



THE ROSE CITY STAR



Newsletter of the Sons of Confederate Veterans - Walker's Greyhounds #2338 Tyler TX

Next Meeting...

**Tuesday,
February 17, 2026
7:00 P.M.**

**Manny's Tex-Mex Cafe 1433
S. Beckham Ave.
Tyler, TX 75701**

Need Directions? 903-630-5163

***“From Ulster to America...
The Story of the Scots Irish”***

Presented By Michael Hurley

**Wives, friends, and families
are welcome to attend.**

Compatriots,

We have enjoyed a strong start to the new year as we posted over 200 flags on Confederate graves in the Tyler area in observance of Confederate Heroes day on January 19th. In addition, we held our monthly meeting on January 22, 2026 where details were shared concerning our hosting of the upcoming 129th Annual Texas Division Reunion. Speaking of the Reunion, I am pleased to announce that the website for the Reunion is up and running. On the site you can register for meals, find agenda information, and purchase tickets for the upcoming bus tour. Only 55 seats are available on the bus so if you have an interest now is the time to register.

scvreunion.com

We also rejoice over the acquisition of the domain name for our camp website, and our purchase of a sound system for camp events in the future. This is an exciting time for our camp, as we work together to “Keep the Charge”!

Michael Hurley ~ Editor

*Don't forget your Sweethearts on
Valentine's Day!*



Sons of Confederate Veterans
Army of Trans-Mississippi

ATM Field Day!
on the Battlefield!

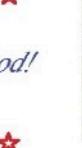
Saturday April 18, 2026

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!  *Music!* 

Food!  *Games!* 

Fellowship! 

THANK YOU!

Gentlemen,

Recently Compatriot Dr. D.M. Edwards made a donation to our camp in the amount of \$250.00!! Thank you D.M.!!!!

Since the camp does not collect any annual dues, all contributions are greatly valued and assist us in doing the work of the camp!

Walker's Greyhounds Acquires Sound System!



The System Has:

- 4 Mics and Mic Stands
- 2 Peavey Speakers with Tall Stands
- 1 Peavey Monitor
- 1 Peavey Mixer

The system will be utilized at grave dedications, and camp events in the future.

Special thanks to Dr. D. M. Edwards and anonymous Compatriot who donated the cost of the system to the camp as a gift!!!

Walker's Greyhounds Camp #2338 Meeting Minutes

January 20, 2026, 7:00 PM; Manny's Restaurant, Tyler TX

IN ATTENDANCE

Zachary Sabota, Commander, Monty Williams - 1st Lt. Commander, Michael Hurley - Adjutant, Danny Dorsey, Bill Hurley, Richard Smoot, Tommy May, Austin, Tommy May, Dr. D. M. Edwards, Tami Hurley - UDC, Patty Williams - UDC, and guests: J.J. Hurley, Kevn McCall, Keith Paris, Austin Hurley

INVOCATION AND MINUTES APPROVAL

Meeting Called To Order By Zachary Sabota, Commander

Invocation – Monty Williams, Chaplain

The minutes were approved by committee

Adjutant report: Beginning Balance: 547.59 Ending Balance: 917.59

<https://walkersgreyhounds.com> is the camp's new website domain name

<https://walkersgrehounds.net> will still be active

PLEDGES/CHARGE

Pledges – Michael Hurley

Reading of “The Charge” – Danny Dorsey

REPORTS

Old Business

- Report on January 19, 2026, Confederate Memorial Day Flag Placement at Oakwood Historical Cemetery was a great success. 70 Confederate veterans' graves and the Confederate monument for 231 unknown soldiers were marked in Remembrance. This was in conjunction with the Mollie Moore Davis 217 UDC Tyler.
- Holly Bushes around the Confederate monument at Oakwood Cemetery are complete.
- Remembering compatriot Johnnie Holley – photos Keith Parris

New Business

- Camp Ford POW Camp update provided by Dr. D.M. Edwards and Kevin McCall. Invited members to attend February 3, 2025, 12 Noon, Plaza Tower in Downtown Tyler. Handouts given to members.
- Motion submitted by Michael for an April Confederate Heritage Banquet in lieu of the regular April meeting. Second: Dr. D.M. Edwards **Motion Passed**
Three (3) man committee will be appointed to head plans
- Purchase of sound system for use during camp meetings and events. Contribution of \$250 was donated by Dr. D.M. Edwards toward purchase.

