



The Collin County Confederate

Volume 2, Issue 7 William H. L. Wells Camp #1588, Plano Texas

October 2007

Commander's Corner

The commander is taking a well earned vacation this issue but will return in next month's edition of the Collin County Confederate. Ω

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SPECIAL EVENT

TYLER TEXAS

OCTOBER 19-21

Raid on Camp Ford Civil War Reenactment. This will be a fantastic event with lots of fun things to do for the entire family.

SPECIAL EVENT

TINO'S MEXICAN RESTAURANT AT COLLIN CREEK MALL, PLANO
OCTOBER 23 AT 7 PM

Monthly meeting of SCV Camp #1588. New comers are welcome.

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TINO'S MEXICAN RESTAURANT AT COLLIN CREEK MALL, PLANO
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From the Front

The Raid on Camp Ford Civil War Reenactment

By Jason Waggoner

It was a bold and daring plan. Crossover the Red River from Indian territory unobserved, maneuver through the back woods and country roads, and launch a surprise attack on the garrison guarding thousands on Union prisoners of war at Camp Ford.

Union commanders were confident that the operation would strike both fear and despair into the heart of the Confederacy. And once the Rebel forces learned that Union troops could march on Texas soil at *will*, they would know that further resistance was useless. A successful operation would also have serious political implications for Texas Governor Clark. For the Union commanders believed that the governor would rapidly lose support once people saw that he could not defend the state. Why a successful attack might even knock Texas out of the war altogether!

These then were the stakes, when in Oct 1864, Union forces headed by Major Charles Willette started off. For two days the Union forces crossed the back roads undetected, travelling slowly and mostly at night. But on the 3rd day their encampment was discovered by a farm hand just South of Jones Farm. Immediately the alarm was sounded. All able bodied men were to assemble at the Jones Farm and wait for further orders.

By the morning of the 20th only 300 Confederate soldiers were on hand to oppose the almost two thousand Yankees. More troops were being rushed from other parts of Texas, but could not possibly arrive before the morning of the 21st. The battle was shaping up to be another slaughter, but a young Confederate Captain stepped forward with a plan. Knowing that the road narrowed through some dense woods at Jones

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COPPERHEADS

The “Copperheads” were Northern advocates of a peaceful resolution to the conflicts between the sections. Members of the Democratic Party, the major political rival to Lincoln and the Republican Party, compromised the bulk of their thousands strong ranks.

They supported:

- The Union of Northern and Southern states
- States’ rights to govern themselves
- The original, conservative reading of the constitution
- Peaceful resolution of sectional differences

They opposed:

- High import tariffs
- Keeping the Union together by force
- Mandatory military service in the federal army
- Suspension of habeas corpus, arbitrary arrests, military tribunals for civilians
- Government shutdown of newspapers
- Abolition and the Emancipation Proclamation (they feared ex-slaves would flood into their states)

The highest concentration of Copperheads came in the western section of the Northern Union, especially Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois. Though Lincoln came from there, many of his Democratic opponents did as well.

The legislature of his home state was itself controlled by Democrats. These western states had sided with the South and against the Northeastern industrial interests in many of the contentious pre-war issues.

Copperheads, at least through the first years of the war railed famously against what they perceived as a centralized national government running amok, and a war waged by it that was destroying the institutions and liberty of the United States and going against the original intentions of the founders. Ω

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LINCOLN UNDER FIRE

Evidence abounds, from Lincoln’s own words as well as his actions before and after the “emancipation”, that something besides the desire to free the slaves fueled the act. Largely unreported by most traditional American histories of the War is the revolt launched against Lincoln by Senate Republicans in mid-December, 1862, just before he signed into law the over-credited Emancipation Proclamation.

According to Lincoln’s old friend, Illinois Representative Orville Browning as well as others, the senators demanded the President conduct a more resolute war effort. They were apparently prepared to bring down his administration if he did not. This enhanced effort evidently included emancipation merely as a method of war that would torpedo the South’s economy and thereby, its ability to defend itself.



