



# Lone Star Dispatch

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### COMMANDER'S CORNER

by *Johnnie L. Holley*



Compatriots:

Well July is closing down, and August is coming soon. We are less than a month from the Texas Society MOS&B Reunion. Our registrations are slow in coming so please get yours in a.s.a.p. We will need time to get name tags and meal reservations. You can find the registration on the Texas web page but be sure it is for the August State Reunion and not the 2021 National Reunion which will also be in College Station. We all need to get together after this COVID stuff and handle our business. I hope to see all in College Station on 14-15 August.

I am sure most of you are as appalled by the recent events, as I am. I watched the news and saw hoodlums pulling down Andrew Jackson's statue in Washington D.C. while the police just looked on. This is happening all over our country and the government officials are doing nothing to prevent it. Once it was our beloved Confederate statues and that was bad but now it is any historical figure. I do not think this is about racial injustice, police brutality or any other excuse they use. I believe this is the beginning of a concerted effort to destroy our Nation and the American way of life. This is a communist / socialist / anarchist movement to forever change America, and not for the better.

Our Ancestors fought these very things in the WBTS in 1861. We, as Descendants of these Great Men, must see this for what it is and stand up. If the American people wait too much longer, we will not have a country left. All of our Heritage groups will be banned, and we will have

to meet in secret and hide. Do I have and answer? I wish I did. We must stay strong and determined as our ancestors did and hope the outcome is different.

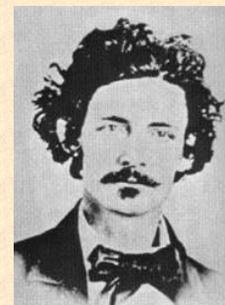
Stay safe and stay strong. God Bless the South, God Bless American and God Bless you all.

*Johnnie Holley*  
*Commander Texas Society MOS&B.*

## TEXAS HEROES

### HIRAM BRONSON GRANBURY

1831 – 1864



Granbury was born on Copiah County, Mississippi, March 1, 1831. He was educated at Oakland College in Rodney, Mississippi. Removing to Texas in the early 1850's, he established himself in Waco, studied law, was admitted to the bar, and served as chief justice of McLennan County from 1856 to 1858, an office roughly similar to chairman of the county board of supervisors.

He recruited the Waco Guards in 1861, took it east, and was elected major of the 7th Texas Infantry in

October of that year. After he was captured and exchanged at Fort Donelson, he became colonel of the 7th Texas, serving in the Vicksburg campaign, at Chickamauga, and at Chattanooga. Granbury was in brigade command during the retreat from Chattanooga and was especially commended by Gen Patrick R. Cleburne. Commissioned brigadier general to rank from February 29, 1864, he led the Texas brigade through the Atlanta campaign and into Tennessee with John B. Hood. At the battle of Franklin, November 30, 1864, Granbury was one of six Confederate generals either killed or mortally wounded. He died along with Cleburne just a few rods from the massive Federal works in the disastrous frontal assault of the Confederates. He was initially buried in Franklin but was removed in 1893 to be reburied in City Cemetery in Granbury, Texas, which is named for him.

## 83<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL CONVENTION



Hilton College Station & Conference Center  
801 University Drive East  
College Station, TX 77840  
1-979-693-7500

### Lieutenant Commander's Comments



I attended to 125<sup>th</sup> General Reunion of the Sons of Confederate Veterans in St. Augustine, Florida on July 15<sup>th</sup> through 18<sup>th</sup> and spent some time manning the MOS&B booth.

We had lots of interest from men wanting information on our great organization, hopefully we will be able to contact them and get some new members from the Reunion. I also handed out several Registration Packets for the 2021 84<sup>th</sup> Annual General Convention in College Station.

I would like to challenge each of you to make every attempt to recruit just one man for the MOS&B this year. If we could each do that then of course our organization would double in one year. I sure that everyone has a son, grandson, brother, or cousin that would make an excellent member.

Together we can make it happen!