**Walker's Greyhounds Camp #2338 Meeting Minutes
January 20, 2026, 7:00 PM; Manny's Restaurant, Tyler TX.**

PROGRAM

- Preparations for 2026 Texas Division Convention being held Tyler at the Holiday Inn and Convention, June 4-7, 2026
 - Agenda for Reunion
 - Registration Form Sample
 - Preconvention Tour
 - Reunion Medal
 - Music for Ball – Buttermilk Junction
 - Collection of Ads for the Convention Program
 - Full page - \$100 ½ page - \$50 ¼ page - \$25
 - Caps and T-shirts for Fundraiser purchase
 - Preparation of Convention Program

Benediction – Monty Williams, chaplain

Meeting closed with the singing of “Dixie”

NEXT MEETING

February 17, 2026 – Manny's Restaurant

January Camp Meeting...



*Compatriot Dr. D.M. Edwards provides
a report on Camp Ford, Tyler TX*



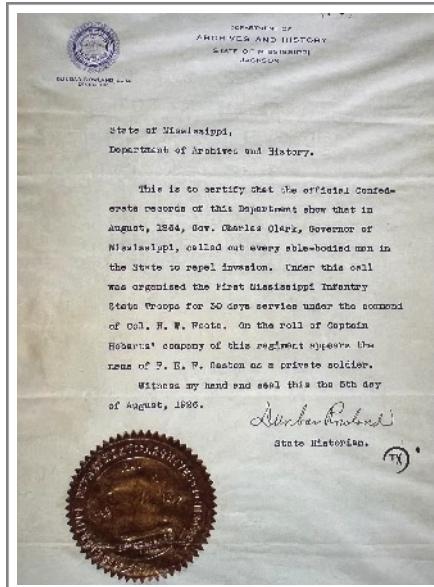
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Camp Website Secures New Domain Name!

After almost three years of waiting, we were able to purchase the rights for our camp website. You can now find us online at:

Walkersgreyhounds.com

Smith County Confederate Veteran Spotlight...



Finis Ewing Fox Gaston 1849-1913 Private, 1st Mississippi Infantry - State's Troops

Finis Ewing Fox Gaston was born in Louisville, Mississippi on 7 October 1849. He was the first of six children born to the Ebenezer Gaston (1820-1885) and Margaret Caroline Fox (1823-1862). Louisville, MS was a small community in Winston County named in honor of Louis Winston, a prominent lawyer and Mississippi Supreme Court Judge.

When the war began in April of 1861, Finis was only 12 years old. As the war continued and the situation became dire for the Confederacy, Charles Clark, Governor of Mississippi, on August 1, 1864, called out every able-bodied man in the State to repel the Yankee invaders. Under this call the First Mississippi Infantry State Troops were organized under the command of Colonel H. W. Foote. Little information on the specific service of this unit survives in historical records. Most of the 1864 State Troops saw little serious action, often remaining in camps. The remaining State Troops were officially disbanded when Confederate forces in the Department of Alabama, Mississippi, and East Louisiana surrendered on May 4, 1865. When Finis Gaston volunteered to serve Mississippi he was only 15 years old.

After the war, he graduated from the Baltimore College of Dental Surgery on 1 May 1870. The College was the world's first dental college, and was the foundation of modern dental education with a science based curriculum, it eventually became the University of Maryland School of Dentistry.

He married Miss Bessie Clarinda James in 4 May 1876, in Nashville, Tennessee. To this union God gave six children: Thomas, Margaret, Roy, Bess, Finis and Alliene. Dr. and Mrs. Gaston moved to Tyler, Texas after their marriage and Finis practiced dentistry in the same downtown Tyler office for the next 36 years. The Gaston Family lived in a home located at 522 N. Bois d'Arc Street. The home was located just across the street from the Goodman mansion as Mrs. Goodman was the cousin of Finis Gaston.