A slave uprising, with the associated slaughter of white Southern women, old men, and children – lay

within the sphere of this projection. Horatio Seymour, soon- to- be Democratic Governor of New York said:

“The scheme for an immediate emancipation and general arming of the slaves throughout the South is a proposal for the butchery of women and children, for scenes of lust and rapine, arson, and murder, unparalleled in the history of the world.”

Fortunately, the relations between Southern slaves and their owners proved superior to such an eventuality. Indeed, the President eliminated from an early draft of the decree an outright call for a violent uprising of slaves.

The pressure on Lincoln to do something to satisfy the Radical Republicans and their desire to destroy the South was monumental.

However, the northern concern for the plight of the slaves was, let us say...less. Ω

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Farm, the Confederate Captain believed it would be possible to delay the much larger Yankee force with his small blocking force. There in the tight quarters where the road opened into a field, the Union superiority in men would count for nothing. Here the small Confederate force would wait in ambush.

On the afternoon of the 20th the Yankees pushed forward to Jones Farm. Thinking nothing stood between them and their objective, the Union Calvary thundered through the narrow gap in the woods. Then just as they reached the crest of the hill they are shocked to find on the other side, not the open field they were hoping for, but Confederate Infantry and Calvary ready for battle! The Confederate Calvary immediately charges into the Union ranks. Sabers rattle in combat and soon the soon the Yankee Calvary flee. But the battle has only just begun, because Major Charles Willette begins throwing company after company at the Rebels in a vain attempt to dislodge them from the gap.

As the sun sets on the 1st day of the engagement, both sides are exhausted. The Yankees have taken heavy casualties but the Rebels have lost many men too. As the sun rises on the morning of the 21st the big question is this: will the superior Union forces be able to punch through too Camp Ford? Or can the Rebels hold out long enough for reinforcements to arrive?

This is the question...

We need all able bodied red blooded Confederates to come join in driving back the Yankee invaders by donating some of your time to help man the concession booths, provide assistance to visitors and school children, and help out in any way. This is a great way to show your support for the South and have fun at the same time! Please contact Gene Kinsey anytime, day or night, at 817-437-0607 and let him the time and day that you will be able to assist. A lot of people have worked very hard to make this a great event and you still have time to be a part of it. Help us to rewrite the history of Texas as it should have been. Let's send a message to the Yanks that this war aint over yet!

For those of you, who would like more information, please visit our website at www.camp1588.org.

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Ancestors Corner

Ancestors of David & Michael Noe

By David Noe

David has two great great grandfathers who served in Texas Confederate units.

James R. Findley was born in 1830 in South Carolina. He immigrated to St. Clair County, Alabama at an early age. In 1850, he married Martha Jane Moore, of St. Clair County, Alabama, and in the same year, the newly married couple moved to Gordonville, Grayson County, Texas (west of Denison/Sherman). He farmed approximately 200 acres, in the Gordonville area. In 1863, he enlisted in Company B, 34th Texas Cavalry, as a private. Not much is known about his war record, other than he served honorably. He was wounded in combat in 1865 and was brought back to Gordonville in the back of a wagon. He suffered for years from his wounds, having a limp in a leg. He died in 1887 and is buried in the Barry Cemetery, located between Sadler and Gordonville, Texas. He was survived by his wife, Martha (who in 1888, filed an application for a widow's Confederate Pension with the State of Texas) and 11 children.

I have a copy of Martha's Application for Confederate Widow's Pension, from Austin. Obviously, someone completed the application on her behalf, as she signed the application with her "X", in the space for the signature. Underneath, someone wrote "Her Mark".

William Allred was born in Tennessee in 1828. In 1836, at the age of 8, he (with his father, mother and several half brothers and sisters) moved to the Republic of Texas, settling in the Cherry Mound community of Fannin County (later Grayson County), where his father had purchased nearly 1,200 acres of land and served as a Justice of the Peace in Fannin (later Grayson) County, Republic of Texas.

In 1841, William survived the last Comanche Indian raid into Grayson County, Texas. He had been visiting friends and was in bed, sleeping between two other boys. The two other boys had their heads sticking out of the covers, while William was buried under the covers. The Indians burst into the house, tomahawking the two boys (whose heads they saw) but William was not seen (due to being under the covers).

