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# General Orders

## *Walker's Brigade*

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2026



### **FEBRUARY 2026 MEETING** **Thursday, February 19, 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.**

### **The HCWRT Presents** **Danny Sessums Speaking On:**

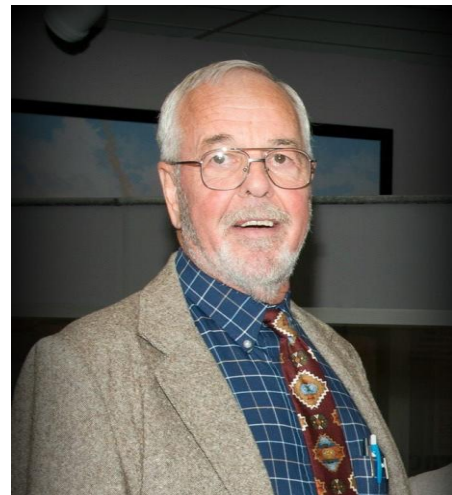
#### **“An Irisher and a Texian: Generals Pat Cleburne and Hiram B. Granbury”**

The Great Irish Potato Famine of the late 1840s spun a young Irishman, Patrick R. Cleburne, across the Atlantic to a new life in America. He would rise to become one of the most brilliant and respected generals in the “rebel” Army of Tennessee. There, he formed a remarkable bond with a capable subaltern from Texas: Hiram B. Granbury, hailing from Bosque County in the Lone Star State. From their distinction at Missionary Ridge to the doomed Atlanta Campaign, their

friendship and the high esteem of the soldiers under their command were forged in the fire of battle.

Tragically, both men's distinguished careers ended on the same blood-soaked afternoon during the catastrophic assault at Franklin, Tennessee, on November 30, 1864. In that fierce battle, Cleburne and Granbury were among the Confederate generals who fell, leaving behind legacies of courage, leadership, and sacrifice.

Danny Sessums hopes attendees will come away with a deeper sense of who these two men were, and the enduring, inspiring legacy they left for anyone eager to learn more about their lives and contributions.



**Danny Sessums**

### **About Danny Sessums**

A proud native of the oil refinery town of Borger in the Texas Panhandle, Dr. Danny Sessums majored in anthropology as an

undergraduate at Texas Tech University. After graduating from Texas Tech, Danny changed his academic focus from anthropology to history. To that end, he undertook graduate work in U.S. history at U.T. Arlington, and later studied antebellum history at Louisiana State University, where he received his Ph.D.

Dr. Sessums' postdoctoral career combined museum work with teaching U.S. history at the following: Port Hudson Commemorative Area, 1983-1986, Old Fort Museum & Western-Arkansas Community College, 1986-1990, and Museum of the Gulf Coast and Assistant Professor, Lamar University – Port Arthur, 1990-1998. Subsequently, he served as: Associate Professor at Arkansas State University, 1998-2001, Director, George Ranch History Park, Fort Bend County, 2001-2002, and Director, Museum of the Gulf Coast/Houston Baptist University, 2002-2009. Following his retirement from HBU (now Houston Christian University), Dr. Sessums and his wife Candace relocated to the Tyler area, where they currently reside.

In 2017, Dr. Sessums published volume I of *A Force to be Reckoned With (A History of Granbury's Texas Infantry Brigade, 1861-1865)*, and later published the second and concluding volume of this definitive study of General Hiram B. Granbury's Texans. *A Force to be Reckoned With* represents the culmination of Danny's research into this distinguished brigade that began with his doctoral dissertation more than 30 years ago.

Dr. Sessums has also taken an active role in multiple Civil War re-enactments, and served as a historical advisor to the director of the acclaimed Civil War film *Glory*.