Finis Gaston's wife was approved for a Confederate widows pension in 1920. She received \$25.00 per month until her death in 1932.

Finis Gaston and his wife Bessie, are laid to rest at historic Oakwood Cemetery in Tyler, TX.

Note: His child, Alliene Gaston Coker, was a life long Tyler. She lived to be 100 years old, and passed away in 1991. She buried in Rose Hill cemetery in Tyler, TX. She was the first woman elected as an officer of a Tyler bank. She worked for 44 years at Peoples National Bank, finishing her career as Assistant Vice President in charge of new accounts. Many family members still reside in the Tyler area.



Greyhounds Recognize Confederate Heroes Day!

Compatriots placed flags on approximately 200
Confederate graves in observance of Confederate Heroes
Day Sunday, January 18, 2026.

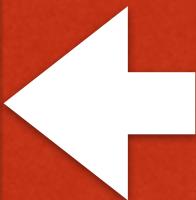


(Front L-R) Michelle Threadgill, Tami Hurley, Patty Williams, Tommy May, Scott McDonald, Adam Glover.
(Back L-R) Monty Williams, Richard Smoot, Gail Smoot, Jesse Walker and son, (in the very back) Zach Sabota,

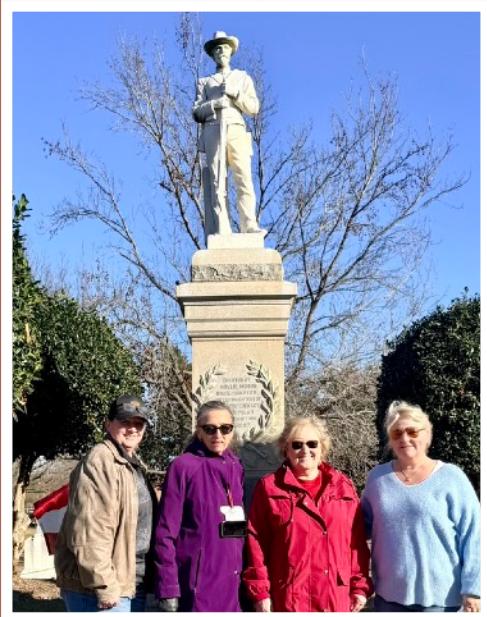


(L-R) Tami Hurley, Bill Hurley, JJ Hurley, and Michael Hurley
returned on January 19, 2026 to pick the flags up and store them!

More Pictures From Our Flagging of Confederate Graves in observance of Texas Confederate Heroes Day!



(L-R) Compatriots Tommy May, Monty Williams, Danny Dorsey, Zach Sabota, and Adam Glover



Members of Mollie Moore Davis 217 U.D.C.

(L-R) Michelle Threadgill, Sarah Beene,
Patty Willaims, and Tami Hurley
THANK YOU LADIES!!!!



129th Annual Reunion
Texas Division
Sons of Confederate Veterans
Tyler, TX
June 5-7, 2026



Holiday Inn & Conference Center
5701 South Broadway, Tyler, TX
To Call For Hotel Reservations
903-561-5800

**Full Reunion Details, Make Hotel Reservations and
Convention Registration Online:**

www.scvreunion.com

**Hosted by the Walker's Greyhounds Camp #2338
Tyler Texas**



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 Cut-Off	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



Our camp is now on Facebook! Make sure and go to the site and “Like” us so you can keep up with the latest news, and upcoming events of the camp! Just go to Facebook and search for “Walkers’s Greyhounds”.



