



## Cane Ridge Restroom Renovation Project Begins on November 14



The Cane Ridge restrooms were built in 1975 but for many years they were in need of attention. Aging fixtures and pipes which needed regular repair have long been on the list of needs. On Nov. 14 the demolition of the restrooms began.

We hope to have the renovations complete by the time we open again on April 1, 2020. It is estimated that the project will cost between \$35,000 and \$40,000 and that the updated facilities will be easier to clean the slightly more accessible.



## *Closing Day Service for 2019 sees a crowd of more than 30*



*More than 30 gathered on October 31st for the annual closing day service in the Cane Ridge Meeting House. For a portion of the closing day address turn to page 2.*



## SPEAKER

The Curator is available to preach or speak to a fellowship group about Cane Ridge throughout the year. Please contact Cane Ridge to schedule a speaking engagement as early as possible. Honoraria or Donations for the ministry of Cane Ridge are expected, and, depending on the amount of travel required, mileage and housing may be necessary.

## GIFTS TO CANE RIDGE

Gifts to continue the mission and ministry of Cane Ridge should be sent to:  
Cane Ridge, P.O. Box 26,  
Paris, KY 40362-0026

The piece at the right is taken from an address at the closing day service in the Cane Ridge Meeting House on Oct. 31. Portions are adapted from *Apollos of the West, Life of John Allen Gano*, Masters Thesis for Abilene Christian College, Jerry Bryant Rushford, 1972 and *John Allen Gano, 1805-1887, A Collection Containing His Biographical Note Book No. 2* with biographical sketches by James Challen, Richard M Gano and W.C. Morro, compiled Roscoe M. Pierson, Lexington Theological Seminary Quarterly, 1982.



# Notes from the Ridge

By James H. Trader, II

## General Richard Montgomery Gano

In the spring 2019 Bulletin I reported on the Gano family, especially John Allen Gano. His son, Richard Montgomery Gano, was born on June 18, 1830 and was baptized at age 10 by his father in the North Elkhorn creek near the Old Union Meeting House and probably near where John Allen was baptized 13 years before. He was educated in the area country schools and by private tutors employed by the family, who boarded at the family home in Centerville, called Bellevue.

Richard was sent to Bacon College in Harrodsburg for a year and then to Bethany College where he graduated on July 4, 1847. He then returned to Louisville, Kentucky where he enrolled at Louisville Medical University. He would graduate with honors in 1851, just prior to turning 21.

Richard moved to Baton Rouge, Louisiana and was appointed a physician at the penitentiary hospital, treating yellow fever, small pox, and cholera.

On March 15, 1853, he married Martha Jones. They would have 12 children. They lived in Bourbon Co. but in 1856 they moved to Texas and settled in Grapevine Prairie, Tarrant Co., Texas. They were close to Dallas near Denton Creek.

In 1858, Richard began to help with fighting the Comanche Indians. He organized 26 men to pursue the Indians who had raided local communities. Their month-long campaign was somewhat successful. He was honored by the community with a costly sword.

His popularity within the community caused the people to urge him to run for the State Legislature. He served in the legislature in 1860 and 1861 but resigned in January of 1862, receiving an order from General Albert Sidney Johnson to organize 2 companies of Texas Cavalry, 180 men, known as the Grapevine Volunteers.

By September of 1862 The Gano Battalion numbered 500. He served with John Hunt Morgan for 15 months in 1862 and 1863 and was put in charge of a

battalion and later over 10 companies. He was transferred to the Trans-Mississippi just before Morgan's disastrous Ohio raid.

Richard was placed in charge of 2 brigades of Texas Cavalry operating in Arkansas, the Indian Territory and Missouri. General Kirby Smith promoted him to Brigadier General. He fought in 72 battles and was victorious in 68 of them. He was wounded only once but he did have 5 horses shot out from under him.

His promotion to Brigadier-General was a field promotion but in March of 1865 it became official with a letter from Jefferson Davis.

R.L. Roberts said of Richard that, "During the war, he led his men, doctored his men when they were wounded and preached to them on Sunday."

Richard and his troops constructed a meeting-house west of Texarkana in 1863, patterned after the Cane Ridge Meeting House.

During the war, he saw his parents only once, in July 1862. He rode up to Bellevue, in Centerville, to have supper. He wrote, "I went home one evening to see my parents and took supper with them. My mother told me with tears in his eyes that the Yankees were at Lexington, Paris, Cynthiana and Georgetown. I was completely surrounded by the Federals, and to let her hide me away until the next day, as I could not get out. I told her to suffer no more uneasiness, that I got in there, and I could get out."

After the war, Richard and the family returned to Bourbon County and also returned to stock-raising and farming. David Lipscomb said of Richard, "his reputation as a soldier commended him to the mass of the people in this country."

On Sunday July 1, 1866, the family attended a gathering at the Old Union Meeting-House. A crowd of 2,000 to 2,500 was in attendance. The large pulpit window was taken out so the hundreds outside could

*(continued on Page 2)*

## Brigadier-General Richard Montgomery Gano (cont. from page 2)

hear. Richard and Martha placed their membership there that day. A week later, on July 8, 1866 he was ordained at Old Union at the age of 36.

On July 15 he preached at Leesburg, replacing his father. Richard wrote, "After the close of the Civil War I laid down my sword of steel and took up the word of God as the weapon of my warfare."

Richard preached regularly at Ruddles Mills and at Cane Ridge. He said, "I labored at Old Cane Ridge about two years, and gathered into that church a goodly number... The love and interest the members there showed for me was, I thought, in a great measure due to the devotion they had for my dear father, John A. Gano." This was apparently between 1866 and 1868.

