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# THE FRONTIER CHRONICLE

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**MAY 2024**

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**2nd Texas Frontier District Camp 1904**  
**DeLeon, Texas**



**Preserving Our Southern Heritage  
And Making Texans Proud**



**Texas Sons of Confederate Veterans**



Camp Officers

**Paul Hutcheson**....Commander & Chaplain

**Dave Guise**...1st Lt. Commander

**Mason Spikes**....2nd Lt. Commander

**Charlie Ditmore**.....3rd Lt. Commander

**Eddie Cox**.... Adjutant

visit our webpage at: <http://scv1904.com/>

visit us on facebook at:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/217095848399801>

Editor: Brenda Guise  
[23CactusRose@gmail.com](mailto:23CactusRose@gmail.com)





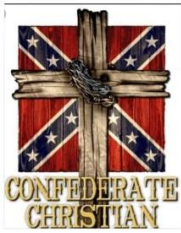
## **Our Next Meeting**

Tuesday, May 28, 2024 7:00 PM

All meetings are held the 4th Tuesday of each month  
@ 7pm for a pot luck followed by a program  
and our monthly business meeting.

**Visitors are welcome**

**Location:** Comanche Merchantile  
100 N. Houston st. Comanche Tx.



# MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDER/CHAPLAIN



Hello, my confederate brothers and sisters and welcome to the middle of May. I

hope everyone is doing good and has enjoyed all the rain we have gotten. I know we can always use it.

As with all months of the year, it may have some interesting things that has happened in it.

- 1) the month was named after Maia, the Greek goddess of fertility
- 2) May 14, 1804 Lewis and Clark begin their trip up the Missouri river
- 3) 1873 blue jeans were officially invented
- 4) May 1, 1931 the Empire State building opens

May also host 32 Confederate generals, birthdays. The most known would be General Beauregard- may 28 1818

While I do love looking back at all the history each month has, I also am excited about what is in our near future. Parade season is upon us, several city events, both the state and national reunion are right around the corner and of course, the planning of the state reunion of 2025.

So much to do, so many opportunities to get involved. We always have a great time at these events and I really hope to see everyone there. If you have not yet helped out before I would say pick at least one and come hang out. You will enjoy it I promise.

Of course, no matter what month it is, it is always a great time to build and develop your relationship with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Every day is a great day to pray, every day is a great day to thank him, every day is a great day to share the news of our salvation and to just spend a few more minutes with our Lord. he loves us all and enjoys when we talk with him.

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at our monthly meeting. Until then, God bless y'all and God bless Dixie.

Paul Hutcheson

325-998-2273. Paulscotthutcheson@iCloud.com



# 1st Lieutenant's Report



Greetings compatriots,

The Celtic Festival in Decatur was a success in raising money for the 2025 reunion. A special thank you to the ladies of the TSOGR, they baked goodies for sale and they raised more money than than the merchandise. It was a fun day with Celtic music, food, and games.

The Chalk Mountain Cemetery ceremony was also a great success. They feed our group very well with smoked brisket, chicken, and sausage. More sides and desserts than you could imagine. There were 5 "Black Roses" and escorts to perform the Black Rose Ceremony, Honor Guard Rifle salute, Canteen Ceremony, and playing of "Taps".

I went to the Waxahachie SCV camp to present Carter Gaddis the Secret Service Medal for his invaluable help with the reunion Challenge Coin. The 2025 reunion committee had been meeting and making a lot of headway putting things into motion.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our next meeting.

May God bless you and may God bless Dixie.

Dave Guise

1st Lt and past Commander  
2nd Texas Frontier District  
Camp #1904 DeLeon  
7th Brigade, Texas Division  
Sons of Confederate Veterans

2nd Lieutenant Retired  
Mechanized Calvary #3826  
1BN, Company C, 2nd Platoon





# SUMMER RAFFLE

PROCEEDS GO TO 2025 TEXAS DIVISION REUNION IN  
MINERAL WELLS

## 1851 Brass Frame Confederate Griswold & Gunnison



RETAIL VALUE

\$425

### Pietta 1851 Confederate Navy Black Powder Revolver

This six-shot .44 caliber revolver was made under contract to the Confederate government. **It is a brass framed copy of the Colt 1851 Navy revolver.** Connecticut Yankee Samuel Griswold set up a cotton gin factory in Georgia in 1830. The village of Griswoldville grew around the factory. In 1862, Griswold produced pikes for volunteers from the state of Georgia. The factory soon began producing revolvers for the Confederacy. No other Confederate factory produced more revolvers than Griswold & Gunnison. Griswoldville was the first town burned by Sherman's troops on his march to the sea. This 1851 navy model features a brass frame, blued parts, brass backstrap and triggerguard, hexagon barrel, and a walnut navy size grip. ***A beautiful replica to add to your collection!***

Drawing will be held immediately following the January 2025 DEC meeting (Approximately Jan. 6, 2025).  
Winner will be notified by phone.

