

# CONFEDERATE GAZETTE



## Confederate Gazette

*Is a monthly publication  
of the Major Robert M.  
White Camp #1250  
Sons of Confederate  
Veterans  
Temple, Texas*

**Best  
Newsletter  
2003  
Texas Division**

Web Site:

[www.rootsweb.com/~tx1250](http://www.rootsweb.com/~tx1250)

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Camp #1250  
Sons of Confederate Veterans  
Temple, Texas

### *New Officers Installed*

## LEE-JACKSON DINNER HELD

The Major Robert M. White Camp #1250 held its 16<sup>th</sup> annual Lee-Jackson Dinner on January

Ballentine as Camp Commander, James Kinnear, as 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant Commander, Gordon Mobley as

honored for his service as Camp Commander for the past two years. Commander Wooley was presented a past commander's medal by new camp commander George Ballentine. Also honored at the event was William Cole who was presented with a new member's certificate. Compatriot Cole is on active military duty and currently assigned to duty in Iraq.

In camp business, the camp heard a report from Army of Trans-Mississippi Commander John Perry



10<sup>th</sup> at Jody's Restaurant in Temple. A large crowd of about 55 people attended the event which featured Texas Division Commander Steve von Roeder as the speaker. Commander von Roeder spoke on "Honoring Our Confederate Heroes." Also in attendance were two past Texas Division Commanders, Steve Lucas and camp member John Perry.

At the meeting the Camp's newly elected officers were installed for 2004. Commander von Roeder installed George

*Above: New  
Camp Officers  
are installed.  
Right: Texas  
Division  
Commander Steve  
von Roeder  
speaks  
(Photos by  
George Ballentine*

2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Commander, Richard Sutton as Adjutant, and J. Paul Carter as Camp Chaplain.

Outgoing Camp Commander Steve Wooley was



regarding the SCV Commander-in-Chief Ron Wilson's call for a special na-

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# CONFEDERATE PROFILE ATM RECRUITER



By: John C. Perry

This adopted Texan from Marshall had one of the most difficult and unpopular jobs in Texas during the war. He was the chief of the conscription bureau for the Trans-Mississippi Department.

Elkanah Brackin Greer was born in Paris, Tennessee on October 11, 1825, the son of Captain James and Rachel (Bracken) Greer. As a young man, he moved to Marshall County, Mississippi.

In 1847, in response to the Mexican War, Greer enlisted in Co. I of the Marshall Guards, 1<sup>st</sup> Mississippi Infantry, the famous unit commanded by Jefferson Davis. Greer entered the military as a private and participated in the battles at Monterrey and Buena Vista. Greer served as major general of the Mississippi militia soon after the war ended.

In 1848 Greer moved to Marshall, Texas. In Marshall he operated a merchandising business and owned a nearby plantation. Greer returned briefly to Tennessee in 1851 to marry Anna Holcombe and the couple would eventually have four children. During the years prior to the War Between the States he continued as a merchant and a planter, and also worked as a lawyer in the firm of Pope,

Stedman, and Greer in Marshall. He also served for a time as superintendent of the Southern Pacific Railroad which ran through Marshall.

Prior to the war he was an ardent supporter of

as the 3<sup>rd</sup> Texas Cavalry was known in the beginning, was the first Texas cavalry regiment to be mustered for out-of-state service. The unit was officially sworn in on June 13, 1861 and soon headed toward the border of Texas and planned to join General McCulloch at Fort Smith, Arkansas

With Brig. Gen. Benjamin McCulloch's Army of the West, Greer commanded his regiment at the battles of Wilson's Creek (Oak Hill), Missouri, and Chustenahlah, Indian Territory. At Pea Ridge (Elkhorn Tavern), Arkansas, despite sustaining a slight wound, Greer temporarily succeeded to the command of McCulloch's division after McCulloch and several other senior commanders became casualties.

During the spring of 1862 Greer commanded a cavalry brigade that included his Texas regiment. After participating in the evacuation of Corinth he resigned his command on June 1, 1862, but later was called back to active duty. He was appointed brigadier general on October 8, 1862. He eventually became chief of the conscription bureau for the Trans-Mississippi Department and head of the Reserve Corps.

He worked with Gen. John B. Magruder to reconcile Confederate conscrip-

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Elkanah Brackin Greer

states rights, and became grand commander of the Knights of the Golden Circle in 1859. In 1860 he offered to then governor Sam Houston a militia of mounted volunteers to invade Mexico, of which Houston declined. At the 1860 Democratic Party convention in Charleston Greer was one of those that left the convention, refusing to accept Stephen Douglas's platform.