In 1862, William enlisted, as a private, in Company A, 5th Texas Partisan Rangers. He served in various areas of the Trans Mississippi region of the War. William's unit disbanded in Texas and he walked home, never surrendering nor getting paroled. He farmed the rest of his life, in the Cherry Mound community, and died in 1888 and is buried in the Cherry Mound Cemetery, Cherry Mound community (located about 12 miles east of Denison), Grayson County, Texas. He was survived by his wife Eliza, and 11 children.

Both of my great great grandfathers were never 'paroled'. James was wounded and was sent home. At the end of the war, William's unit heard of the surrender and the unit disbanded.

William is the grandfather of James Allred, the 33rd Governor of Texas (1935-1939). James was a first cousin of a grandfather of mine. In 1936, my dad and grandfather spent the night in the Governor's Mansion, in Austin, at the invitation of Governor Allred.

Other Confederate/Southern relatives----

I have a 10th great grandmother, Mary Randolph, of Colonial Virginia. Thru her, I have these connections—

President Thomas Jefferson (not Confederate but Southern)—2nd Cousin-8 times removed

General Robert E. Lee, CSA —5th Cousin, 4 times removed

Martha Anne Randolph Custis (Mrs. Robert E. Lee)—She and Robert were cousins. Martha and I are 5th Cousins, 5 times removed. She is also the great granddaughter of Martha Custis, Mrs. George Washington.

George Randolph, Confederate Secretary of State under President Jefferson Davis. George served as Secretary of State for several months in 1862. He is a 4th Cousin, 6 times removed. He was a grandson of Thomas Jefferson.

These are also Michael's relatives, just add one more generation to the connections. Ω

Schedule of Events for Raid on Camp Ford

Thursday - October 18, 2007

<u>Time</u>	<u>Activity</u>
9:00 a.m.	Area open for vendor/reenactor setup and early registration.

Friday - October 19, 2007

<u>Time</u>	<u>Activity</u>
9:00 a.m.	Registration opens.
10:00-1:00 p.m.	School tours in Civilian activity area. Living History and crafts demos.
1:00-2:00 p.m.	Mini battle for school children.
12:00 a.m.	Registration closed. <u>No vehicles in camp overnight except in assigned parking.</u>

Saturday - October 20, 2007

<u>Time</u>	<u>Activity</u>
7:00 a.m.	Reveille.
7:00 a.m.	Registration opens.
7:00-9:00 a.m.	Camps open for reenactor vehicles to unload. <u>All vehicles out of camps by 9:00 a.m.</u> & will not be permitted back in camp until after Sunday's battle.
8:30 a.m.	Officers call.
8:30-9:30 a.m.	Register for the cooking contest in the command tent.
9:00 a.m.	Military & Civilian camps are open to the public.
9:00 a.m.	Class on bugle calls meet at sissy's place Mr. Randy McDonald Instructor.
10:30 a.m.	Period concert by the Heritage Brass Band.
11:00 a.m.	<u>All</u> artillery vehicles towing cannon will be off the field until the battle is completed. Cannon will be pre-hidden in woods.
11:30 a.m.	Ladies Tea with a Guest Speaker at the Social Tent. Bring your own cup. <u>Event participants and Historical Society members only.</u>
1:00 p.m.	Period dance demonstration at the Social Tent. <u>Public welcome.</u>
1:00 p.m.	Weapons inspections completed. Troops form on command prior to battle.
1:30 p.m.	Camps closed to the public.
2:00 p.m.	Battle reenactment begins - "The Raid on Camp Ford"
3:00 p.m.	Battle ends / Camps open to the public.
3:15 p.m.	Period concert by the Heritage Brass Band.
3:30 p.m.	Reenactor Yard Sale (used period equipment & clothing) at the Social Tent.
4:00 p.m.	All camps closed to the public.
5:00 p.m.	Period show in field at speakers stand. <u>Period participants and special guests only.</u> Food and drawing for participating prizes. Night battle in woods for 1 hour.
8:00 p.m.	Meeting at Sissy's place. Action report on night battle and drinks for all.