ORDER FORM Cut here

### SUMMER 2024 (Colt Confederate Navy Revolver)

Number of tickets \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$25 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed (check payment type) \_\_\_ check \_\_\_ Money Order \_\_\_ Cash

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

CELL PHONE: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

We will text or email copies of your completed ticket(s). Circle how you want to receive confirmation: TEXT EMAIL

MAIL ORDER FORM AND PAYMENT TO: SCV Camp 2283, 2651 Devils Hollow Rd, Graford, TX 76449

Make checks payable to: SCV CAMP 2283

Date received: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

SCV Camp 1904

2<sup>ND</sup> Texas

Frontier District

# 1/4 BEEF RAFFLE 2024

PROCEEDS GO TO 2025 TEXAS DIVISION REUNION IN  
MINERAL WELLS



**LOCALLY RAISED  
TEXAS BEEF**  
Dublin, Texas

## PRIZE

### QUARTER BEEF



winner's choice of  
front or hind 1/4

and  
**CHEST FREEZER**



approx.  
RETAIL VALUE  
**\$1,000**

**PLEASE NOTE: Winner will be responsible for picking up prize in Dublin, TX.**  
Store Hours, Mon-Sat: 8am-6pm

Drawing will be held immediately following the January 2025 DEC meeting (Approximately Jan. 4, 2025).  
Winner will be notified by phone.

----- ORDER FORM Cut here -----

### 1/4 beef raffle 2024

Number of tickets \_\_\_\_\_ @ 25 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed (check payment type) \_\_\_ check \_\_\_ Money Order \_\_\_ Cash

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

CELL PHONE: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

We will text or email copies of your completed ticket(s). Circle how you want to receive confirmation: TEXT EMAIL

MAIL ORDER FORM AND PAYMENT TO: SCV Camp 1904, 713 Spring Meadow St, Stephenville, TX 76401

Make checks payable to: SCV CAMP 1904

Date received: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_





# \*\* IMPORTANT \*\*



## \*\* Below are proposed ByLaw Amendments \*\* to be voted on in San Antonio

### Texas Division Constitution Amendments These Amendments will be voted on at our next meeting



Proposed Changes to the Texas Division Standing Orders  
Offered by  
Christian Lee  
Alamo City Guards Camp 1325

Current	Proposed	Rationale
No Current Provision	<p><b>6.4 Intellectual Property Management Committee</b></p> <p>6.4 Intellectual Property Management Committee shall be led by a Chairperson and include additional members as necessary, ensuring representation from diverse backgrounds within the Texas Division. The committee's primary responsibility is to oversee the identification, protection, and utilization of intellectual property assets owned or managed by the Texas Division and its camps. This includes but is not limited to trademarks, patents, copyrights, and trade secrets. The committee shall develop and implement strategies to safeguard intellectual property rights, assess the need for licensing agreements, and monitor compliance with intellectual property laws and regulations. Additionally, the committee may advise on the acquisition or disposition of intellectual property assets and provide guidance on the ethical and responsible use of intellectual property within the Texas Division. The Chairperson shall maintain a comprehensive record of intellectual property assets and activities, reporting regularly to the Division Commander or designated authority.</p>	<p>This committee will make sure that anything created for Texas Division, Brigades, or Camps belongs to them forever, or they have permission to use it whenever and wherever they want. The IPMC will also make sure that when we work with other people to create stuff, they can't suddenly take it back without warning. If that happened, it could really hurt us, both in money and reputation. Consider the IPMC like the protectors of everything that's made for us, making sure it's always ours to use.</p>

Proposed Changes to the Texas Division Constitution  
Offered by  
Cody Crislip  
Texas Division 3<sup>rd</sup> Lt. Commander