He entered the Confederate army in May of 1861 and formed the Third Texas Cavalry by June. Colonel E. B. Greer's Cavalry Regiment,

Greer raised an East Texas cavalry regiment and later served as the ATM's Chief of the Conscription



By: George Ballentine

# Commander's Call

Compatriots, I want to express my sincere appreciation for the trust that you have placed in me by electing me your Camp Commander for 2004. I will do the best job that I can as your commander, and will not violate that trust. I will be talking to you each month via the *Gazette*. In this way I hope to reach all camp members. Much of our camp business and notifications these days is done by e-mail and the Internet. However, I want all members informed and involved in the camp, regardless of whether they choose to have electronic contact or not.

You have also elected a fine group of compatriots to serve as my camp officers. James Kinneer is my 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Commander. He will oversee the Programs Committee and conduct camp meetings in my absence. Gordon Mobley is my 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Commander. He will be in charge of our Membership Committee, concerned primarily with recruiting and new member activities.

Richard Sutton is my Adjutant. This is a very important position in camp activities, he will serve in the capacity that most organizations elected separately of secretary, treasurer and registrar. Dr. J. Paul Carter will serve as our camp chaplain. His duties are wide and varied, and include performing the invocation and benediction

at all camp meetings. We currently have vacancies in several positions that I will fill as soon as possible. The Historian will have the duty of collecting and recording the camp's history and other significant data worthy of saving. The Quartermaster will be responsible for the care of the camp flags and other camp property. He will also serve as the Color Sergeant and should be able to attend most, if not all, camp meetings. If you are interested in these positions please let me know.

Our camp is an active camp and is growing each year. We participate in cemetery dedications, parades, and other events. Our camp store is well on its way to becoming a major fund raiser for our camp. Many of our fellow compatriots also participate in reenactments around the state.

In June 2005 we will host the Texas Division Convention. That may sound like a long way off, but, in fact, it is quite close when we consider the work we are going to have to do to put it together. I will be calling on all members to help by serving on regular camp committees and special committees for the convention planning. I know I can count on all of you for your support.

I have ideas and plans for the coming year and look forward to sharing those with you in the coming months. At our meeting

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## Camp Schedule

**February 6-8, 2004** Reenactment - The Battle of Long King Creek, 8:00 a.m. Pedigo Park, Livingston, TX (We will have our camp store set up here)

**February 10, 2004** Camp Meeting, 7:00 p.m. Founder's Room, Scott & White Hospital, Temple, TX. Speaker: Charles Oliver, Topic: "The Real Lincoln"

**March 9, 2004** Camp Meeting, 7:00 p.m. Founder's Room, Scott & White Hospital, Temple, TX. Speaker: Joe Walker, Topic: "The United Confederate Veterans"

**April 3, 2004** Highway Cleanup Spring Event 10:00 a.m. Highway 93 Belton, TX- Don't Mess with Texas Trash-off

**April 10, 2004** Camp Dinner Meeting, 7:00 p.m., TBA, Temple, TX, Speaker: Evault Boswell, Quantrill's Raiders in Texas.

**April 15-17<sup>th</sup>**: Burial of the C.S.S. Hunley crew in Charlestown, South Carolina. Visit [www.hunley.org](http://www.hunley.org) for additional information.

**April 24-25<sup>th</sup>** Mexia Reenactment, Confederate Reunion Campground near Mexia.

**May 11, 2004** Camp Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Founder's Room, Scott & White Hospital, Temple, TX, Speaker: TBA

**May 14-16, 2004** Battle for Lake Bellmead, Reenactment, 8:00 a.m. (We will have our camp store set up here)

Next Camp Meeting:  
February 10<sup>th</sup>  
7:00 P.M. at  
Scott & White  
Hospital,  
Founders Room,  
Temple, TX

# Lee-Jackson Dinner

One of the largest crowds ever attends the annual Lee-Jackson Dinner in Temple



tion with the SCV camp in Hillsboro.

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

Most SCV camps have Lee or Lee-Jackson Dinners in the month of January. Robert E. Lee was born on January 19, 1807 and Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson

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tional convention. Commander Perry explained the issues involved, reported that the Texas Division had gone on record opposing the request, and urged the camp to reject the convention call. The camp voted unanimously to oppose the special convention.

This year's dinner meeting was the sixteenth celebration of Robert E. Lee's birthday. The first



*Photographs - Top: Newly installed Camp Commander George Ballentine presents outgoing Commander Steve Wooley his Past Commanders Medal. Middle: Commander Wooley presents new member William Cole his membership certificate. Left: New Camp officers are sworn in by Texas Division Commander Steve von Roeder. (Photographs by George Ballentine)*

observance was in 1989 in Hillsboro. For the first sev-

eral years the camp held its Lee dinner in conjunc-

was born on January 21, 1824.

