

CONFEDERATE GAZETTE



Confederate Gazette

*Is a monthly publication
of the*

Major Robert M. White
Camp #1250
Sons of Confederate
Veterans
Temple, Texas

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Camp #1250
Sons of Confederate Veterans
Temple, Texas

Dinner Set For January 12, 2002

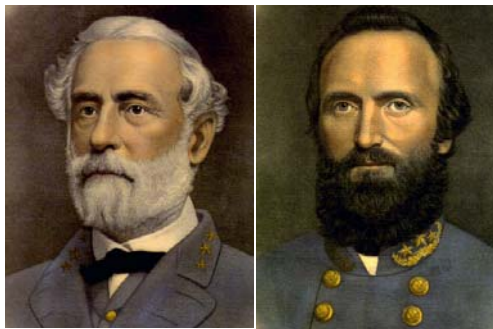
ANNUAL LEE-JACKSON DINNER TO BE HELD

The Major Robert M. White Camp #1250 will hold its 14th annual Lee-Jackson Dinner on Saturday, January 12, 2002 at the Inn at Scott & White in Temple.

Camp Member and past Texas Division Commander John Perry will speak. This will mark the seventh time he has been the Lee-Jackson speaker. He will speak on "The Wisdom of R. E. Lee."

Officers for year 2002 will be installed at the dinner meeting. Steve Woolley will be installed as the

Camp Commander, George Ballentine as 1st Lieutenant Commander, David Weber, 2nd Lieutenant



Commander, Wayne Wilson, Adjutant, and Curtis Pruitt, Quartermaster.

This year's dinner

meeting will be the fourteenth celebration of Robert E. Lee's birthday. The first observance was in 1989 in Hillsboro. For the first several years the camp held its Lee dinner in conjunction with the SCV camp in Hillsboro.

Since 1992 the annual event has been held in Temple. In 1998, the event was renamed to the "Lee-Jackson" Dinner to not only honor Robert E. Lee, but also to honor Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson.

Money Raised For Texas Heritage Defense

CAMP RAISES FUNDS

The Major Robert M. White Camp #1250 has raised nearly \$400 to go to the Texas Division's Heritage Defense Fund. Lt. Commander George Ballentine has lead the effort and is asking each camp member to donate at least \$10 towards the heritage fund.

The funds will be used for Texas heritage defense issues. The most pressing issue is the Texas' Division

lawsuit to restore the Confederate plaques at the state's Supreme Court building in Austin. Funds are needed to pay for depositions, interrogatories, and attorney fees.

The Texas Division filed the lawsuit in 2001 to attempt to have the plaques returned. Former Texas Governor Bill Daniels has agreed to testify on behalf of the effort to re-

store the plaques.

About half of the camp's members have made a contribution. All camp members are urged to make a donation. Please send your donation to in care of Commander George Ballentine at:
2714 Phyllis Drive
Copperas Cove, TX
76552

Donations will also be accepted at the dinner meeting.



CONFEDERATE PROFILE

JAMES JAY ARCHER

By John C. Perry

They had known each other during the Mexican War, and when Union Major General Abner Doubleday approached the Confederate prisoner of war at Gettysburg he said, "Good morning, Archer! How are you? I am glad to see you! The captured Confederate general's reply was much less friendly, "Well, I am not glad to see you by a damn sight!"

James Jay Archer was born in Bel Air, Maryland on December 19, 1817. He graduated from Princeton and later studied law at the University of Maryland and was admitted to the Maryland bar. When the Mexican War broke out Archer raised a company of volunteers and was elected the company's captain.

During the war, he was appointed as a captain of Zouaves in the regular army and saw action at the fight at Chapultepec, where he was brevetted to major in recognition of his gallantry. As U.S. troops stormed the fortress, Archer personally led his men in a diversionary attack on a Mexican battery. He was mustered out of the U.S. Army in 1848 after the war was over.

Post war Archer returned to Maryland where he resumed his practice of law, but by 1855 the desire to serve in the military drew him back into the

army. He reentered the U. S. Army as a captain of the 9th Infantry. He was stationed in the Washington Territory when in June of 1861 he resigned his commission and traveled south to offer his services to the

"Our general was in front leading the charge," he wrote, when, "the boys began to waver, Archer waved his sword over his head and gave the command, 'Follow Me!'"

At Gettysburg on July 1, 1863, General James Pettigrew warned Archer of a strong concentration of Union troops on McPherson's Ridge. Archer, according to a period account, "listened, believed not, marched on unprepared." In heavy fighting in the area of Willoughby's Run, Archer was outflanked and attacked by the Union's Iron Brigade. A large Irish Union private, Patrick Maloney, spotted Archer and proceeded to manually take him down. According to some accounts Archer was mauled by Maloney and one Union officer claimed that Archer asked his captors for protection from Maloney once he was escorted behind Union lines. Maloney would later in the day be killed in the fighting.