Current	Proposed	Rationale
<p><b>11. Division Newsletter</b></p> <p>A Division Newsletter shall be published quarterly... Effective beginning in 2022, the Spring Newsletter shall be a printed copy mailed to each Brigade Commander, Camp Commander, Camp Adjutant in the Texas Division, and a copy emailed via the Texas Division email system to the entire membership. The Spring Newsletter shall include any proposed Constitutional amendments or Special Rules of Order that are to be voted on at the Division Convention.</p>	<p><b>11. Division Newsletter</b></p> <p>A Division Newsletter shall be published quarterly... Effective beginning in <del>2022</del> <b>2024</b>, the Spring Newsletter shall be a printed copy mailed to each Brigade Commander, <del>Camp Commander, Camp Adjutant</del> in the Texas Division, and a copy emailed via the Texas Division email system to the entire membership. The Spring Newsletter shall include any proposed Constitutional amendments or Special Rules of Order that are to be voted on at the Division Convention.</p>	<p>To save money, the organization should reduce mailing costs by changing how the TEXDIV Reporter newsletter is distributed. Currently, printing and mailing 198 copies to 93 camps, 186 commanders and adjutants, and 12 brigade officers is costly.</p> <p>Instead, let's print 12-15 copies in total. Send 12 to brigade officers, who can then distribute them to camps that need printed copies due to digital disconnection. Any extras should be sent to state libraries for archival purposes. This approach reduces costs while ensuring that printed copies are available where they're needed, and that archives are properly maintained.</p> <p>Almost all brigade officers and camp commanders communicate via email or phone, which has been effective for announcing meetings and reunions. This approach should also work for distributing the newsletter, reducing costs while maintaining communication.</p>

# Texas Division Constitution Amendments

These Amendments will be voted on at our next meeting



**Proposed Changes to the Texas Division Constitution**  
**Offered by Compatriot: Dustin W. Seiler, Lt. Commander**  
**Camp Name and Number: Hood's Texas Brigade, Camp #153**

CURRENT	PROPOSAED	RATIONALE
<p><b>NONE CURRENTLY IS IN EXISTANCE.</b></p> <p>This is a new proposed Bylaw to the Texas Division Constitution.</p>	<p><b>4.7 Social Media</b></p> <p><u>4.7.1 To further strengthen the Nature and Purpose of the organization; all camps shall have the full enjoyment of utilizing social media platforms for the benefit of their camps. Such as posting of photos, videos and memes containing information regarding recruiting, announcements of camp activities and meetings, camp projects, southern heritage, educational and historical information as examples. Camps should refrain from creating posts on Social Media that is in conflict with Articles 2.1 and 3.2 of the Constitution of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, as well as posts that could potentially violate the intellectual property rights or infringe on the copy rights of others.</u></p> <p><u>4.7.2 Each Camp Commander may appoint a Camp Social Media Administrator to assist in the facilitation Such forms of communications.</u></p> <p><u>4.7.3 Each Camp may adopt it's own Social Media policy to help in providing guidelines for their camp's Social Media platform, provided that they are not in conflict with the National Sons of Confederate Veterans Social Media Policy established by the General Executive Council.</u></p> <p><u>4.7.4. No discussions or postings of partisan political subjects nor political action endorsing aspirants for political office, the organizations' specific internal business such as finances, disciplinary investigations and/or actions, or minutes of camp meetings shall be posted on any Camps' Social Media platform.</u></p>	<p><b>We need to keep up with the 21<sup>st</sup> century!</b> This amendment focuses on the Camps in the TEXAS Division that has their camp name listed on a Social Media page and NOT ANY INDIVIDUAL! Roberts Rules of Order (12<sup>th</sup> Edition) states that it is highly recommended to have society adopt a set of rules/standing rules/bylaws to administrate &amp; operate the organization's business over electronic forms of communications (I.E. Social Media). BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY, there are now federal and state laws that are catching up to the modern era BECAUSE of what is being posted on Social Media. Also our opposition is looking for any advantage, and or excuse to invalidate our 501(c)3 status, as well as any other information That could be used against us for legal or other purposes.</p>

Walker's Greyhounds Camp #2338

MAY 2024

# Texas Division Constitution Amendments

These Amendments will be voted on at our next meeting



**Proposed Changes to the Texas Division Constitution**  
**Offered by Compatriot: Jim Cox**  
**Camp Name and Number: Albert Sidney Johnston Camp 983**

