

Confederate Gazette

Veteran Affairs Bans Flags

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has banned the large scale display of Confederate flags. Small Confederate flags on graves will still be allowed, but no Confederate flags will be allowed to fly from a flag pole at any of the cemeteries administered by the VA.

"We are aware of the concerns of those who wish to see Confederate flags removed from public venues because they are perceived by many as a symbol of racial intolerance. We are also aware that the national cemeteries originated dur-

ing the Civil War and that they are the final resting places of those who served on both sides of that conflict and, as such, flags of the Confederacy are also viewed by some merely as historical symbols." the VA's interim undersecretary for memorial affairs, Ronald Walters, said.

This move was done after Congress refused to pass a military spending bill which contained a provision which would have banned the flag in June, see the June edition of the *Gazette*. However, that did not stop the VA from

deciding, against the express wishes of Congress, to ban the flag using administrative guidelines.

The VA said its actions were taken after a year long study on the flag issue. However, the Confederate flag ban mirrors almost exactly the wording of the ban that was rejected by the U.S. House by a vote of 239-171.

The VA released the news in a letter to Congressman Jared Huffman a Democrat from California, the author of the original Congressional flag ban.

UT-Austin Removes Inscription

The University of Texas at Austin has removed an inscription on a South Mall wall which honored the men and women of the Confederacy and Southern patriotism.

It was removed in spite of UT President Gregory Fenves promising a year ago that the inscription would not be disturbed.

The wall panels have been completely removed and are being stored.

The wall was built in the early 1930s when the Little-

UT-Austin Wall Inscription:

"To the men and of the women of the Confederacy who fought with valor and suffered with fortitude that states' rights be maintained and who not dismayed by defeat nor discouraged by misrule builded from the ruins of a devastating war a greater South. And to the men and women of the nation who gave their possessions and of their lives that free government be made secure to the peoples of the earth, this memorial is dedicated."

field fountain was constructed. The fountain is the

centerpiece of the South Mall and was named for George W. Littlefield.

Littlefield served in Terry Texas Rangers (8th Texas Cavalry) as a major. Post war Littlefield was one of the most successful cattle barons in the state and a noted Austin banker and businessman. He made generous donations to the University of Texas.



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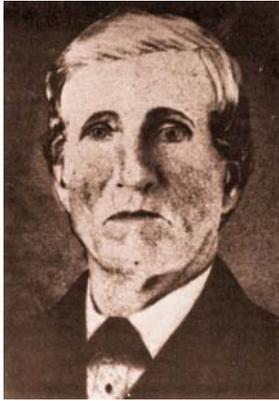
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White Camp #1250

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CONFEDERATE PROFILE

Border Defender



James G. Bourland

Bourland and his men defended the Texas border from Yankees and Indians.

Although some consider him a very controversial figure there is no doubt that he was a fierce fighter who served both Texas and the Confederacy.

James G. Bourland was born in Anderson County, South Carolina on August 11, 1801, to Benjamin and Agnes Nancy McElroy Bourland. Little is known of his early life, but as an adult he is known to have lived in Kentucky and Tennessee and was both a slave and horse trader. By 1837, just after Texas had won its independence from Mexico, he migrated to the Republic of Texas. He initially settled in Lamar County and by 1841 he led a cavalry company against hostile Indians. He served in a subsequent Ranger unit against Indians when it was called up for duty in the Mexican War. Bourland was elected lieutenant-colonel of the unit, but the war ended as they reached the Rio Grande River so they never saw any action.

Post war Bourland held several jobs including as a surveyor and was the collector of customs for the Red River District. In the early 1850s he had a plantation home in Cooke County and a thriving mercantile business, mainly selling goods to area Indians and with US soldiers at Fort Arbuckle across the Red River in Indian Territory. He raised corn and hogs which he sold to the US government to help feed the soldiers. He was also elected to the Texas Senate, serving two terms from 1846 to 1849. In 1858 he again raised a volunteer company to protect against marauding Indians.