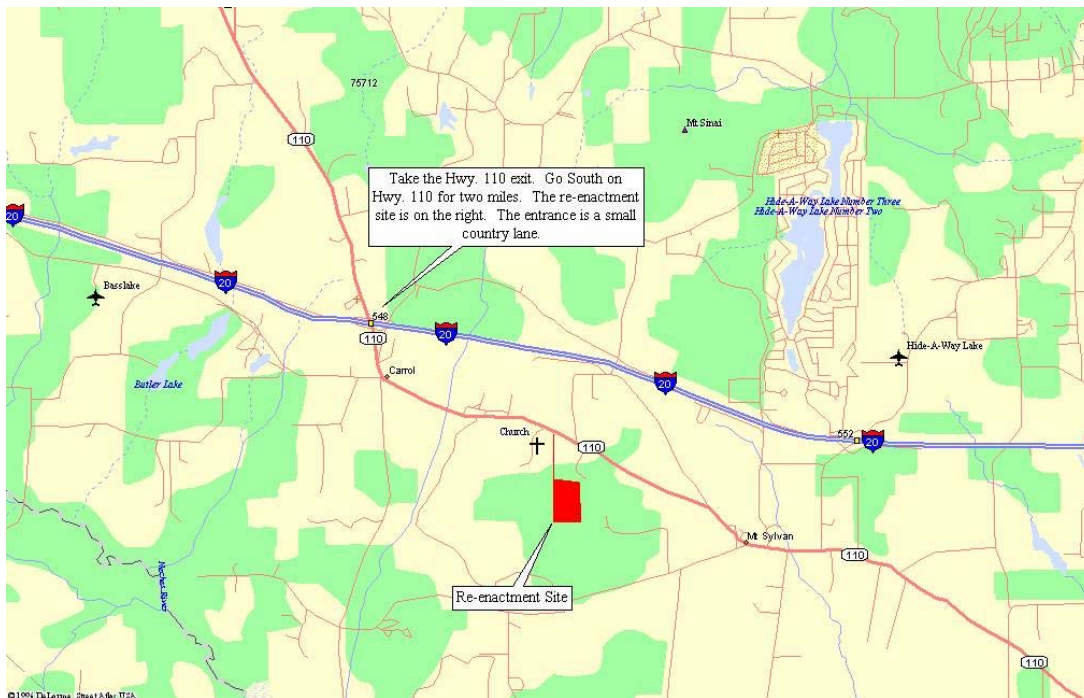
Sunday - October 21, 2007

<u>Time</u>	<u>Activity</u>
7:00 a.m.	Reveille.
8:30 a.m.	Officers call.
9:00 a.m.	Free time for troops.
9:00 a.m.	Class on bugle calls meet at sissy's place Mr. Randy McDonald Instructor.
10:00 a.m.	Military & Civilian camps open to the public.
10:00 a.m.	Non-denominational church service at the Social Tent. <u>Public welcome.</u>
12:30 p.m.	Drawing for artist John Paul Strain prints. Winner need not be present to win.
1:00 p.m.	Weapons inspections completed. Troops form on command prior to battle.
1:30 p.m.	Camps closed to the public.
2:00 p.m.	Battle reenactment begins - "The Raid on Camp Ford"
3:00 p.m.	Battle ends. Camps open to reenactors' vehicles <u>ONLY</u> after all troops have arrived back in camp.

Directions

From Dallas: Travel east on I-20, then turn south on Hwy 110 for 2 miles, look for signs on the right.

From Shreveport LA/Tyler TX: Travel west on I-20, then turn south on Hwy 110 for 2 miles, look for signs on the right.



Last living Confederate son in Missouri

Luther Ortho Lucas recognized at 143rd Battle of Pilot Knob

By [CHRIS CLINE](#)



PILOT KNOB — Luther Ortho Lucas didn't talk much to his father about the war his dad fought in. The 95-year-old Lucas doesn't have any stories about how the Americans stormed the beaches at Normandy in World War II or the trench wars of World War I. His father, Giles Gordon Lucas, didn't go overseas to fight. He faced the horrors of warfare in his own backyard as brother fought against brother in the Civil War.