### THESE ARE THE TIMES

I have had time during the summer to prepare for the Fall Semester, and I decided to revisit some of the classics. One source that I have reread is Thomas Paine. During the American Revolution, he provided focus for the Continental Congress, the colonial governments, and for Colonial forces. His work, *Common Sense*, changed the hearts and minds of thousands of Americans sitting on the ideological fence unsure of whether the radical notion of independence was for them or if they should remain with the Crown. In page after page, Paine drove home the notion that BIG America should not be ruled by little England. He posited that King George III was far from a loving father to his people but instead was a tyrant. Heaven, logic, and the natural

order dictated that the English colonies should declare their independence from England.

As important as *Common Sense* was to the American Cause, I believe his later work—often written by the light of a candle on the head of a drum outside General Nathaniel Greene’s headquarters—*The Crisis* (also known as *The American Crisis*) was equally important. Part 1, written on 23 December 1776, was published and read to the troops before Washington crossed the Delaware River and launched his attack upon the Hessians at Trenton. Paine’s words echoed in their ears and stirred their souls:

These are the times that try men’s souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of their country; but he that stands by it now, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman. Tyranny, like hell, is not easily conquered; yet we have this consolation with us, that the harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph. What we obtain too cheap, we esteem too lightly: it is dearness only that gives every thing its value. Heaven knows how to put a proper price upon its goods; and it would be strange indeed if so celestial an article as FREEDOM should not be highly rated. Britain, with an army to enforce her tyranny, has declared that she has a right (not only to TAX) but “to BIND us in ALL CASES WHATSOEVER” and if being bound in that manner, is not slavery, then is there no such a thing as slavery upon earth. Even the expression is impious; for so unlimited a power can belong only to God. (Thomas Paine, *The American Crisis* quoted from

<https://www.gutenberg.org/files/3741/3741-h/3741-h.htm>)

In today’s crises we are attacked from all sides, but we should not lose heart. We should not grow weary or give up in the cause we have taken an oath to defend. I am referring to our Southern Heritage, but

while that is important, I am more directly pointing us to the Cross. As much as our enemies today would love to destroy our heritage—they want far more to destroy Christianity and the followers of Jesus Christ. The writer of Hebrews has a lot to say about enduring hardship, about suffering, and about discipline.

But the writer of Hebrews also has something to say about victory. He wrote: “Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.” (*New International Version*, Hebrews 12: 1-2).

As Paine said, “Heaven knows how to put a proper price upon its goods” that price was Jesus. As we struggle through the attacks upon our heritage, our culture, our families, our faith. Do not lose sight of the reward but as the Apostle Paul says in Philippians 3:14—“Press on toward the goal.”

Press On,  
James L. Newsom, Ph.D.  
Chaplain, Texas Society, MOSB



## **CONFEDERATE CEMETERY MEMORIAL SERVICE - FAYETTE, ARKANSAS**

On June 5<sup>th</sup>, ATM Commander Dennis Brand and wife Rita, Texas Society Commander Johnnie Holley and wife Norma, Lieutenant Commander Joe Reynolds and wife Keesie, Texas Adjutant David McMahan and wife Golda, and Compatriot James Putman and wife Jerri traveled to Fayette, Arkansas where on Saturday, they participated in the 147<sup>th</sup> Annual Graveside Memorial Service which was sponsored by the Southern Memorial Association.



### From the Southern Memorial Association Website

*“Let the women of the South organize memorial associations, for it is the women who must see that those who gave their lives for the greatest cause the world has ever known must live forever in the hearts of the Southern people.”*

This was the appeal that Father Abram Joseph Ryan made in the spring of the year 1866. Father Ryan, the “Poet-Priest of the Confederacy,” was a Catholic priest, journalist, and poet who served as a Chaplain in the Confederate Army.

Following in this spirit, about 40 women met on Monday June 10, 1872, at the Methodist Church South, to begin the task of securing a piece of land which would be the permanent resting place for Confederate dead. Just one year later on Tuesday June 10, 1873, the ladies dedicated the Confederate Cemetery and the first graves were decorated. The largest crowd ever assembled in the county since the burial of Col. Archibald Yell gathered that day to attend the first annual Southern Memorial Day ceremony.

Today, the Confederate Cemetery, located at the top of East Rock Street, is still privately owned and maintained by the Southern Memorial Association of Washington County, Arkansas, holds to the same purpose and devotion as the ladies of 1872: to maintain a beautiful resting place for the Confederate soldiers who lie at rest within its historic rock wall.