When the Civil War broke out Bourland served as a member of the 11th Texas Regiment, but later he organized and led, as a colonel, the 2nd Frontier Regiment, known as Bourland's Texas Cavalry. The unit was organized during the spring of 1863 with the purpose of guarding the northern border

of Texas from Union forces in the Indian Territory. It is also referred to as a border regiment. Often his unit was more concerned with Indian attacks than with Union incursions. Bourland was also named provost Marshall of Cooke County in 1862.

Bourland's name and reputation are inevitably linked to the Great Hanging in Gainesville in October of 1862. In the Gainesville area 30 men signed a petition protesting the Confederate draft which exempted large slave owners from being drafted. Stories of pro-Union plots against the Confederate authorities caused Confederate Brigadier General William Hudson to order the arrest of able-bodied men who had not reported for duty. Bourland and his troops arrested about 150 men. A "citizens court" was established and Bourland and another Confederate colonel, William C. Young, handpicked

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Unionist Movement

The Great Hanging which occurred in Gainesville, Texas in October of 1862 was primarily the result of fear.

Cooke County had seen an influx of mid-westerners, non-slave owners, prior to the Civil War. In the county 61% voted for Texas to stay in the Union and slave ownership by households in the county was only

about 10%. Added to the mix was Union soldiers just north of the Texas border in Indian Territory, what is now Oklahoma, along with a feared Unionist movement.

The Unionist movement made up of pro-US government members which had developed in the North in response to the pro-South Copperhead move-

ment. There was one chapter in the South, in New Orleans, which was at the time occupied by Union troops. Rumors of the movement spreading into North Texas were rampant including one that told of 1,700 Unionist in North Texas ready to attack the local armories. It was just enough to fan the flames of fear and calls for action.

August Meeting Review

By Michael E. Belcher

Our program was presented by Compatriot Steve Wooley, who spoke about the British Merchant Vessel "Denbeigh." He also briefly discussed the Confederate Ironclad fleet, mentioning several famous ships and some of their exploits during the war. The Denbeigh was a very successful blockade-runner, which was acquired from the English and used during the War Between the States. The ship cost \$5,000 at that time and in one blockade run, it paid for itself. It was a Schooner rigged, dual sided paddle wheeled steamer, which had made commerce runs between England and Wales. In 1863, it was bought by the European Trading Company to make blockade runs between Havana, Cuba and Mobile, Alabama. It was a fast ship recording speeds up to 13.7 knots during its proving trials, and had a crew of 20. It carried cotton, tobacco, arms and munitions, et cetera. After almost two years of blockade-running and 13 successful trips between Mobile and Galveston, Denbeigh ran aground on Bird

Key, off Galveston, where she was destroyed by Union naval vessels on May 24, 1865. The Institute of Nautical Archaeology at Texas A&M University is working to identify, document and preserve the wreck of Denbeigh.

Business conducted at the meeting included the following: (1) 2nd Lt. Commander James Bozeman discussed the Jacob Hemphill monument graveside dedication ceremony at the North Belton Cemetery. The event will be held on Saturday, November 12th about 2-3:00 PM. We will organize an honor guard, and the United Daughters of the Confederacy will place an Iron Cross of Honor on the grave. We already have volunteers from other SCV camps, and the Hood's Texas Brigade Association. The ceremony will be followed immediately by an outdoor get-together catered meal at Confederate Park in Belton. Millers BBQ will cater the event. We will invite local dignitaries, the historical commission and media agencies. (2) Commander Tyler

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(Continued from page 2)
the 12 jurors. The jury found little evidence against the men who were being charged with treason and insurrection. A mob had gathered



The Bourland Plantation home in Cooke County about 1844, just before it was torn down.

outside the courtroom demanding blood. The court then selected 14 of the accused at random and ordered their execution and they were hung. Two jurors fled and were replaced by anti-Union men and the next day the trial resumed this time without any talk of acquittals. Nineteen more men were sentenced to be hung. Those men were also executed. It is not known the exact number of men who were executed, but estimates are as high as 43.