CURRENT	PROPOSED	RATIONALE
<p><b>Paragraph 3.3.1:</b></p> <p>Life membership in the Texas Division requires the one-time payment by the Compatriot in an amount equal to twenty-one (21) times the Texas Division annual per capita tax as stated in Article 10- Finances for applicants up to 64 years of age, and half that amount for applicants 65 years of age or older, and half that amount again for applicants 80 years of age or older. The Compatriot will be furnished with a Texas Division Life Membership badge. The Compatriot shall be exempt from payment of the Texas Division per capita tax and dues to the Texas Division after payment is made. The Compatriot, in order to remain a Compatriot in good standing with the General Organization, must still pay annual per capita tax to the General Organization until such time as he meets Life Membership requirements for that organization.</p>	<p><b>Paragraph 3.3.1:</b></p> <p>Life membership in the Texas Division requires the one-time payment by the Compatriot from ages 12 to 50 in the amount of \$315.00, ages 51 to 64 in the amount of \$157.50, ages 65 to 75 in the amount of \$105.00 and 76 years of age or older in the amount of \$78.75. The Compatriot will be furnished with a Texas Division Life Membership badge. The Compatriot shall be exempt from payment of the Texas Division per capita tax and dues to the Texas Division after payment is made. The Compatriot, in order to remain a Compatriot in good standing with the General Organization, must still pay annual per capita tax to the General Organization until such time as he meets Life Membership requirements for that organization.</p>	<p>The rationale for this amendment is improved retention within the Texas Division. We lose a lot of members because they relocate to an area where there is no camp reasonably close, they quit attending meetings due to health or simply due to cost. By adjusting the age brackets down, younger members in our organization would be motivated to obtain Life Memberships.</p>



# Texas Division Constitution Amendments

## These Amendments will be voted on at our next meeting



Proposed Changes to the Texas Division Constitution  
Offered by  
James Bozeman  
Major Robert M. White #1250

Current	Proposed	Reason
<p><b>Paragraph 3.3.1:</b> Life membership in the Texas Division requires the one-time payment by the Compatriot in an amount equal to twenty-one (21) times the Texas Division annual per capita tax as stated in Article 10- Finances for applicants up to 64 years of age, and half that amount for applicants 65 years of age or older, and half that amount again for applicants 80 years of age or older. The Compatriot will be furnished with a Texas Division Life Membership badge. The Compatriot shall be exempt from payment of the Texas Division per capita tax and dues to the Texas Division after payment is made. The Compatriot, in order to remain a Compatriot in good standing with the General Organization, must still pay annual per capita tax to the General Organization until such time as he meets Life Membership requirements for that organization.</p>	<p><b>Paragraph 3.3.1:</b> Life membership in the Texas Division requires the <del>one-time</del> payment by the Compatriot in an amount equal to <del>twenty-one (21)</del> <b>sixteen (16)</b> times the Texas Division annual per capita tax as stated in Article 10- Finances for applicants up to 64 years of age, and half that amount for applicants <del>65 years of age or older</del> <b>65 to 79 years of age</b>, and half that amount again for applicants 80 years of age or older. The Compatriot will be furnished with a Texas Division Life Membership badge. The Compatriot shall be exempt from payment of the Texas Division per capita tax and dues to the Texas Division after payment is made. The Compatriot, in order to remain a Compatriot in good standing with the General Organization, must still pay annual per capita tax to the General Organization until such time as he meets Life Membership requirements for that organization.</p>	<p>The rationale for this amendment is improved retention within the Texas Division. We lose a lot of members because they relocate to an area where there is no camp reasonably close, or they quit attending meetings due to health or simply due to cost. Making it easier to obtain a life membership would make it where these members are not lost permanently, keeping our total numbers up. Removing the phrase "one-time" will allow Compatriots of the Texas Division to make four (4) equal payments toward a Life Membership, which would mirror the offer made for a Life Membership in the General Organization. Annual dues are currently \$15, and 21 times that amount is \$315. Lowering the number 21 to 16 makes the full cost of a life membership \$240, which can be paid in four equal installments of \$60. The third change, "65 to 79 years of age", is simply for clarification of this age category.</p>

Proposed Changes to the Texas Division Constitution  
Offered by  
Allen Hearrean  
Chief of Staff