In August of 2011, the Southern Memorial Association assumed ownership of the Walker Cemetery adjacent to the Confederate Cemetery and just about one year later the Walker Cemetery achieved National Register of Historic Places status.

The Southern Memorial Association is the oldest, continuous organization founded by women in Washington County, as well as in the State of Arkansas. Although it has not yet been documented, the Fayetteville Confederate Cemetery may very well be the largest all-Confederate Cemetery established by women in the entire United States. What also makes it unique is that the organization which established this cemetery never disbanded and is still in existence today!

The Southern Memorial Association is a non-profit 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization which depends on donations for maintenance and preservation of the Confederate Cemetery and the Walker Cemetery. All donations made to the Southern Memorial Association for the care of these cemeteries are tax deductible.

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## REMOVE CONFEDERATE MONUMENTS

All 232 House Democrats voted to remove Confederate monuments from the Capitol. By the way, so did 72 House Republicans of which 6 were from Texas:

- Michael Burgess (R-TX)
- Dan Crenshaw (R-TX)
- Will Hurd (R-TX)
- Mike McCaul (R-TX)
- Pete Olson (R-TX)
- Van Taylor (R-TX)

All of these Nimrods are up for re-election in November. Now we know who not to vote for. If you live in one of their districts you should call and tell them so.

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## SYMPATHY CARD

James Ewell Brown Stuart, IV, of Richmond, Virginia, died April 18, 2020. JEB was a long-time member of the Order and served on the MOS&B Investment Committee for many years. He was extremely proud of his Great Grandfather JEB Stuart. Cards of condolence can be sent to Mary Louise Stuart, 55 Malvern Avenue, Apt. 2, Richmond, VA 23221.

The Texas Society mailed a Sympathy card to Mrs. Stuart and we received the following back.

*The family of  
JEB Stuart IV  
acknowledges with grateful  
appreciation the kind expression  
of your sympathy*

*Thank you so very much  
for the lovely m. & s. B.  
card! How kind! Please  
know, J.E.B. was proud  
to be a member!  
Mary Louise M. Stuart*

Independent historian Jess McLean of Dallas, author of the only compendium of the troops of the 13th Mississippi Infantry Regiment put out a request for someone to locate and preserve the gravesite of 1st Lt William Henry Davis. In 2019, that request had made its way into the hands of the Col Briscoe Gerard Baldwin Jr Chapter 312, Bryan, TX. The search was on and the location of his gravesite was finally located on property owned by John & Judy Urbanosky in Lyons, TX.

An initial visit to the property in September 2019 was made to see the gravesite and to ascertain what needed to be done. We visited with Judy and found that Lt Davis' tombstone had been broken off at ground level and severely damaged by mowing implements. It wasn't even on his grave any longer but she showed us the general area of where she recalled it being located. So, the ancient art of "witching" was used to ascertain the exact location of his gravesite which was about 20 feet away next to the family's large garden. A contingent consisting of Cmdr Lance, Lt Cmdr Mike Smith, and members Dan Wood and Bill Boyd reset the tombstone on location. We told Judy that we would contact the family with plans related to refurbishing the gravesite for their approval. A nice thank you card was sent to them showing appreciation for their hospitality during the visit.



In January 2020, after consulting with member Dan Hilliard, an experienced welder, about how to best build a pole & chain fence around the site, plans were drawn and submitted to the owners for their approval. Hilliard built the poles and all was set to proceed. Then, the COVID thing hit and put a stop to our endeavors. Cmdr Lance continued to investigate the possibilities of exhumation of Lt Davis' body for return to Sparta, MS to be buried alongside other family members (parents, brother, sister & his wife) in the Amity Cemetery. The hardest part of the project would prove to be locating a family member to approve the exhumation which is required by TX Law.

**A LONE MISSISSIPPIAN IN TEXAS  
1ST LT WILLIAM H. DAVIS  
COMMANDER, CO H, 13 MS INF**

*By Commander Lee R Lance, Chapter 312*



On June 8, a crew of Cmdr Lance, Lt Cmdr Smith, and members Bill Boyd, Darryl English and Dan Wood converged on the property for the final restoration of the gravesite. The work included cementing in PVC pipes which would receive the surplus pipe stem uprights, threading the chain into place and laying in decorative concrete “stones” around the perimeter. We had planned to lay grass sod; however, John U asked that we leave it bare to avoid grass in his garden.