## Commander's Call

(Continued from page 3)  
 on February 10<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m., Founder's Room, Scott & White Hospital, we will start the ball rolling. I hope as many of you as possible will attend that most important meeting.

Again, thank you for the trust that you have placed in me and your other camp officers. We will do the job - with your help.

## Next Meeting Topic: Lincoln

The Major Robert M. White Camp #1250 will hold its February meeting in the Founders Room at Scott & White Hospital on Feb. 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. Charles Oliver, from Waco, will speak on "The Real Lincoln."

## Confederate Gazette Quiz Questions

By George Ballentine

Subject:  
**CONFEDERATE NAVY**

1. Rebel Raider that was first christened *Havana*
  - a. Nashville
  - b. Sumter
  - c. Danville
  - d. Albert Johnston

2. The ironclad *Albemarle* was built
  - a. in a railroad yard
  - b. on a sheep ranch
  - c. in a limestone quarry
  - d. in a cornfield

3. Name of the racing schooner *America* while in Confederate service
  - a. *Stilicho*
  - b. *Memphis*
  - c. *Polaris*
  - d. *Texas*

4. Confederate armored ram which ended its career as the Japanese *Adzuma*
  - a. Lee
  - b. Thomas Jefferson
  - c. Stonewall
  - d. Washington

5. When Richmond fell, the cadets of the *Patrick Henry* were used to guard
  - a. the Confederate treasury
  - b. Mrs. Jefferson Davis
  - c. Chimborazo Hospital
  - d. Libby Prison

Answers:  
 1. B, 2. D, 3. B, 4. C, 5. A

Next Trash  
 Pick-up On  
 Highway 93 is  
 Saturday April 3<sup>rd</sup>  
 at 10:00 AM

# It's Almost That Time



In the spring of 2002 the Major Robert M. White Camp #1250 agreed to adopt a two mile stretch along state highway 93 which runs between Temple and Belton.

The Camp agreed to quarterly pick up trash along the roadway. In return for this effort the Texas Highway Department in March of 2002 erected two signs that list the Camp.

The next trash pick up is set for April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 AM. All camp members are asked to help with this effort.

State Highway 93 is the well-traveled five-lane road between Belton, where it connects at I-35 and where South 31<sup>st</sup> Street in Temple ends.

## Division Reunion Set For June

The Texas Division will hold its 107<sup>th</sup> annual reunion in Nacogdoches, Texas on June 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>.

Camp members are strongly encouraged to attend the Division Reunion, as Camp #1250 will be the host camp for the annual event in 2005.

The reunion headquarters will be the historic Fredonia Hotel and Convention Center. Built by citizens for their guests and visitors to the city, the Fredonia Hotel is located on Old Washington Square in the center of historic Nacogdoches.

Complete reunion details, including registration forms and a schedule of events will appear in the next edition of the *Texas Division Dispatch*.

The Order of the Confederate Rose (OCR) will hold a Silent Auction at the Texas Division Convention in Nacogdoches June 11 and 12, 2004. The OCR asks that camps or individuals wishing to donate items for the auction turn them in between 1:00 p.m. Friday and 10:00 a.m. Saturday.

The auction will be an all day affair, so to get the highest bid on each item, please turn-in the item to the OCR table as early as possible. The OCR donates the proceeds of the auction to the Texas Division. Contact Betty Nelson at 254-634-3198 or e-mail jnelson1@hotrr.com .

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## *Jerry Russell Dies*

Noted War Between the States preservationist Jerry Russell of Arkansas died on December 5<sup>th</sup>, the result of complications following lung surgery. Russell was 70 at his death.

Russell recently spoke at the Tenth Annual Texas Civil War Preservation Seminar held in November at Hill College in Hillsboro. He spoke on "A Life Well Lived: Cleburne."

Russell, in 1989, founded the HERITAGEPAC. It was the only political action committee registered by the Federal Elections Commission whose focus was War Between the States battlefield preservation.

Civil War Preservation Trust President said of Russell, "(he) was one of

the founding fathers of the Civil War battlefield preservation movement." Russell has won many awards and honors for his preservation efforts.

Memorials may be made to the Jerry Russell Fund, Civil War Preservation Trust, 11 Public Square, Suite 200, Hagerstown, Maryland, 21740.

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## ATM Recruiter



(Continued from page 2)  
tion laws with Texas state laws. After the war, Greer lived in Marshall in semi-retirement.

In 1875 he was a member of the reception committee for former Confederate President Jefferson Davis's visit to Marshall.

Greer died while visiting his sister at DeVall's Bluff, Arkansas, on March 25, 1877, and was buried next to his parents at Elmwood Cemetery in Memphis, Tennessee.

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**Next Meeting:  
Feb. 10th  
S&W-Founders Rm.  
Temple  
7:00 PM**