



Granbury's Texas Brigade



Camp News Letter • Camp 1479 • Conroe, Texas • Sons of Confederate Veterans • May 2009 • Volume 3, No. 5



COMMANDERS REPORT



Greetings Compatriots,

Well Spring is here! We shall enjoy the weather and the revitalized life that comes with the spring season. The Camp likewise has many events planned for the spring which we hope you will attend. Pre-registration for Texas Division Convention is going on and I can say that last year's convention was a great time! We should be able to have a minimum of five delegates, which we shall need to show our support for Ray James and Frank Johnson. You may wish to use a part of your tax return to purchase a lifetime membership. You have three years in which to pay it off. There will be presented two sabers at the Christmas Party, one for the member who has attended the most events throughout the year and the other to the Company Leader with gets the most members of their Company to attend events. Camp Treasurer and member Frank Johnson has done an outstanding job on the Camp web site (<http://www.granburystexasbrigade.org/>), be sure to check it for upcoming events. Member Mark McIntyre has done an excellent job with the Camp's exclusive site (GranburysTexasBrigadeSCV1479@yahoo.com) and I recommend that we use these Camp assets. We have several new members to show what a diverse, enthusiastic, and vitalized Camp we are, so let the upcoming budding opportunities grow into lasting friendship and worthwhile memories for ourselves and the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

Warmest Regards,

Commander
 Joseph M. Raffels
 Granbury's Texas Brigade
 De Mortuis Nil Nisi Bonum

Monthly Camp Meeting

May 5th is the date for next camp meeting. We will meet at the Gander Mountain "Lodge" at 7:00 p.m. Please remember that all friends and family of members are welcome and we hope to see many members there.

WAR BETWEEN THE STATES TRIVIA

What CSA commander had the responsibility for the bombardment of the Union lines prior to Gen. Pickett's charge on July 3, 1863?

Answer: E. Porter Alexander



Do you know someone who may be interested in joining The Order of Confederate Rose? Contact Susan Sager, President, Montgomery Rose 47 at montgomeryrose47@gmail.com or Adjutant Mark Sager at texasmusic@charter.net



CAMP NEWS AND EVENTS

There is still time to make your reservations and get a discounted hotel rate if you are attending the 2009 Texas Division Convention. April 30th is the deadline to get a rate of \$109.00, afterward the rate will be \$139.00. Be sure to use the code SCV to get these savings. The Waco Hilton is the host hotel and you can contact them directly at 254-754-8484, or go online to <http://waco.hilton.com/>

- The camp is placing flags on Confederate graves all month long in April. Your company leader will contact you to discuss which cemeteries your company is responsible for.
- Grave marker ceremony April 25th at Glenwood Cemetery, Houston, Texas
- April 24th – 26th re-enactment in Brenham, TX

Eberly Ranch – <http://www.eberlyranch.com/index.htm>

- Battle of Temple Junction re-enactment May 15th – 17th in Temple, TX
<http://www.ci.temple.tx.us/index.asp?nid=1065>

If you hear of an event or activity that you feel would be of interest to our camp or members of our camp please contact Adjutant Mark Sager and present it to him for inclusion in this spot.

“History is lies agreed upon”.
Napoleon Bonaparte





Articles of Interest

The Opelika-Auburn News, serving Opelika, Alabama and Auburn University

KATIE STALLCUP
STAFF WRITER

Published: April 23, 2009

Mary Norman was shocked Thursday afternoon when Auburn Councilman Arthur L. Dowdell pulled up a Confederate flag placed on her great-grandfather's grave and snapped it in half, she said.

Dowdell, who denies snapping the flag, said Thursday he was picking up his daughter from Auburn Junior High School near the cemetery when several people told him they "had a problem" with the flags.

He drove to the cemetery and started pulling up flags, he said.

"It's offensive to me," he said. "To me, it represents the Ku Klux Klan and racism."

The United Daughters of the Confederacy placed the flags earlier this week, as they have done for 50 years, in preparation for a celebration Sunday of Confederate Memorial Day, Norman said.

Confederate Memorial Day will be celebrated as a state holiday in Alabama Monday.

"I really didn't know exactly how to respond to him," she said. "I happen to be a member of the Daughters of the Confederacy. I was very surprised, especially (as he is) a city councilman. I was amazed."