During this visit, Jason U (son) related the story of how Lt Davis had done his duty one last time to protect the homeland against “government” tyranny. The state planned to take a swath of land through their farm by eminent domain to straighten out an “S-curve” in FM60 where it intersects with SH36. But, with Lt Davis in the way, the state opted not to continue with the project. Two family homes (built with school house brick) were saved from destruction; John U proffered that he’d rather keep Davis around.

### LT DAVIS’ BACKGROUND

Who was he and how did he come to be buried in Lyons? And why was it on the old school house grounds? Here is the rest of the story: Lt William Henry Davis was born 07AUG1841 in Chickasaw Co, MS and died 03MAR1884 (aged 42) in Lyons, TX. According to records, Davis began the war as 2d Sergeant in the 13th’s Spartan Band (later, Co H) at age 18; he was promoted to 2d Lt 19OCT63 & to 1st Lt 05OCT64. Davis was wounded in hip at Gettysburg (July 63) and in thigh at Wilderness (May 64); was the last officer in command of the tiny remnant when it surrendered at Appomattox in 1865. According to locals, Lt Davis had come to Lyons by train to visit either a relative or a wartime colleague (we believe the latter). He got off the train feeling ill

and soon worsened and died. Not being able to afford embalming and transport back to MS, he was buried in Lyons. The community had no public cemetery and only one piece of public property – the local schoolyard. So, Lt Davis was interned on said property and school kids tended his gravesite. In Circa 1930-40, the Lyons School District was defunct and absorbed by Somerville ISD. The school grounds were sold to the Urbanosky’s who had an adjacent farm. They tore down the brick schoolhouse and built four brick homes for family members which are still in use.



Lt Davis can now rest in peace in a protected, identifiable gravesite thanks to the extensive efforts of Chapter 312.



### THE CONFEDERATE CORNER

by Thomas J. Key Camp #1920  
Past-Commander, Jim Thornton



We need family history now more than ever. Knowing, recording, preserving, and sharing our family histories can provide countless benefits to individuals, families, and entire societies. Family history is more than pedigree charts, censuses, and birthdates. It can be a powerful antidote against adverse life experiences that we face today.

The more we discover about our past, the greater a connection we feel to our ancestors. Learning the history of our ancestors helps us gain a greater understanding of the challenges they faced. We are all facing difficult challenges during these current times. Knowing our family history builds resilience. In learning about our ancestors’ lives, we can see patterns of overcoming failures and surviving hard

times. Their stories remind us that surely not everything in life will work easily, that disappointments occur, and inequalities exist, but that we can recover, triumph, and find happiness despite hardships.

As you do your family history research, be sure to share what you found with other family members. Learning and sharing the stories, customs, and even how ancestors may have overcome tragedy can help preserve your current family circle, keeping the history alive for generations to come. Each ancestor has a story to share with their descendants. The experiences, adventures, problems, hardships, and celebrations helped shape that ancestor and future generations of the family.

Research shows that children who have been told about their ancestors and know a great deal about their past are better adjusted and more resilient in the face of challenges. These studies found that the more children knew about their family history, the higher their self-esteem and the better able they were to deal with the effects of stress. Family history provides a sense of identity through time, and helps children understand who they are in the world.

Another benefit to teaching your kids about their past: It is a way to get them interested in history. The discovery of an ancestor's role in historical events has been shown to make reading and learning about the history so much more personal for children. They can relate on a personal level. It is no longer just words on a page.

Take a family tree and flip it on its head. In other words, invert the timeline of a family tree and look at it from the perspective of one of your ancestors. From their point of view, you would represent the future. Such a simple exercise produces a profound truth: you are the product of the many generations that came before you.

Chances are many of your ancestors had to overcome considerable personal hardship in their lives. The knowledge that your ancestors had great inner strength can be a powerful motivator for anyone trying to understand their place in the world. If it were not for them, you would not be here today reading these words. Our family history goes beyond the names and dates we find in our tree. It is about what makes us who we are. It is about people with whom we can form deep connections. It is about

people who lived and breathed and suffered and triumphed. It is about roots and branches and leaves and entire forests. It is about all of us.