## **President's Comments**

***By Walker Agnew***

What a wonderful start to the new calendar year! Don Frazier brought his incredibly animated style to our group last month. We now know how Tom Green fought for Texas in the Battle of San Jacinto, during the Mexican War, and during the Civil War. Green's last battles ranged from Valverde in the New Mexico

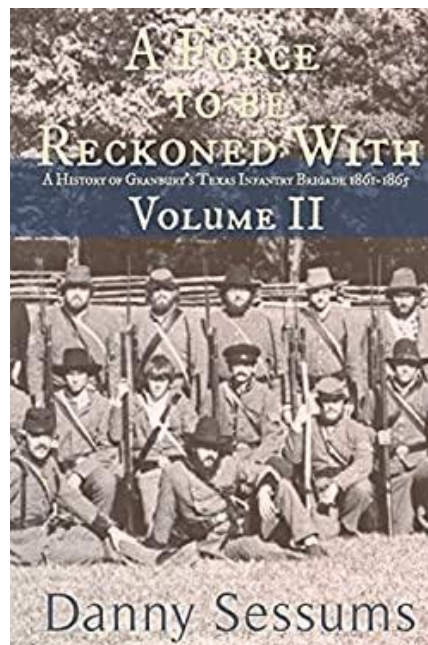
Territory to Galveston to Mansfield in Louisiana. Hopefully Don will be getting more deserved recognition when the State of Texas finalizes its new school history books.

This month we welcome Danny Sessums to speak about Generals Pat Cleburne and Hiram Granbury.

Please try to arrive by 5:45 pm in order for the restaurant to serve and clear the tables before the presentation. We look forward to seeing everyone again next meeting.



*President Agnew and last month's speaker Don Frazier*



## Treasurer's Report

*By Thaddeus Fine*

Our January meeting had 35 people in attendance, and was the second-best attended meeting during the 2025-2026 campaign. Please remember to sign in and register when you enter our meeting room so we have an accurate attendance record.

Our January membership survey was "who is your favorite Texan in the Civil War?" The winner was John Bell Hood, closely followed by Tom Green.

discuss the lives of Generals Pat Cleburne and Hiram Granbury.

At our last meeting, we welcomed seven visitors. Of course, our members are always encouraged to bring visitors and guests to our meetings!

We offer a special membership bargain this month: for new members, join for this campaign and next for only \$50.00 (individual membership) which will include all 16 months – what a deal! If you have any questions, you may call me at (713) 864-1204. See you on February 19!

## Monthly Book Raffle

*By Rita Campbell*

I'm happy to report that our book collection is now quite extensive, thanks to previous donations. Be sure to attend our February meeting and check out this month's outstanding selections, as follows: **THE KILLER ANGELS: THE CLASSIC NOVEL OF THE CIVIL WAR** by Michael Shaara, **FROM IRONCLADS TO ADMIRAL: JOHN LORINER WORDEN AND NAVAL LEADERSHIP** by John Quarstein, **BLOOD & TREASURE: CONFEDERATE EMPIRE IN THE SOUTHWEST** by Donald Frazier, **MEMOIRS OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL WINFIELD SCOTT**, and **WHAT LINCOLN BELIEVED: THE VALUES AND CONVICTIONS OF AMERICAN'S GREATEST PRESIDENT** by Michael Lind.

We collected \$30.00 from last month's raffle. Thanks to those of you who have donated books in the past and purchased raffle tickets each month in support of our Round Table!

## February Quiz

*By Jim Godlove*

Granbury's Texas Brigade suffered its greatest loss (60%) along with its commander during which battle?



## Membership Report

*By Michael Clennan*

Yes, February weather may be cold outside, but inside at Saltgrass on the Katy Freeway we will be having a great, "warm" time! Please join us on Thursday, February 19 at 5:45 pm for an outstanding meal with 30 other Civil War aficionados. Then at 7:00 pm, our program begins and will include our monthly book raffle, Civil War quiz, and our speaker, Danny Sessums, who will



## 2025-2026 SPEAKERS CAMPAIGN

Feb. 19, 2026	Danny Sessums: "An Irishman and a Texian: Generals Pat Cleburne and Hiram B. Granbury"
March 19, 2026	John Michael Priest: "Reynolds, Iverson, and Buford at Gettysburg: New Interpretations"
April 16, 2026	D. Scott Hartwig (2025 Vandiver Award Recipient): "I Dread the Thought of the Place: The Antietam Campaign"
May 21, 2026	Reserved for 2026 Vandiver Award Recipient

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**Houston Civil War Round Table**  
**c/o Thaddeus Fine**  
**3333 Luella Boulevard, Apt. 216**  
**La Porte, TX 77571-3614**