Norman was not personally involved in placing the flags.

"I'm a historian," she said. "We're not about hate; we're not about anything like that. We just want to honor our state's rights, and I've got Confederate ancestors, and I feel we should have the ability to do that."

(continued)





Granbury's Texas Brigade



Camp News Letter • Camp 1479 • Conroe, Texas • Sons of Confederate Veterans • May 2009 • Volume 3, No. 5

Norman and a friend were taking inventory of graves at Pine Hill Cemetery in Auburn when Dowdell drove up and asked who put up the flags, she said.

“One of the flags had been placed on my great-grandfather’s grave, who was a Confederate soldier,” Norman said. “He just got very upset, and he went over to my great-grandfather’s grave, picked up the flag and broke it in two.”

She said Dowdell did not know the plot she stood on was her families. The flags were placed on soldiers’ graves as a mark of respect, she said.

He pulled up Confederate flags from other soldiers’ graves, too, she said.

Dowdell said in his years as councilman, he had never seen so many Confederate flags in one place.

“I’m going on the record that this will never happen again,” Dowdell said. “This will never happen again as long as I’m on the city council.”

Dowdell denied intentionally snapping the flag.

“It might have snapped itself,” he said. “If it did, so what? If I had my way, I would have broke them all up and stomped on them and burned them. That flag represents another country, another nation.” (emphasis added)

Auburn Mayor Bill Ham said he was unaware of any incidents at the cemetery but said he talked with Dowdell Thursday afternoon. Ham said his understanding was that all city cemeteries have covenants governing how and what types of decorations can be placed on graves, except for Pine Hill because it is so old. Ham said he believed Dowdell asked an assistant city manager to look into making policies equal for cemeteries across the city.

“The bottom line is those grave plots are deeded property,” Ham said. “We sell those. So they are sold to the family of the individuals, and I think (plot owners) have a right to do exactly what they did, according to the city attorney.”

Ham said in his conversation with Dowdell, the councilman suggested the flags be placed on the graves for a shorter period of time, perhaps for 24 hours before the event.

For now, the remaining flags will stay on the graves because of the lack of covenant governing Pine Hill, Ham said. But that could change in coming years.

“I certainly think we need to be consistent in all the cemeteries with whatever the policy is, not only with this, but with everything,” Ham said. “The council has got to make that decision.”

The Opelika-Auburn News, serving Opelika, Alabama and Auburn University



Granbury's Texas Brigade



Camp News Letter • Camp 1479 • Conroe, Texas • Sons of Confederate Veterans • May 2009 • Volume 3, No. 5

KATIE STALLCUP

STAFF WRITER

Published: April 26, 2009

Despite recent controversy surrounding Confederate battle flags at an Auburn cemetery, the Confederate Memorial Day service at Pine Hill Cemetery on Sunday went smoothly as planned.

Only one sign of the controversy was evident Sunday afternoon - an Auburn police patrol car parked near the cemetery. A police car was also present at the old Auburn train depot where a smaller ceremony took place later Sunday.

The dispute began Thursday after Auburn City Councilman Arthur L. Dowdell removed a handful of Confederate flags from grave sites at the cemetery, saying they offended him and others and were reminders of racism. Since then, Auburn Mayor Bill Ham released a statement saying Dowdell's actions do not represent the city's position and the graves are deeded, private property. Other Auburn council members expressed disapproval, as well. By Sunday night, more than 400 comments had been posted at <http://www.oanow.com> on the topic, and more than 3,700 votes had been cast in the site's online poll. The majority expressed their disapproval of removing the flags.

Auburn police said Sunday no reports regarding the incident had been filed.

Sunday, the United Daughters of the Confederacy Admiral Semmes Chapter 57 of Auburn led the Pine Hill Cemetery service with poems, a history of the chapter and a roll call of the 75 Confederate soldiers buried in the cemetery. Approximately 70 people, many sporting the Confederate flag on their clothes, stood while a string band played "Dixie."

Confederate Memorial Day is celebrated as a state holiday today.

The chapter has placed small Confederate flags on the Pine Hill graves of Confederate soldiers for years, chapter president Mary Potts said.

Potts said she thought the recent debate over the flags placed on the graves is "unfortunate."