Deo Vindice!

Jim Thornton



## **SAMUEL COOPER CHAPTER HOSTS INSTALLATION OF ITS NATIONAL OFFICERS**

On June 21, 2020, in the garden of the historic Lord Fairfax House in historic Old Town Alexandria, Commander General Byron Brady of North Carolina administered the oath of office to Joseph Judson Smith, III, and David John Stringfellow as Commander General and Lieutenant Commander General of the Military Order of the Stars and Bars respectively. Having the top two officers from one chapter is an historic event as it has never happened before.



*Shown from left is Lieutenant Commander General David John Stringfellow and Commander General Joseph Judson Smith, III, being administered the oath of office by outgoing Commander General Byron Brady, in a ceremony held in Alexandria, Virginia, on June 21, 2020.*

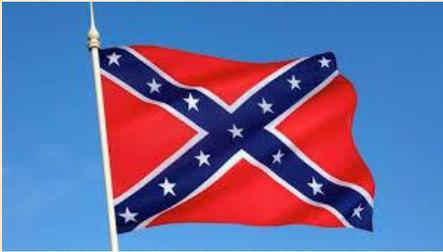


“To tar the sacrifices of the Confederate soldier as simple acts of racism, and reduce the battle flag

under which he fought to nothing more than the symbol of a racist heritage, is one of the great blasphemies of our modern age". James Webb-Secretary of Navy And Assistant Secretary of Defense under U.S. President Ronald Regan and current U.S. Senator (D.VA.) (Born Fighting: How the Scots-Irish Shaped America, New York: Broadway Books, 2004, p. 225)



## THE CONQUERED BANNER.



BY FATHER ABRAM J. RYAN,  
THE POET PRIEST OF THE SOUTH.

Furl that banner, for 'tis weary,  
Round its staff 'tis drooping dreary;  
Furl it, fold it, It Is beat;  
For there's not a man to wave it,  
And there's not a sword to save it,  
And there's not one left to lave it,  
In the blood which heroes gave it,  
And it foes now scorn and brave it—  
Furl it. hide it, let it rest.

Take the banner down— 'tis tattered,  
Broken Is Its staff and shattered,  
And the valiant hosts are scattered,  
Over whom it floated high.  
Oh! 'tis hard for us to fold it,  
Hard to think there's none to hold it,  
Hard that those who once unrolled it  
Now must unfurl it with a sigh.

Furl that banner, furl It sadly—  
Once ten thousand hailed it gladly,  
And ten thousand wildly, madly,

Swore it should forever wave,  
Swore that foeman's sword could never  
Hearts like theirs entwined dis sever,  
Till that flag would float forever  
O'er their freedom or their grave.

Furl it, for the hands that grasped it,  
And the hearts that fondly clasped it,  
Cold and dead are lying low:  
And the banner, it is trailing,  
While around it sounds the walling  
Of its people in their woe.

For, though conquered, they adore it,  
Love the cold, dead hands that bore it,  
Weep for those who fell before it,  
Pardon those who trailed and tore it,  
And oh! wildly they deplore it,  
Now to furl and fold it so.

Furl that banner! true 'tis gory,  
Yet 'tis wreathed around with glory,  
And 'twill live in song and story,  
Though its folds are in the dust;  
For its fame on brightest pages,  
Penned by poets and by sages,  
Shall go sounding down the ages,  
Furl its folds though now we must,  
Furl that banner, softly, slowly,  
Treat it gently—it is holy—  
For it droops above the dead;  
Touch it not, unfold it never,  
Let it droop there, furl'd forever.  
For its people's hopes are dead.

Source:  
"Confederate Veteran" Magazine.  
Volume 1, Number 1, 1893



## YANKEE UNION LEAGUE TERRORISTS DURING RECONSTRUCTION

The late great radio commentator Paul Harvey Aurdnt, known on radio as Paul Harvey, had for many years a very popular segment called "The Rest

Of The Story". Most people are aware that there are at least two sides to any story, and most are aware that the winner or victor of a war writes the history. Many people are also aware that American History, especially that of the Old South, the War For Southern Independence (Civil War), and Reconstruction as presented by Northern historians is at best a highly biased New England perspective and at worst little more than Yankee lies and propaganda. Emperor Napoleon of France is quoted as saying "History is an Accepted Fable" and British Prime Minister Winston Churchill said, "History is Basically Bunk". In the current sea of political correctness that has swallowed up America, true and accurate Southern and Confederate history is absolutely not going to be taught in America's classrooms including colleges and universities.

