Georgia

13-15 May 1864 - General Joseph E. Johnston verses General William T. Sherman. Casualties: 3800 Confederate, 2747 Union!

Battle of Jackson - Jackson Mississippi

14 May 1863 - General Joseph E. Johnston verses General William T. Sherman. Casualties: 1339 Confederate, 1000 Union!

Battle of New Market - New Market Virginia

15 May 1864 - General John C. Breckinridge verses General Franz Sigel. Casualties: 577 Confederate, 831 Union!

Battle of Chamberlin Hill - Edward's Station Mississippi

16-17 May 1863 - General John C. Pemberton verses General Ulysses S. Grant. Casualties: 3851 Confederate, 2441 Union!

Siege of Vicksburg - Vicksburg Mississippi

18 May - 4 July 1863 - General John C. Pemberton verses General Ulysses S. Grant. Casualties: 39,491 Confederate, 8,873 Union!

Battle of Front Royal - Front Royal Virginia

23 May 1862 - General Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson verses Colonel J. R. Kenly. Casualties: 50 Confederate, 904 Union!

First Battle of Winchester - Winchester Virginia

23-25 May 1862 - General Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson verses General Nathaniel P. Banks. Casualties: 400 Confederate, 2769 Union!

Battle of North Anna River - North Anna River Virginia

23-26 May 1864 - General Robert E. Lee verses General Ulysses S. Grant. Casualties: 2000 Confederate, 1973 Union!

Battle of New Hope Church - New Hope Church Georgia

25-29 May 1864 - General Joseph E. Johnston verses General William T. Sherman. Casualties: 3000 Confederate, 2400 Union!

Siege of Port Hudson - Port Hudson Louisiana

26 May - 9 July 1863 - General Franklin Gardner verses General Nathaniel P. Banks. Casualties: 7200 Confederate, 3600 Union!

Battle of Seven Pines - Seven Pines Virginia

31 May - 1 June 1862 - General Joseph E. Johnston verses General George B. McClellan. Casualties: 6134 Confederate, 5031 Union!

by Past Commander Rex McGee



Lot loved God more than Adam did.
When Lot's wife looked back at Sodom & Gomorra
& she turned to a pillar of salt Lot keep going, he
didn't look back nor turned back.
When Eve offered Adam the forbidden fruit he
partook of it & sinned against God.
Is there anything that we love more than God? I
pray not, our love for God should be strong enough
to overcome any temptations.

God Bless
Chaplain Shawn Tully



Our camp #2270 has 280 graves attended by 14 members. Remember to be a full Guardian your grave must have either a Confederate headstone or a Confederate footstone. Be sure to start to look into completing your responsibility to your veteran's graves. As usual, I'll leave you with the question that Phil Davis, Chairman of both the National and Texas Division Guardian Program always asks, "Are you a Guardian? If not, why not?"

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES & OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

May 19th – Rex McGee

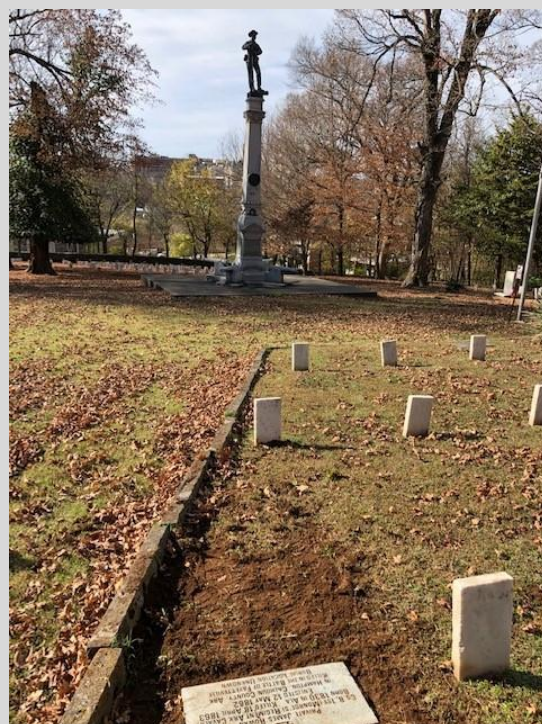
May 6th – This day in 1861 Arkansas secedes from the union.

May 10th – This day in 1863 General Thomas J. Jackson died and is buried in Lexington, Virginia. Confederate Memorial Day in North and South Carolina.

May 20th – This day in 1861 North Carolina secedes from the union.

May 23rd – This day in 1861 Virginia secedes from the union.

May 30th – Confederate Memorial Day in Virginia



Camp Song

**Sons of Confederate Veterans
By: Harry King**

**We are the Sons of Confederate Veterans
We wear the grey with Southern Pride
In honor of our great forefathers
Who went to battle, who fought and died**

**We are the Sons of Confederate Veterans
In every camp we take a stand
To preserve our Southern Culture
The memory of every fighting man**

**We guard the Heritage of God and Family
The cornerstone of our History
From old Jeff Davis to Stonewall Jackson
And our commander Robert E. Lee**

**We are the Sons of Confederate Veterans
who shed their blood and stood their ground
From Manassas to the fields of Shiloh
Until they drove old Dixie down**

**We are the Sons of Confederate Veterans
from the Heart of Texas to the Caroline's
Shenandoah Valley and the Blue Ridge Mountains
Louisiana to the Georgis Pines**

**So all you Johnny Rebs give a Rebel Yell
Like your forefathers when duty called
And hold your head up high in sacred honor
of the fighting heroes who gave it all**

**We are the sons of Confederate Veterans
We wear the grey with southern pride
In honor of our brave forefathers
Who went to battle who fought and died**

**Who fought for Dixie
Who fought and died!**

Camp Photos



Commander Dennis Beckham presents Shawn Tully with flag certificate presented by the Ark-La-TX Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution, in recognition of exemplary patriotism in the display of the United States flag.



Camp 1st Lt. David Richard Reynolds Camp participated in Reeves Chapel Cemetery Dedication for Confederate Veterans buried there.



Members of the Lone Star Confederate Color Guard



Rodney receives Guardian Certificates from Commander 5th Texas Brigade Bill Elliot.



5th Texas Brigade Commander Bill Elliot with his body guards (Lone Star Color Guard) at Jefferson Pilgrimage Parade



5th Texas Brigade Texas Lone Star Color Guard m at Jefferson Pilgrimage Parade



Confederate troops form up

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Opinions expressed by individual writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect official positions of the

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(Cutoff for articles is 20th of the month)