Giles Gordon Lucas was just 16-years-old when he took up arms for the Confederacy as part of Wood's Calvary at the Battle of Pilot Knob. After the war in 1875 he made his home on farmland in Caledonia, where his family still resides today.

On Saturday, Luther was recognized at the Battle of Pilot Knob Re-enactment as the last living son left in Missouri of a Confederate soldier who fought in the Civil War. He was inducted into the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

"When Luther and his daughter Norma showed up in my office two weeks ago I thought to myself we have got to get him into the Sons of Confederate Veterans organization," said Walt Busch, site administrator at the Fort Davidson State Historic Site. "There are only about 100 real sons left across the United States of soldiers who served in the Civil War. Once they are gone, so are the stories their fathers told them. The last Civil War soldier alive was Albert Wilson. He died in 1956. Which means in theory a real son could be as young as 52-years-old, but most are in their 80s and 90s."

Busch said since Luther's father fought at Pilot Knob it was appropriate to have his induction ceremony at the Battle of Pilot Knob Re-enactment.

"I have never had anything like this happen in my life," said

Luther. "I'm so proud today."

Luther's daughter Norma said her father was walking on air because of the recognition.

"He's so excited," Norma said. "The only story Dad said he remembered was Grandpa said he got sick during the battle. He climbed up on a bush pile and when he awoke he went back and joined his regiment. He (Giles) wouldn't talk about the war."

When asked why her father waited until now to come forward, Norma said, "we knew about it for years, but now it seemed like the right time to do it." Ω

Navarro Rifles Marker Dedication

The time is here to make history!

The men who marched away, from Corsicana, as the 4th Texas, Co.I "Navarro Rifles", Hood's Texas Brigade, November of 1861 are being honored by the county from which they hailed, so long ago. When the survivors of Co.I returned after surrendering at Appomattox, April 1865, they were honored as heroes. Let's honor those brave men once more by being part of an *Honor Company* who'll portray all 87 of the original men of Co.I, during a memorial and marker unveiling in their honor. We will also take part in answering an Honor Roll. As your honored soldier's name is called out you'll answer *Roll Call*, in his honor.

Help us honor them, and be part of history, by rallying on the colors, once more, at the Navarro College Museum, October 27, 2007, at 3 pm.

The Cook Center and Navarro College Museum are helping plan the event, and there will be things going on all day. We want to get 87 Infantry soldiers present, one for each man that left Corsicana. We are planning a "roll call" on each man in the unit, with each representative soldier present having a part.

Help us remember our heroes and remind the world how great they are! Ω

H.K. EDGERTON'S TEXAS AGENDA

Dec 8 — Logan's Port Christmas Parade

Dec 10 — Tenaha

Dec 11 — Rusk

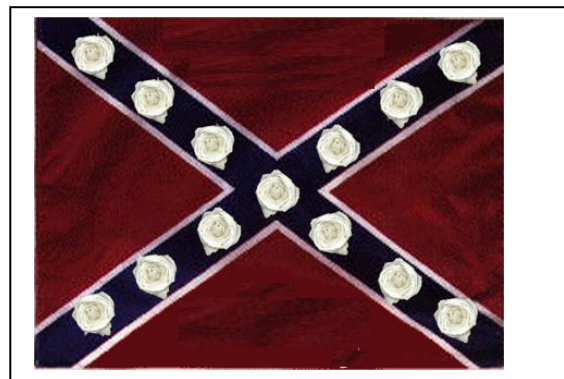
Dec 12 — Palestine

Dec 13 — Corsicana Courthouse

Dec 14 — Herne

General Robert E. Lee

“All the South has ever desired was that the Union, as established by our forefathers, should be preserved, and that the government, as originally organized, should be *administered in purity and truth.*”



Gene Kinsey
3116 Robin Road
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED