

Confederate Gazette

Christmas Party Set

It's free! Yes folks you heard it right, the 5th annual Christmas Gala at Bliss Hall in Little River on Saturday, December 8th is free for Camp members and a guest! Come enjoy food, fellowship, and entertainment at no cost thanks to the Major Robert M. White Camp #1250.

social hour beginning at 6:00 PM followed by a barbeque

for a Camp member and one guest. For other guests the cost is only \$7.50 per person.



Photo from last years Christmas Party during the Silent Auction

This event follows similar events held each December for the last four years, where camp members, friends, and guest reviled in an old time Southern Christmas party.

At the party a Silent Auction will be

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The party will kick off with a

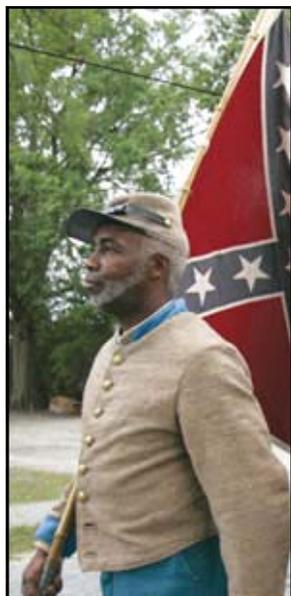
or catfish dinner at 7:00 PM. There is no cost for the meal

H.K. Coming to Temple

H.K. Edgerton, a former NAACP leader from Asheville, North Carolina, has begun a 1,300 mile march across the South to seek to expand the awareness of the need to defend Southern heritage and history.

He is scheduled to start his march on October 20th in Ashville and ends it on December 21st at Hays County High School, south of Austin.

Along his route H.K. will make a stop in Temple on



December 14th.

A luncheon to host H.K. at the Railroad & Heritage Museum in the Santa Fe Depot in downtown Temple will be held on December 14th at Noon.

All Camp members will be invited as well as various governmental officials. Camp members must RSVP to Steve Wooley at 986-2264 by December 10th.



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

Web Site:
www.rootsweb.com/~tx1250

James Kinnear
Camp Commander
P.O. Box 341
Little River, TX 76554

John C. Perry
Newsletter Editor
P.O. Box 794
Salado, TX 76571

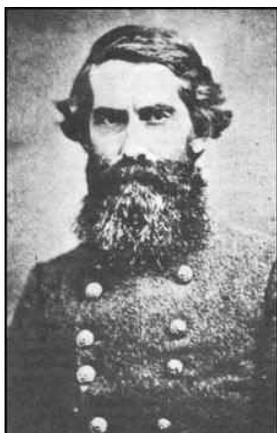
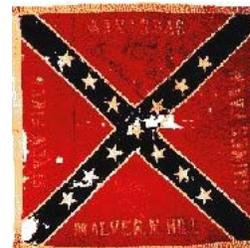
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White Camp #1250

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CONFEDERATE PROFILE

The Pride of Georgia



William H.T. Walker

Walker was a hero in both the Seminole War and the Mexican War

This native of Georgia had numerous nicknames, "Georgia Firebrand," "Old Shotpouch," and "The Pride of Georgia." He was the hero of two wars who was a household name to his fellow Georgians. Yet he was frail and was known for his fiery temper and his sensitivity. William Henry Talbot Walker was born in Augusta, Georgia on November 26, 1816. He was the third child of five that survived childhood of Freeman and Mary Walker. Walker's father and mother were from prominent Virginia families who had moved to Georgia. Walker's father and his uncles were all lawyers in Augusta. Young Walker was known to his family as "Willie" and he attended school either in Augusta or when the family was on their suburban farm at a school at Richmond Bath. Walker's father died when he was only ten years old and his mother struggled to make it financially seeking help from Walker's uncles and aunts.

Walker received an appointment to the Military Academy at West Point in 1832 and graduated in 1837. As a young lieutenant he quickly saw action in the Seminole War. He was severely wounded at Lake Okeechobee in 1837 when he was shot through the neck and shoulder and in the leg and also suffered a broken arm. Despite the wounds he continued to lead his men until he fell over unconscious. He was in recovery for quite a while and eventually resigned from the army due to his wounds. When the U.S. and Mexico went to war he answered the call of duty and was back in uniform. He received brevetted promotions to major and lieutenant colonel for his valor in Mexico at Churubusco and Molino del Rey. He again was wounded at Molino del Rey that kept him confined to a bed for almost a year. Due to ill health as a result of his wounds he served in a limited capacity on recruitment duty and as the commandant of cadets under Superintendent Robert E. Lee from 1854 to 1856. He returned to Georgia and farmed after being put on an extended leave of absence. As South Carolina left the Union in December of 1860, Walker resigned from the U.S. Army, claiming to be the first officer to do so. He was given the task of organizing the Georgia volunteer forces first serving as a colonel then major general of the Georgia volunteers. In May of 1861 he was commissioned as a brigadier general in the Confederate Army as Braxton Bragg's second in command in Pensacola, Florida. He then spent two months in Virginia as the commander of the Louisiana Brigade, but resigned in "a fit of rage" when he felt he had been passed over by "junior" officers. He was not bashful about complaining about what he considered unfair treatment, with strongly worded letters to President Jefferson Davis and Secretary

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Walker vs. Cleburne

On the night of January 2, 1864 the Confederacy's Army of Tennessee's high command were called to a meeting. At the meeting Major General Patrick Cleburne presented a proposal for using slaves in the Confederate Army. Some who heard the presenta-

tion agreed with the proposal, but other vehemently objected to it. One of those dissenters was William H.T. Walker. General Joseph E. Johnston refused to pass the Cleburne proposal on to Richmond. Walker, however felt that Richmond should know, and bucking