Potts said the chapter placed the flags on Confederate soldiers' graves as a sign of respect.

"I think it's unfortunate that they don't understand our purpose," she said. "It's not racist at all. It's part of our history, and we want to preserve that history as it was."

Along with history, the chapter focuses on veterans, including making donations to the veterans' home in Tuskegee, she said.

In a separate service, approximately a dozen people gathered at the old Auburn train depot later Sunday afternoon to remember the Auburn Guards, a group of Confederate soldiers for which that organizing chapter of the UDC is named.





Granbury's Texas Brigade



Camp News Letter • Camp 1479 • Conroe, Texas • Sons of Confederate Veterans • May 2009 • Volume 3, No. 5

Before you attack the Confederate soldiers' Battle flag, see how Old Glory will compare:

The Confederate Flag and the United States Flag are judged by different standards and criteria, and are not held to the same levels of accountability. In analytical science and weights and measures, comparisons are made against known standards. However, in politics comparisons are never made in a fair and impartial manner. In order to understand the hypocrisy, ignorance, and bias that have been directed against the Confederate Flag, it is necessary to use the U.S. Flag (Stars and Stripes) as a standard of comparison. The purpose of this comparison is not to berate or disparage the U.S. Flag, but is to prove that the Confederate Flag has received unfair and unequal treatment. The genocide and racial cleansing of the American Indians took place under the U.S. Flag. Their land was taken without fair and just compensation. Indians died by the thousands as they were forced on to reservations and subjected to starvation and deadly diseases. The Trail of Tears endured by the Cherokee is an example. In the American West, cavalry troopers murdered entire villages including babies in their mother's arms.

The U.S. Flag Flew over an unconstitutional and criminal war conducted against The Confederate States of America. Abraham Lincoln Conducted this war for the benefit of wealthy Northern industrialists. Atrocities against Southern civilians and military are listed in the book, The Uncivil War: Union Army and Navy Excesses in the Official Records. Furthermore, slaves were imported from Africa to America primarily by five Northern States: New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island. The Confederate Flag was not involved in the importation of slaves.

Finally, the U.S. Flag flies over a nation that has murdered an estimated 42 million babies by abortion. Confederate leaders would never have voted for abortion or nominated judges that would legalize abortion. Political Correctness has been used to attempt bans of The Confederate Flag from schools, parades, public and private property, and even historical monuments and sites. The Confederate flag represents Constitutional Limited Federal Government, States Rights, Resistance to Government Tyranny, and Christian Values and Principles. To say that it represents racism and bigotry is a negative and shallow interpretation comparable to saying the U.S. flag represents the genocide of the American Indians and abortion.





Granbury's Texas Brigade



Camp News Letter • Camp 1479 • Conroe, Texas • Sons of Confederate Veterans • May 2009 • Volume 3, No. 5



This statue honoring Brigadier General Hiram B. Granbury stands in front of the Hood County Courthouse in Granbury, Texas. It was erected in 1913

The inscription on the statue reads:

Erected by the U.D.C. General Granbury Chapter No. 683 in memory of Brigadier General H. B. Granbury and his valiant followers



Granbury's Texas Brigade



Camp News Letter • Camp 1479 • Conroe, Texas • Sons of Confederate Veterans • May 2009 • Volume 3, No. 5

On The Lighter Side

(humorous news and stuff)

Returning home from work a blonde was shocked to find her house ransacked and burgled. She telephoned the police at once and reported the crime.

The police dispatcher broadcast the call on the channels and a K9 unit patrolling nearby was the first on the scene.

As the K-9 officer approached the house with his dog on a leash the blonde ran out onto the porch, clapped a hand to her head and moaned, 'I come home from work to find all my possessions stolen, I call the police for help, and what do they do? They send a blind policeman!'

A couple of hunters are out in the woods in the deep south when one of them falls to the ground. He doesn't seem to be breathing, and his eyes are rolled back in his head.

The other guy whips out his cell phone and calls 911. He gasps to the operator, "My friend is dead! What can I do?"

The operator, in a calm and soothing voice, says, "Alright, take it easy. I can help. First, let's make sure he's dead."

There is silence, and then a gun shot is heard.

The hunter comes back on the line. "OK. Now what??"

Southern By The Grace Of God

de nobis fabula narrator