Things You Should Know About Our Camp Namesake... **Walker's Greyhounds**

- ◆ Walker's Greyhounds were the only division in Confederate service composed, throughout its existence, of troops from a single state, **TEXAS**. To include **seven regiments** which held companies of men from **Smith County**.
- ◆ The division's first commander was **Major General John George Walker**.
- ◆ During its time in the Confederate army, the unit was commonly called the “**Greyhound Division**” or “**Walker's Greyhounds**,” in tribute to its special ability to make long, forced marches from one threatened point to another in the Trans-Mississippi Department.
- ◆ Initially, the division was 12,000 strong, and boasted regiments composed of men from East, Central, North, and South Texas. As a result it is likely that more Texans descend from ancestors which fought in **Walker's Greyhounds** than any other unit in the proud military history of Texas.
- ◆ The division played a pivotal role in the **1864 Red River Campaign**. Fighting ferociously on the right flank at **Mansfield**, where they routed the Yankees. The next day, at **Pleasant Hill**, Walker's Greyhounds charged into the center of the Federal line, where the Greyhounds again drove back the invaders. The Confederate victory in the Red River Campaign, saved Shreveport, LA; Marshall, TX; and Tyler, TX from the torch of the invading Union army.

The Oakwood Cemetery Restoration Committee

**CORDIALLY INVITES YOU
TO ATTEND**

The "Spirits of Oakwood"

**A WALKING HISTORY TOUR THROUGH
THE HISTORIC OAKWOOD CEMETERY**

**CORNER OF PALACE AND OAKWOOD STREETS
TYLER, TEXAS**

**SATURDAY, March 21, 2026
TOURS START AT 1:00 p.m.**

Tours will begin every 10 minutes. Last tour starts at 4:30 p.m.

*Guests will follow a guide, visiting gravesites of
historical figures from the past.*

Cost - \$10.00 per person

Children under 12 – no charge – must be accompanied by parent.

Some gravesite seating will be available.

Oakwood Cemetery Restoration Committee was organized in 1997, and has worked with the Tyler Parks Department since that time. Funds from the "Spirits of Oakwood" event are designated to help repair the broken monuments and make further improvements within the cemetery. Donations to help with this project are welcome. Send donations to:

*City Cemeterian
City of Tyler Parks Department
P.O. Box 2039
Tyler Tx. 75710*

The "Spirits of Oakwood" event is an annual event, and is held in conjunction with the Tyler Azalea and Spring Flower Trails. For more information visit www.oakwoodcemeterytyler.com or contact Rhonda Reagan at 903-316-2201.

In Memory of the Confederate Companies from Smith County, Texas

1st Texas Infantry Hood's Texas Division "The Ragged Old First" - Colonel Louis T. Wigfall

3rd Texas Infantry Walker's Texas Division, Scurry's Brigade - General William R Scurry

3rd Texas Cavalry McCulloch's Divison - Colonel George W. Chilton

11th Texas Infantry Walker's Texas Division, Randal's Brigade - Major Nathaniel J. Caraway

14th Texas Infantry Walker's Texas Division, Randal's Brigade - Colonel Edward Clark

14th Texas Cavalry "Johnson's Mounted Volunteers", Ector's Brigade - General Matthew Ector

15th Texas Infantry Polignac's Brigade, Speight's Regiment - Lt Colonel James E. Harrison

17th Texas Infantry Walker's Texas Division, Scurry's Brigade - Colonel Robert T. P. Allen

22nd Texas Infantry Walker's Texas Division, Hubbard's Regiment - Colonel Richard B. Hubbard

28th Texas Cavalry (dismount) Walker's Texas Division, Randal's Brigade - Colonel Horace Randal

Douglas Texas Battery of Artillery, Army of the Tennessee - Captain James P. Douglas



