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General Orders

Walker's Brigade

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MAY 2026 MEETING
Thursday, May 21, 2026

Saltgrass Steak House
8943 Katy Freeway
5:45 pm - Dinner
7:00 pm - Program Begins

*****No Reservations Required for this Meeting*****

There is no cost for dues-paid members.
\$10.00 charge for visitors.

length in both print and televised media defending Confederate monuments, penning several op-eds that have been described as “controversial” by some. This stems from his 24 years of service in the Marine Corps, and his pride in his Confederate ancestor, an army corporal, who told some good stories—some of which may actually be true. He was described by Jerry’s grandmother, his daughter, as “so ornery that if he fell in a creek, he’d float upstream.”

This talk will discuss how the threat of altering monuments ignores how those depicted truly stood on slavery and seeks to alter some of our most prominent leaders in the collective memory. Many believe the “War Between the States” was solely about slavery and that the Confederacy is synonymous with racism. That conclusion is faulty, because the premise is inaccurate.

The HCWRT Presents

Jerry Patterson Speaking On:

“A Layman’s Guide to Defending Your Confederate Ancestor Against Other Laymen”

While serving the state of Texas in the Senate and as Texas Land Commissioner, Jerry Patterson passed legislation that established the Juneteenth Commission for the purpose of placing a Juneteenth monument at the Texas State Capitol. He also sponsored the Buffalo Soldiers Museum’s authorization for license plates commemorating Buffalo Soldiers.

Although Jerry has a love for all of our history, he is not a fan of “Presentism,” and has spoken at



Jerry E. Patterson

About Jerry Patterson

Jerry E. Patterson is a Marine Corps veteran, former state senator, and longtime public servant who served as Texas Land Commissioner from 2003 to 2015. A graduate of Texas A&M University (Class of 1969), he received his commission in the U.S. Marine Corps and volunteered for service in Vietnam in 1972. He went on to serve as a Naval Flight Officer in Marine fighter squadrons, retiring from the Marine Corps Reserve as a Lieutenant Colonel in 1993. Jerry represents the fifth consecutive generation in his family to serve in the U.S. military during wartime.

During his time in the Texas Senate (1993–1999), representing District 11, Jerry authored landmark legislation including the state’s original concealed handgun law, a constitutional amendment enabling home equity lending, and the creation of the Texas State Veterans Home Program. He also chaired the Senate’s first Veterans Affairs Committee and championed coastal protection through the state’s coastal management plan.

As Texas Land Commissioner, Patterson oversaw state lands, coastal preservation efforts, and veterans’ programs, while also playing a leadership role in historic preservation projects. Today, Jerry resides in Austin. He is the proud father of four children, including a son who followed his footsteps into the Marine Corps and served multiple combat tours as an attack helicopter pilot.



President Agnew presenting Scott Hattwig with our 2025 Vandiver Award of Merit at last month’s meeting

President’s Comments

By Walker Agnew

At the April meeting, we heard from our 2025 Vandiver Award of Merit recipient, D. Scott Hartwig. Scott presented many letters written by soldiers after Antietam with their personal recollections of that terrible battle. There was one man who thanked God for saving his life, while another questioned how God could allow such death and destruction. Many of these soldiers were deeply affected by combat for the rest of their lives. Scott explained how the geography/lay of the land prevented troops from seeing each other until they were almost on top of one another, which was one of the causes of the high casualty rate.

The depth of Scott’s extensive research helped to pull out many of the soldiers’ views on both the Union and Confederate sides. His research revealed that many had similar thoughts on the battle. We thank Scott for his wonderful presentation, which was followed by our presenting him with the 2025 Vandiver Award of Merit (pictured above).

As we prepare to begin our new campaign year, please consider becoming more involved in our Round Table by serving on one of our committees. Be sure to let us know if you might be interested.

MAY QUIZ
By Jim Godlove

What was the significance and name of the battle fought on May 12, 1865?

Nominating Committee Report

By Keith Altavilla

In fulfillment of the duties as the Immediate Past President, it is my pleasure to once again show our nominated slate of officers and directors for the 2026 - 2027 campaign.

The Round Table's leadership has all offered to return to their positions for another year:

President: Walker Agnew
Vice President: Scott Wilkey
Secretary: Eugene Boisaubin
Treasurer: Thaddeus Fine

With Walker serving another year as president, I will remain in the role of Immediate Past President.

In addition, the nominees for the other positions on the board are:

Roland Bienvenu (also serving as newsletter editor)

Michael Clennan (also serving as chair of the membership committee)

Chuck Cubbison
Jim Godlove

Per our bylaws, these nominations were announced for your review and consideration at the April meeting. During our final meeting of this campaign in May, everyone present will vote on this slate. Additionally, nominations may be made from the floor at that time.

Also, please also feel free to reach out to any officer or board member about various opportunities for getting involved with the Round Table. Committees like Membership are always looking for volunteers to help our organization's work continue and grow.

Membership Report

By Michael Clennan

Wow, how time flies! It's time to wrap up our very successful 2025 - 2026 campaign with our meeting on Thursday, May 21st. Our special guest

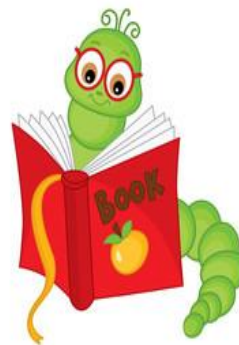
speaker will be Jerry Patterson, former Texas Land Commissioner. Why don't you bring a friend and meet a former (and distinguished) senior Texas state government official? We'll learn about Mr. Patterson's views on how to protect Confederate and Union monuments and grave markers in Texas.

Be sure to arrive by 5:45 pm at Saltgrass Restaurant for a great meal and fellowship with other Civil War enthusiasts. At 7:00 pm, we begin our meeting, which features our book raffle and ever-popular Civil War quiz. Purchasing raffle tickets will ensure you of a good chance to win a book! Also, we will announce the 2026 - 2027 speakers' schedule and elect our officers and directors for the upcoming campaign. Please call me at (713) 864-1204 if you have any questions. I'll see you at the door!

Monthly Book Raffle

By Rita Campbell

This month's raffle has a great selection available to some lucky winners! We're offering **THE WAR THAT FORGED A NATION: WHY THE CIVIL WAR STILL MATTERS** by James



McPherson; **TOUCHED WITH FIRE: FIVE PRESIDENTS AND THE CIVIL WAR BATTLES THAT MADE THEM** by James Perry; **A SOLDIER TO THE LAST: MAJOR GENERAL JOSEPH WHEELER IN BLUE AND GRAY** by Edward

Longacre; **FROM HUNTSVILLE TO APPOMATOX: R. T. COLE'S HISTORY OF 47TH REGIMENT, ALABAMA VOLUNTEER INFANTRY, C.S.A., ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA** by Jeffrey D. Stocker; and finally **THE UNION CAVALRY IN THE CIVIL WAR: THE WAR IN THE WEST, 1861-1865** by Steven Starr.

Remember, proceeds from the sale of these tickets help support the operation and mission of your Round Table!

2025 - 2026 SPEAKERS CAMPAIGN

May 21, 2026

Jerry Patterson: "A Layman's Guide to Defending Your Confederate Ancestor Against Other Laymen"

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