The family would return to Texas and in 1875 Richard was elected chairman of the Texas State Meeting. This was the beginning of what would become a major split in the church.

In 1880, a vote allowed for a State organization which Richard then opposed, but it was 1886 when the situation became volatile. In 1880, a resolution was introduced at the State Meeting which would organize missionary work in the State. Richard pleaded with those gathered not to "rend the body of Christ asunder," and he moved that the "whole question of missions be left with the individual churches where it properly belongs." His motion was adopted. By 1887 there was a true division. A State Missionary Convention was formed and many churches were divided from the body.

He continued to serve the Pearl and Bryan Church as elder and preacher. The original deed for the church contained a clause that prohibited the introduction of instrumental music. The congregation grew to 200 members but in 1886 Richard spent so much time preaching elsewhere that the congregation had little preaching and "lapsed into indifference."

Three of Richard's sons, W.B., Maurice and Lee were graduates of the Lexington College of the Bible. They all taught Bible at the Pearl and Bryan Church.

In February of 1866, Richard was scalded when the steamer he was on exploded near Vicksburg. His physician said his life was

saved by the exceptionally good condition of his body, which was because of his strong moral habits and not drinking intoxicants or smoking tobacco.

It was said of Richard that, though he was not one of the finest scholars, is one of the most successful evangelists. His style is very persuasive and his heart speaks to the people. He was said to rival his father's speaking ability. It has been reported that at a meeting there were no responses to the invitation following the sermon. Richard, who had been in the audience, came forward with an emotional exhortation with tears streaming down his cheeks. Many came forward while the preacher looked on. After all, the confessions were taken, Brother T.W. Caskey said aloud, "Brother Gano, cry some more."

Richard died on March 27, 1913, just before his 83<sup>rd</sup> birthday, after preaching for 47 years. Estimates of the baptisms he performed range from 4,000 to 16,000. Richard's own estimate was 6,800 people. He said, "On all occasions I have tried to do my duty, and should all my converts remain faithful, when I reach heaven I will meet an army of soldiers of the cross."

David Lipscomb wrote of Richard upon his death, "I became well acquainted with General Gano during the meeting and learned to respect and honor him for his earnestness and fidelity to what he thought was right. I used to boast sometimes of abstemious habits: that I had never drunk a cup of coffee, smoked a cigar, or took a chew of tobacco or a drink of spirits as a beverage. I told this to the General. If I mistake not, he added that he never had drunk a cup of tea, in addition to my restraints. I yielded the palm of praise to him, as he had been through the war, and especially as he had been in the Legislature. He was entitled to higher credit than I could claim."

Of Richard's 12 children, 3 died in infancy. 3 of his children attended the College of the Bible and later attended the University of Kentucky. They would return to Dallas and create the law firm of Gano, Gano and Gano. Of these three, W.B. married Jeanette "Nettie"

Grissim of Fayette Co., KY. She was the great-granddaughter of Barton Warren Stone.

The family were staunch supporters of the Conservative Churches but after Richard's Children's generation many of the family became affiliated with the Independent Christian Churches.

On July 14, 1883, W.B. and Nettie Gano's daughter Allene was born. She married a man named Howard Hughes in 1904. A son was born on December 24, 1905 in Houston and named Howard Hughes, Jr.

In his lifetime, Howard Hughes, Jr. was the wealthiest man in the world. The only reason to consider Hughes here is to know that he was the great, great grandson of both Barton Warren Stone and John Allen Gano.

### *Many Items Donated to Cane Ridge*

In addition to a number of books donated to the Cane Ridge Archives the 1976 Commemorative Medallion, featuring Cane Ridge, at the right was donated by Garnett C. Brown and his family.



Below is a certificate of graduation from the School of Natural Mental and Political Philosophy at Bethany College in 1864 for Sidney S. Moore and signed by Alexander Campbell (one of the last two graduations



he presided over).

It was donated by the family of Jerry Reece of Lexington, KY.

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#### CURATORIAL STAFF

Curator: James H. Trader, II  
Assistant Curator: Betty Allman

#### SCHEDULE

Summer Season-April 1-October 31  
Open Monday-Saturday - 9 am-5 pm  
Sundays 1-5 pm

Winter-November 1-March 31  
Open by appointment and when  
curatorial staff is available.

## Descendent of Barton Stone Passes Away

L. Pablo Stone, 91, of Black Mountain, NC, passed away on Thursday, Nov. 14, 2019. Pablo was an ordained minister with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)



and worked for over thirty years in Latin America as a missionary and in food and agriculture development organizations. He retired to Black Mountain and continued to work on various Peace initiatives. Services were held at First Christian Church of Black Mountain on November 23. Pablo was a descendent of Barton Stone and a friend of Cane Ridge.

## Stumps Removed and Grounds Maintained

The Christian Men's Fellowship of North Middletown Christian Church recently paid to have several stumps removed and ground up and had one dying tree removed from the grounds. Local landscaper Mike Mers (right, operating the grinder) completed the project.



Youth and sponsors from Chestnut Ridge Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Marietta, GA gave a day this summer to weed and trim trees and bushes. Those who worked were Paula Robin, Zach DeBrock, Sidney DeBrock, Reba Phalen, Jack Phalen, David Eliortiz-Crispin, Alejandro Ortiz-Crispin and Dimarilys Crispin. Helping with the work was Chris McCormick (above left) from the North Middletown (KY) Christian Church