15th Texas Infantry



11th Texas Infantry



3rd Texas Infantry



Tyler Guards - 3rd Texas Cav



14th Texas Infantry



17th Texas Infantry

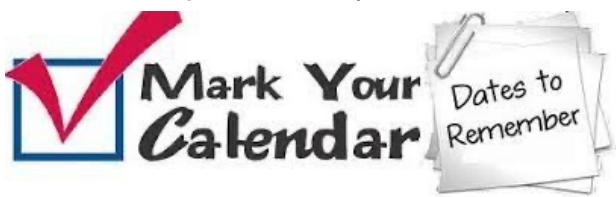


1st Texas Infantry



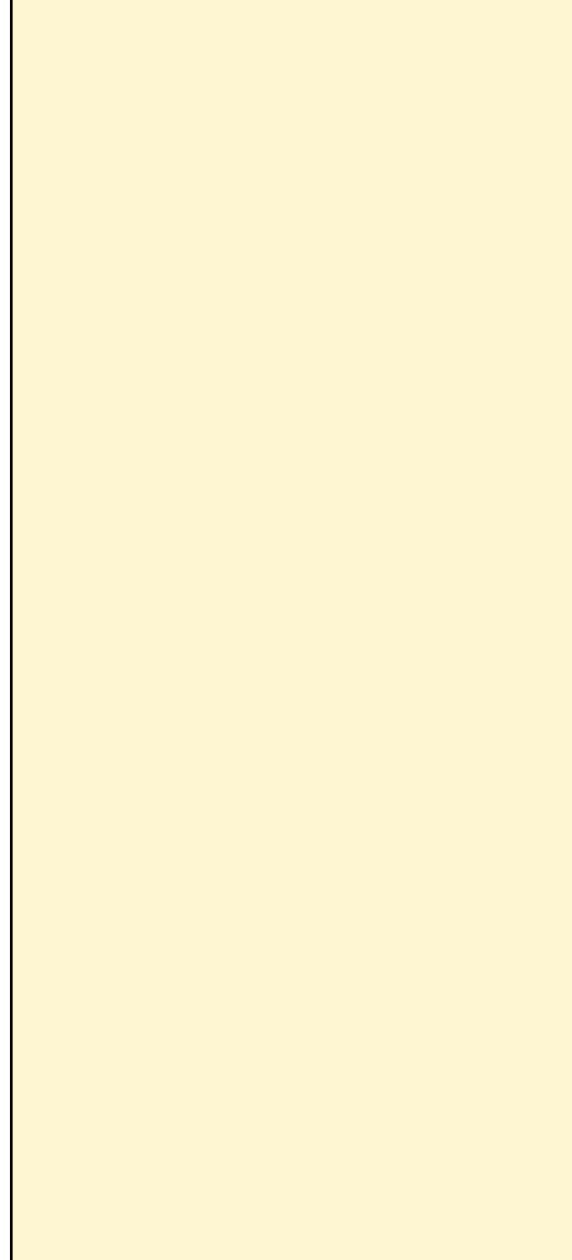
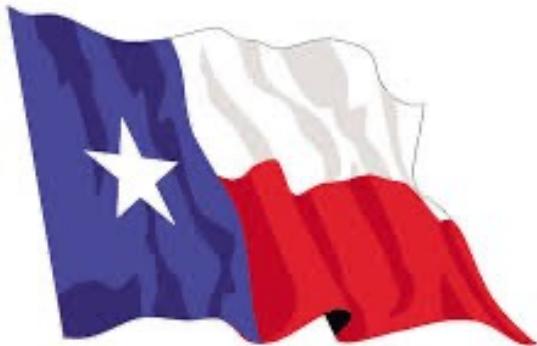
Douglas Battery





Find Us On the Web: www.walkersgreyhounds.com

- ◆ **February 17, 2026** - Monthly Meeting of Walker's Greyhounds.
- ◆ **March 17, 2026** - March monthly meeting of Walker's Greyhounds.
- ◆ **March 21, 2026** - Spirits of Oakwood Cemetery
- ◆ **April 4, 2026** - Tentative date for Camp Confederate Heroes Day Banquet
- ◆ **April 18, 2026** - Army of Trans-Mississippi Field Day at the Mansfield Battlefield, Mansfield, LA.



How Do I Join The Sons of Confederate Veterans?

The SCV is the direct heir of the United Confederate Veterans. Organized at Richmond, Virginia in 1896, the SCV continues to serve as a historical, patriotic, and non-political organization dedicated to ensuring that a true history of the 1861-1865 period is preserved. Membership in the Sons of Confederate Veterans is open to all male descendants of any veteran who served honorably in the Confederate armed forces. Membership can be obtained through either lineal or collateral family lines and kinship to a veteran must be documented genealogically. The minimum age for full membership is 12, but there is no minimum for Cadet membership.