The complete story of the Civil Rights movement and the battles fought by black Americans, especially black Southerners, for voting and other rights is the subject of this commentary. The perspective presented by America's news media portrays white Southerners as racists and bigots who mistreated totally innocent blacks who only wanted their rights guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights. In some cases, this is true but what caused Southern whites to act in this manner? Some articles ask, "Should blacks forgive whites for this mistreatment". Continue reading as I present "The Rest Of The Story" which dishonest Northern historians have omitted from American history. This omission can be compared to serving on a jury trial in which only the prosecution is allowed to present their perspective and selected facts. Thus, jurors are kept in ignorance of other vital facts relevant to rendering an educated fair and impartial verdict.

Today very few Americans, including Southerners, remember or have ever heard of Uncle Sam's terrorist organization, the **UNION LEAGUE**, which was operated by evil, corrupt, tyrannical, despotic, dictatorial Yankee Carpetbaggers in the South from 1862 through 1877. All chapters in American history books related to Reconstruction discuss radical Republican Carpetbaggers and the KKK. The third element, the Union League, is totally omitted because this "inconvenient history" reflects so negatively on the North and would expose the shameful corrupt and barbaric atrocities committed

by the **UNION LEAGUE** against white Southerners especially former Confederates and their families.

The **UNION LEAGUE** began as an honorable part of the Union army as the Sanitary Commission. It soon morphed into the military strong arm of the Freedman's Bureau and began committing atrocities. These white Yankee carpetbaggers used uneducated blacks as puppets to do their dirty work during so called Reconstruction which was in reality the plunder, pillage, and rape of the Southern states. Blacks were initiated into the **UNION LEAGUE** in secret spectacular impressive ceremonies with fires, music, and inflammatory speeches and lies to incite hatred and resentment toward Southern whites. Conservative blacks that refused to participate and join were beaten or in some cases murdered. During Reconstruction, the membership of the **UNION LEAGUE** reached nearly 300,000 black militia members managed and controlled by white Yankee carpetbaggers.

**UNION LEAGUE** Carpetbaggers handed out matches and had blacks burning houses and barns, shooting livestock, poisoning wells, and committing murder and rape. White Southerners lived in terror for years. Some Yankees were so radical and fanatical that they wanted to exterminate every Southern man, woman, and child. This caused the rise of the KKK which was an honorable Police and Resistance organization (this pro-KKK comment **only applies to the original KKK which disbanded in 1877**. I disdain the modern Klan). Union League carpetbaggers also fought battles between each other for control much like modern drug lords. In several cases president Grant had to intervene, but he always sided with the radicals against moderates. When Southerners finally evicted the carpetbaggers, the blacks were left to face the wrath of whites. Theft and corruption had been so severe that several states were left totally bankrupt.

Although the **UNION LEAGUE** has been omitted from history and virtually forgotten, the consequences have carried forward. White Northerners are responsible for most of today's division between white and black Southerners.



## Texas Society Leadership

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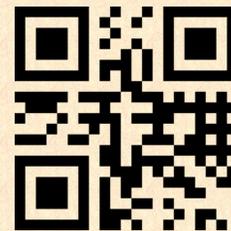
## MILITARY ORDER OF THE STARS AND BARS

*We, the posterity of the Officer Corps and civil officials of the Confederacy, do pledge ourselves to commemorate and honor the service of leadership these men rendered in the cause of the fundamental American principles of self-determination and states' rights and to perpetuate the true history of their deeds for the edification of ourselves, our society and for generations yet unborn.*



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Opinions expressed by individual writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect official positions of the Texas Society, Military Order of the Stars and Bars. Letters and articles may be submitted to: [Joe.Reynolds@txmosb.org](mailto:Joe.Reynolds@txmosb.org) (Cutoff for articles is 15th of the month)