Bourland survived the war and received a pardon for his

(Continued on page 4)

**Camp Given \$1,000
in honor of Lt. Colonel
Howard Harvey**

Camp Schedule

September 13, 2016

Camp's Regular Meeting, 6:00 PM Social and Meeting at 7:00 PM, Cotton Patch Café, Temple Mall. Speaker: Ralph Snyder speaking on his great grandfather, Captain S. G. Etheridge

October 8, 2016

Camp's Quarterly Dinner Meet-

ing, 6:00 PM Social and Meeting at 7:00 PM, Location to be determined, Speaker: James Bozeman

November 8, 2016

Camp's Regular Meeting, 6:00 PM Social and Meeting at 7:00 PM, Cotton Patch Café, Temple Mall. Speaker: TBD



November 12, 2016

Jacob Hemphill Monument Dedication, North Belton Cemetery, 2:00-3:30 PM.

**Next Camp Meeting:
September 13th
Cotton Patch Cafe
Temple, TX
6:00 PM Social
7:00 PM Meeting**

Confederate Gazette

P.O. Box 794 Salado, Texas 76571

Next Meeting:
September 13th
Cotton Patch Cafe
Temple, Texas
7:00 PM

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Officer Fired

A veteran Roswell, Georgia police officer was fired simply for flying a Confederate battleflag in front of her house.

Sergeant Silvia Cotriss was fired on July 14th after a Roswell citizen saw Sgt. Cotriss' police cruiser parked at her house next to a flag pole flying a Confederate flag. Sgt. Cotriss is appealing her termination.

The *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* reports that Sgt. Cotriss is 53 years old and is a 20-year veteran of the Roswell police department. She rose through the ranks on the 200 person Roswell police force. The *Journal-Constitution* learned from a police report that Sgt. Cotriss said that the flag was part of her history, part of the South.

August Camp Meeting

(Continued from page 3) discussed the Sam Davis Youth Camp. We did not sponsor any youth participants this year and need to do a better job with this next year. (3) Commander Tyler reported that we will submit a grant application to the Bell County Historical Commission requesting money for monument repair in the South Belton Cemetery. (4) Commander Tyler gave a recap of the 2016 SCV National Reunion. (5) A donation was presented to the Major Robert M. White camp from the estate of Judy Maxine Harvey of Temple, whose husband was an active re-enactor in the 1990s. She contributed the sum of \$1,000 in his name. Lt. Colonel Howard Harvey, to the camp.

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(Continued from page 3) actions. He was also acquitted by a civil court. He lived in seclusion for most of the remainder of his

South Carolina and in 1854 to Nancy Salina Barnett. He had seven children. He died on August 20, 1879 and was buried in Orlena

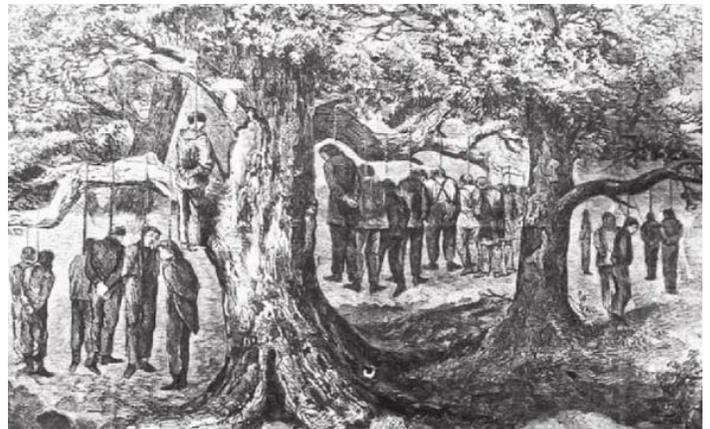


Illustration of the Great Hanging in Gainesville, Texas in October of 1862

life. Bourland was twice married, first to Catherine Wells in 1822 in

Cemetery near the Red River in Cooke County.