Current	Proposed	Reason
<p><b>5.5.1</b> Brigade Officers shall be elected to serve for a period of two years, taking office during the biennial Texas Division Elections Convention following administering of the oath of office. Brigade Officers are expected to uphold the requirements of the Texas Division and General Constitutions and any Standing Orders associated with each.</p>	<p><b>5.5.1</b> Brigade Officers shall be elected to serve for a period of two years, taking office during the biennial Texas Division Elections Convention following administering of the oath of office. Brigade Officers are expected to uphold the requirements of the Texas Division and General Constitutions and any Standing Orders associated with each. <b>Brigade Officers shall not have a felony record of any degree, including any State jail Felony.</b></p>	<p>All members in a position of authority need to be gentlemen of good moral character with a respectable past. Members expect leaders to be honest, law-abiding individuals that can be trusted with positions that require respect. Leaders show integrity, self-awareness, courage, respect, empathy, and gratitude, as a leader, you must be able to influence others to get the work done — you cannot do it all alone. The aforementioned qualities are the very reason why leaders cannot have an unexcused past.</p>

# Texas Division Constitution Amendments

**These Amendments will be voted on at our next meeting**



**Proposed Changes to the Texas Division Constitution**

Offered by  
**W. Michael Hurley**  
 Walker's Greyhounds Camp #2338  
 SCV Member #42208

Current	Proposed	Reason
<p><b>Item 8.5</b>                      Effective beginning in 2020, the Convention Planning Committee shall work with the Division Convention Host Camp to set a registration deadline (not later than 1 May), set a registration fee to cover the basic costs associated with the business meeting, and limit the mark-up over basic costs of optional events to reflect they are no longer subsidizing the business meeting expenses. Texas Division members may attend the Convention without pre-registration, by paying the registration fee plus a late fee, but will not be guaranteed a printed program or Reunion medal.</p>	<p><b>Item 8.5</b>  <del>Effective beginning in 2020,</del> The Convention Planning Committee shall work with the Division Convention Host Camp to set a registration deadline (not later than 1 May). <del>set a registration fee to cover the basic costs associated with the business meeting, and limit the mark-up over basic costs of optional events to reflect they are no longer subsidizing the business meeting expenses.</del> Texas Division members may attend the Convention without pre-registration, <del>by paying the registration fee plus a late fee,</del> but will not be guaranteed a printed program or Reunion medal.</p>	<p><b>Item 8.5</b> of the Texas Division Constitution is in direct conflict with <b>Item 10.4</b> which reads: "An amount of three dollars (\$3.00) for each Texas Division Compatriot (regular or Life Member, as of 1 May) shall be allocated toward the expenses of the annual Division Convention. <b>No fee shall be required for attendance at any Division Convention.</b>"</p> <p>Amending Item 8.5 will put the Texas Division Constitution in harmony with itself by eliminating the conflict.</p>

Walker's Greyhounds Camp #2338

MAY 2024

# Texas Division Constitution Amendments

**These Amendments will be voted on at our next meeting**



**Proposed Changes to the Texas Division Constitution**

Offered by  
**W. Michael Hurley**  
 Walker's Greyhounds Camp #2338  
 SCV Member #42208

Current	Proposed	Reason
<p><b>Not Current Provision</b></p>	<p><b>Item 6.4.1.13</b>                      The Division Commander shall be given a travel budget each year in the amount of \$1,200.00. These monies can be used to reimburse the Division Commander for travel expenses incurred while traveling to support the work of the Texas Division. These expenses include, but are not limited to hotel, fuel, meals, and registration at Division and National Reunions.</p>	<p>To encourage increased participation of the Division Commander at Camp and Brigade events across the State of Texas.</p> <p>It is my suggestion that this provision be made effective on July 1, 2025</p>



# 2nd Texas Frontier-Camp 1904



## April 2024 Minutes

7PM Paul Hutcheson offered the blessing and invocation.

7:30 Meeting called to order. Pledges US, Texas and CSA Reading of the Charge Program by Greg Goetz: "The Battle of Aiken S.C."

### **Business Section**

Adjutant Eddie Cox declared YES quorum.

Eddie Cox submits Treasurer 's report : \$2,781.55

Dave Guise motion to accept March Minutes. Mason Spikes 2nd. passed

Commander calls for Officer reports:

**1st Lt. Commander-Dave Guise** - 2025 Reunion has 2 meeting this month.

Application for 2025 Program Ads ready to begin selling.

**2nd Lt. Commander- Mason Spikes:** Passing out recruitment posters

**3rd Lt. Commander-Charles Ditmore:** Comanche Museum had rain April 20.

However met a family from Georgetown and got App from son.

**OCR-Becky Bussey** - TSOCR received 7 applications 2024 Scholarship

**UDC-Brenda Guise** - UDC Chapter 2650 flagged Acton Cemetery. UDC National plans to file suit against ArlingtonReconciliation Monument removal.

**Events-Dave Guise:** 3 members at Pleasant Hill, LA. Division Picnic Blanco 1 member present. Next in Mexia. May 4, Celtic Fest/May 11 Chalk Man

**Membership & Recruitment-** nothing at this time

**Programs**-May- Part II of "The Battle of Aiken S.C." by Greg Goetz

**Flags-Tommy Alford-:** Not Present. Flags good for now but getting tattered

**Cemetary-Eddie Cox.**- Reed Cem needs work. Stone Cem clean up June 1st.

**Newsletter-Brenda Guise-** Nothing at this time

**Old Business:** Nothing

**New Business:**

2025 Reunion Meeting May 5 2p

### **Upcoming Events on the back**

Discussion- Nothing

Commander calls for comments and closes meeting

Mason Spikes motion to close meeting 2nd by Dave Guise

Benediction & Dixie led by Commander 8:43PP meeting adjourned





# May in History



## Battle of Palmito Ranch

Also known as the **Battle of Palmito Hill**, is considered by some criteria the final battle of the War of Northern Aggression. It was fought May 12 and 13, 1865, on the banks of the Rio Grande east of Brownsville, Texas, and a few miles from the seaport of Los Brazos de Santiago, at the southern tip of Texas. The battle took place more than a month after the surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia under Robert E. Lee to Union forces at Appomattox Court House, which had since been communicated to both commanders at Palmito. In the intervening weeks the Confederacy had collapsed entirely, so it could also be classified as a postwar action.

Union and Confederate forces in southern Texas had been observing an unofficial truce since the beginning of 1865, but Union Colonel Theodore H. Barrett, newly assigned to command an all-black unit and never having been involved in combat, ordered an attack on a Confederate camp near Fort Brown for unknown reasons. The Union attackers captured a few prisoners, but the following day the attack was repulsed near Palmito Ranch by Colonel John Salmon (Rip) Ford, and the battle resulted in a Confederate victory. Union forces were surprised by artillery said to have been supplied by the French Army garrison occupying the up-river Mexican town of Matamoros.

Casualty estimates are not dependable, but Union Private John J. Williams of the 34th Indiana Infantry Regiment is believed to have been the last man killed during the engagement. He could then arguably be considered the last man killed in the war.

After July 27, 1864, the Union Army withdrew most of the 6,500 troops deployed to the lower Rio Grande Valley, including Brownsville, which they had occupied since November 2, 1863. The Confederates were determined to protect their remaining ports, which were essential for cotton sales to Europe and the importation of supplies. The Mexicans across the border tended to side with the Confederates because of the lucrative cotton export trade. Beginning in early 1865, the rival armies in south Texas honored a gentlemen's agreement, as they saw no point in further hostilities between them. Union Lieutenant Colonel David Branson wanted to attack the Confederate encampments commanded by Ford at White and Palmito ranches near Fort Brown outside Brownsville. Branson's Union forces consisted of 250 men of the 62nd U.S.C.T. in eight companies and two companies of the (U.S.) 2nd Texas Cavalry Battalion. The 300-man 2nd Texas, like the earlier-formed 1st Texas Cavalry Regiment, was composed largely of Texans of Mexican origin who remained loyal to the United States. They moved from Brazos Santiago to the mainland. At first Branson's expedition was successful, capturing three prisoners and some supplies, although it failed to achieve the desired surprise. During the afternoon, Confederate forces under Captain William N. Robinson counterattacked with less than 100 cavalry, driving Branson back to White's Ranch, where the fighting stopped for the night. Both sides sent for reinforcements; Ford arrived with six French guns and the remainder of his cavalry force (for a total of 300 men), while Barrett came with 200 troops of the 34th Indiana in nine under-strength companies.

The next day, Barrett started advancing westward, passing a half-mile to the west of Palmito Ranch, with skirmishers from the 34th Indiana deployed in advance. Ford attacked Barrett's force as it was skirmishing with an advance Confederate force along the Rio Grande about 4 p.m. He sent a couple of companies with artillery to attack the Union right flank and the remainder of his force into a frontal attack. After some confusion and fierce fighting, the Union forces retreated toward Boca Chica. Barrett attempted to form a rearguard, but Confederate artillery prevented him from rallying a force sufficient to do so. During the retreat, which lasted until 14 May, 50 members of the 34th Indiana's rearguard company, 30 stragglers, and 20 of the dismounted cavalry were surrounded in a bend of the Rio Grande and captured. The battle is recorded as a Confederate victory.



Fighting in the battle involved Caucasian, Negro, Hispanic, and Native American troops. Reports of shots from the Mexican side, the sounding of a warning to the Confederates of the Union approach, the crossing of Imperial cavalry into Texas, and the participation by several among Ford's troops are unverified, despite many witnesses reporting shooting from the Mexican shore.

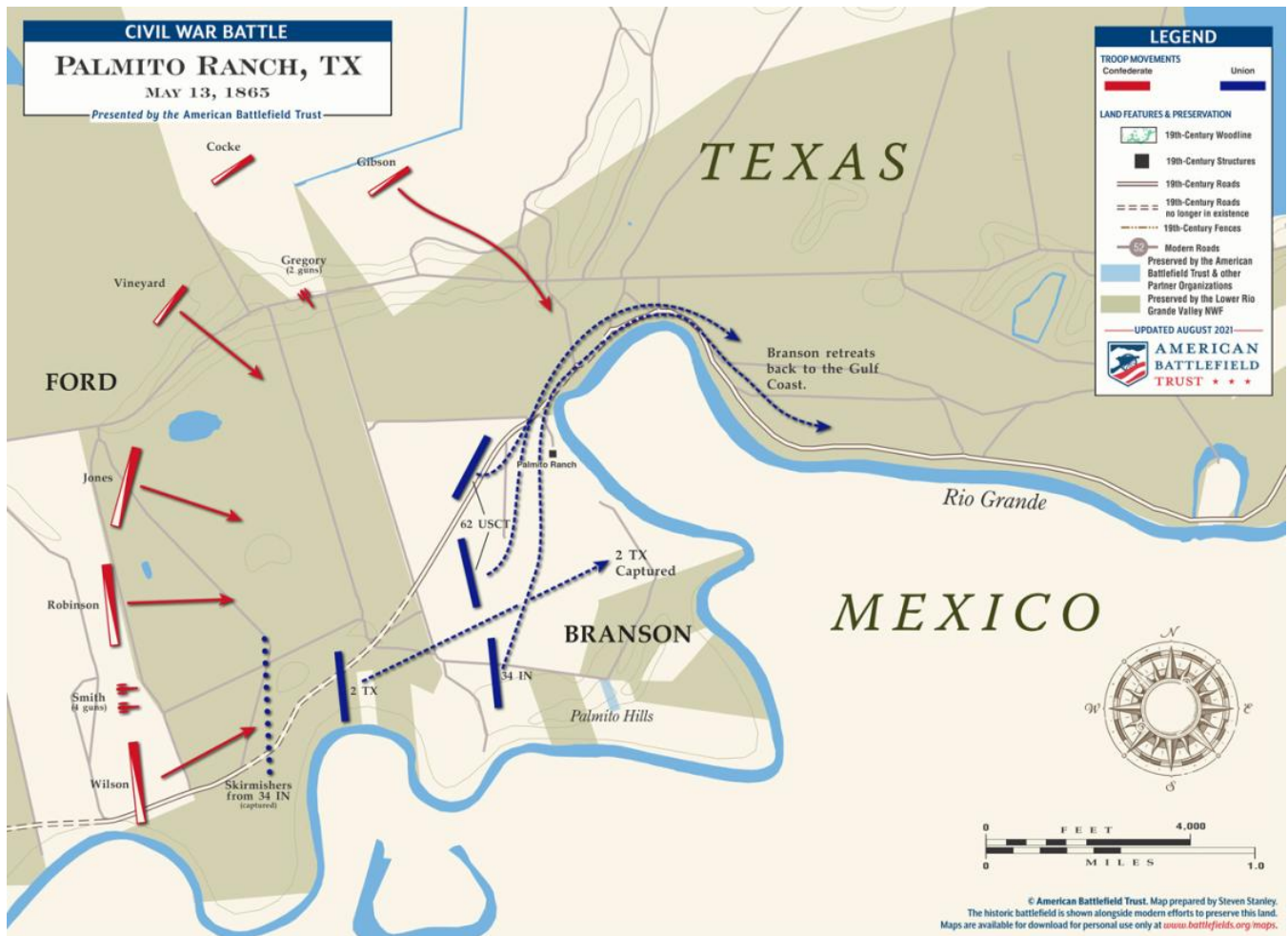
In Barrett's official report of August 10, 1865, he reported 115 Union casualties: one killed, nine wounded, and 105 captured. Confederate casualties were reported as five or six wounded, with none killed. Historian and Ford biographer Stephen B. Oates, however, concludes that Union deaths were much higher, probably around 30, many of whom drowned in the Rio Grande or were attacked by French border guards on the Mexican side. He likewise estimated Confederate casualties at approximately the same number.

Using court-martial testimony and post returns from Brazos Santiago, historian Jerry D. Thompson of Texas A&M International University determined that:

- the 62nd U.S.C.T. incurred two killed and four wounded;
- the 34th Indiana had one killed, one wounded, and 79 captured; and
- the 2nd Texas Cavalry Battalion had one killed, seven wounded, and 22 captured,
- totaling four killed, 12 wounded, and 101 captured.

Private John J. Williams of the 34th Indiana was the last fatality during the Battle at Palmito Ranch, likely making him the final combat death of the entire war.

The area has remained relatively unchanged, with the marshy, windswept prairies almost the same as they were in 1865. The site is more than 5,400 acres (2,200 ha) in size, and was designated as a National Historic Landmark in 1997. The area is indicated by a large highway marker telling the history of the engagement, installed on the "Boca Chica Highway" (Texas State Highway 4) near where Palmito Ranch originally stood. The Civil War Trust (a division of the American Battlefield Trust) and its partners have acquired and preserved 3 acres of the battlefield.





# Camp Happenings



April Meeting

Paul Hutcheson, Eddie Cox, Greg Goetz



Tx Division Picnic-Blanco State Park



L-R: Ginger Ivy, JoAnn Seiler,  
Jim Cox, Peggy Cox, Brenda Guise, Dave Guise





# Decatur Celtic Festival



Bibbs Historical Marker



Carter Gaddis, Dave Guise  
awarding 1904 Secret Service Award



Jackson Richmond as he recuperates from surgery.  
While participating at the Jefferson Reenactment,  
he severely broke his collar bone.



# Chalk Mountain Cemetery Memorial



Dave Guise, Festus Allcock, Curtis Scott, Travis Aike  
Allen Hearrean & Max Knoernschild



Brenda Guise, Ginger Ivy, Debbie Hearrean,  
Peggy Harvey & Gail Allcock



Festus Allcock, Curtis Scott, Gail Allcock, Ginger Ivy,  
Debbie Hearrean, Allen Hearrean, Dave Guise,  
Brenda Guise, Travis Aike & Peggy Harvey



# 2024 Upcoming Events

-----as of May 19, 2024 -----

**May 28, 2024 (Tuesday.) 2nd Texas Frontier District Camp #1904 Meeting:** 7PM in Comanche at the Comanche Mercantile. 101 N. Houston St. Comanche Tx

**June 7-9, 2024 Texas Division Reunion in San Antonio TX**

**June 13, 2024 (Thursday): Whitney #2313 meeting:** 6:30p Steele Creek Acres VFD, 1334 FM 1713, Morgan Tx.

**June 13, 2024 (Thursday): Hico #1982 meeting:** 7:00P Hico Community Center

**June 20, 2024 (Thursday) Palo Pinto #2283 meeting:** 7:00P in the Palo Pinto Fire Hall, 620 Oak St., Palo Pinto

**June 25, 2024 (Tuesday.) 2nd Texas Frontier District Camp #1904 Meeting:** 7PM in Comanche at the Comanche Mercantile. 101 N. Houston St. Comanche Tx

**July 17-21, 2024 SCV National Reunion in Charleston SC**

**BE SURE TO MARK YOUR CALENDARS**