Archer offered his sword to a Union major who refused it. An altercation occurred when a lowly lieutenant forcibly took Archer's sword from him. Archer felt that the lieutenant had no right to the sword since it had been offered to and refused by the Union major. After having been beaten up and having his sword taken from him, Archer was not in

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Archer at one time during the war led the 5th Texas Infantry



James Jay Archer

Confederacy.

Archer was appointed as a colonel and given command of the 5th Texas Infantry. In the spring of 1862, he was given command of the Tennessee Brigade, part of Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia. In June, Archer was promoted to brigadier general. Archer performed well and was typically at the forefront of any battle leading his men forward. At the Battle of Gaines' Mill in June of 1862, one of his soldiers described Archer,

Confederate Profile

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the very best of spirits when he saw his old friend, Union General Doubleday.

Archer was captured with about 75 of his men. At about 4:00 PM on July 1st they were marched southward, in an all night march. At Taneytown, Maryland they were officially enrolled as prisoners of war. They eventually boarded a train and were sent to Baltimore, where Archer was imprisoned at Fort McHenry. Archer was later transferred to Fort Delaware and then finally sent to the infamous POW camp at Johnson's Island.

At Johnson's Island Archer made at least one escape attempt. In De-

ember of 1863, he bribed a guard and unsuccessfully attempted to cross the ice to freedom. The conditions at Johnson's Island were brutal in the winter of 1863-64 with temperatures dipping to a minus 30 degrees.

In the summer of 1864, Archer was sent south to South Carolina where he was one of fifty Confederate officers exposed to Confederate guns in retaliation for a Confederate threat to expose fifty Union POW officers. This actually proved to work to Archer's advantage as he was exchanged on August 13, 1864.

Archer was in very poor health, but he almost immediately returned to active duty, rejoining Lee's army at Petersburg. His health problems appar-

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Camp Schedule

January, 2002

January 12th: Annual Robert E. Lee-Stonewall Jackson Dinner Meeting, Inn at Scott & White, 7:00 PM.

February, 2002

February 12th: Regular Camp Meeting, 7:00 P.M. at King's Daughters Hospital in Temple, TX. Speaker: George Ballentine, "John Pelham: Lee's Boy Artillerist"

March, 2002

March 12th: Regular Camp Meeting, 7:00 P.M. at King's Daughters

Lee-Jackson
Dinner Set For
January 12th
at The Inn at Scott
& White
Temple

Camp Commanders & Adjutants, 1988 to 2002

Year	Commander	Adjutant
2002	Steve Wooley	Wayne Wilson
2001	Greg Manning	Steve Wooley
2000	Greg Manning	Steve Wooley
1999	Jerry Nelson	Steve Wooley
1998	Jerry Nelson	Steve Wooley
1997	Jerry Nelson	Dick Epperson
1996	Ken Miller	Dick Epperson
1995	Ken Miller	Dick Epperson
1994	Will Port Hall	Dick Epperson
1993	W. Glenn Rucker	Will Port Hall
1992	Larry Jack Maxey	Will Port Hall
1991	Richard Kemp	Will Port Hall
1990	Jon Farrow	Will Port Hall
1989	John C. Perry	Buzzy Gover
1988	John C. Perry	Buzzy Gover

Lee-Jackson Dinner Meetings 1989 to 2002

Year	Location	Speaker	Topic
2002	Temple	John C. Perry	"The Wisdom of R. E. Lee"
2001	Temple	John & Sandra Perry	"John and Fanny Gordon" (First Person Presentation)
2000	Temple	Denne Sweeney	"Jefferson Davis, From West Point to the Presidency"
1999	Temple	Dr. Gary G. Desalvo	"Spiritual Life of Lee & Jackson"
1998	Temple	Dan M. Laney	"Bobby Lee & Stonewall"
1997	Temple	John C. Perry	"Lee Revisited"
1996	Temple	John C. Perry	"Lee & Jackson"
1995	Temple	Dr. David Yeilding	"Lee After Gettysburg"
1994	Temple	John C. Perry	"Lee: The Texas Connection"
1993	Temple	John C. Perry	"Lessons Learned From Lee"
1992	Temple	John C. Perry	"Robert E. Lee: The Man"
1991	Hillsboro	Arch McNamara	"The Lee Family"
1990	Belton	Dr. David Yeilding	"Post-war Years of Robert E. Lee"
1989	Hillsboro	Steve Brown	"Life of Lee"

*Confederate
Profile*

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ently were the result of the exposure to the severe elements at Johnson's Island. For a short period of time he commanded his old brigade and that of H. H. Walker.

He suffered from pneumonia after an all day march in a driving rain storm. He died in Richmond on October 24, 1864 and was buried in Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond.

The officer that succeeded Archer, William McComb, paid high tribute to Archer. McComb said that Archer was "one of the bravest officers in the army - one competent to fill any position in the corps. He could see, decide and act with as much alacrity as any officer I ever knew."



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Lee-Jackson Dinner
January 12th
Inn at S&W
7:00 PM