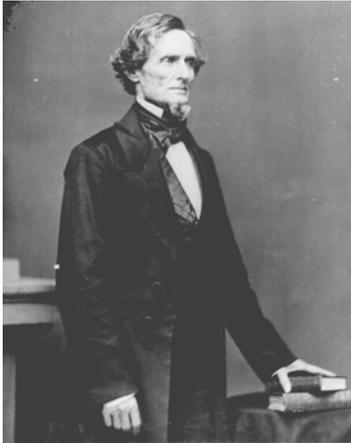
orders he leapfrogged the chain of command sending a message to President Jefferson Davis, with the comments that it would "involve our cause in ruin and disgrace." Davis responded asking that the proposal should be "mooted" and not made public.

2008: The Year of Davis

SCV To Celebrate Jefferson Davis' Bicentennial

The SCV has declared 2008 the "Year of Davis" to commemorate the bicentennial of his birth. Davis was born on June 3, 1808 near what is now Fairview, Kentucky.

There are two events that every Southerner will want to try and attend. First, there will be the re-opening of Beauvoir in Biloxi,



Mississippi on June 3rd. Next will be the Bicentennial celebration in Fairview on June 7th. Both of these events will be celebrated by the entire SCV. More details will follow, but mark your calendars now as you won't want to miss these very special events.

Camp Holds November Meeting

A good crowd attended the November Camp meeting at the Cotton Patch Café.

Two guests attended the meeting, John Coleman from Temple and Robert Combs from Florence.

Jerry Nelson gave the pro-

gram on Judson Kilpatrick and the Dahlgren Raid.

Two new members were approved by the Camp, Michael L. Miller and Bill Powers, both of Temple.

\$200 was voted to support H.K. Edgerton's march.

Camp Schedule

December 8, 2007

Annual Camp Christmas Party, Bliss Hall, Little River, at 6:00 PM for Social hour. Event to include an DCR Silent Auction.

December 14, 2007

Camp Luncheon to host HK Edgerton on his march across the South. Noon at the Rail-

road & Heritage Museum at the Santa Fe Depot.

January 12 2008

Annual Lee-Jackson Dinner, at 7:00 PM at the Hilton Hotel in Temple. Speaker: Dr. John Dwyer who will speak on Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson.

Camp Christmas Party

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held. Camp members are encouraged to donate any unwanted or extra copies of books, old uniforms and period dresses or other clothing. Items may be submitted in advance to one of the DCR ladies. Items for the auction may also be brought to the event where they will be accepted at the door. The camp store will also be set up so you can purchase you Confederate items for Christmas.

If possible, please bring a wrapped present for a child, marked with a girl or boy designation. The gifts will be collected and sent to the Texas Military Foundation. The gifts will be given to needy children of military families.

Dress for the event can be either period or modern clothes. Casual wear or party wear is permissible.



February 12, 2008

Regular Camp meeting at Cotton Patch Café, Temple Mall at 7:00 PM. Speaker: TBA

Food, fellowship, silent auction, all at the Camp's Christmas party

Next Camp Meeting:
December 8th
6:00 PM - Social
7:00 PM - Dinner
Bliss Hall,
Little River

Confederate Gazette

P.O. Box 794

Salado, Texas 76571

Next Meeting:
December 8th
Bliss Hall
Little River
6:00 PM

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Wm. Walker

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of War Judah P. Benjamin. His "scandalous" letters were published in newspapers across the South. He returned to Georgia with the Georgia State Troops from December 1861 to April 1862. Walker agreed to apologize to the Confederate War Department and was restored to brigadier general in February of 1863 and given command of the Walker Brigade of four Georgia regiments and one Louisiana battalion. He saw service in Mississippi and in May was appointed a major general upon the recommendation of Joseph E. Johnston and became a division commander. Johnston labeled Walker as "indispensable" and his "only officer competent to

command" a division. In August of 1863 his division was sent to Bragg's Army of Tennessee. Bragg made Walker the commander of his Reserve Corp at the Battle of Chickamauga. When Bragg was relieved of command in December, Walker was reunited with his long time friend Johnston. Walker and his division were involved in the Atlanta Campaign as Johnston slowly moved through north Georgia to Atlanta in the summer of 1864. A young teenage soldier wrote

home with a description of Walker during the campaign, "We passed close to Walker himself, 'Fighting Billy,' as he was called, a hero of the Mexican War. One of the thinnest men I ever saw. Imagine a fence rail, dressed in a complete uniform, closely buttoned up warm as it was, topped by a long pale face, almost hidden, however, by a bushy black beard, and above all a huge black felt hat with a big black feather curling around it." Walker's division saw action at



Monument to Walker in Atlanta, near where he was killed.

Dallas, Kennesaw Mountain, and at Peachtree Creek. On July 22nd, Walker's division was part of a flanking movement during the Battle of Atlanta. As the battle began and just after a confrontation with corps commander, William J. Hardee, Walker was killed. He was mounted and ahead of his men on a hill peering through his field glasses when he was shot by a single shot from a Federal sharpshooter. He was killed instantly his field glasses still in his hand after he fell from his mount. His body was sent by train to Augusta, arriving on July 24th, and he was buried that afternoon. He was eulogized by the *Augusta Chronicle* two days later as, "The Pride of Georgia." Walker was survived by his wife Mary Townsend Walker and four of their eight children who survived childhood.