

Confederate Gazette

Flag Day Event Planned

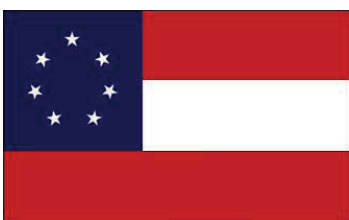
The Major Robert M. White Camp #1250 will celebrate Confederate Flag Day on Sunday March 4, 2007 at the Bell County Courthouse in Belton at 1:00 PM.

The Camp has been given permission by the County Judge Jon Burrows to raise the First National flag for a 24 hour period to commemorate Confederate Flag Day.

Camp members and friends are asked to gather for this event at the courthouse a little before 1:00. The 1st National flag will be raised and Camp Member Steve Wooley will talk about the history of Confederate Flag Day.

Immediately following the

events at the courthouse Camp Members and friends are invited to meet at the Village Inn Restaurant in Temple for a Dutch treat lunch.



First National Flag of the Confederacy, adopted March 4, 1861, had seven stars

March 4th is recognized across the South as Confederate Flag Day. It was on March 4, 1861 that the First National Flag, "The Stars and Bars," was adopted and raised over the then Confederate capital in Montgomery, Alabama.

A flag made of soft merino wool was completed within two hours of its adoption by the Confederate Congress. The very first flag of the Confederacy was raised by Miss Letitia Christian Tyler, grand-daughter of the former U.S. President, John Tyler.

It was also on a March 4th, this time in 1865, that the final flag of the Confederacy was adopted. The Confederate Senate passed Bill No. 137 on February 5, 1865 on to the house, which also passed it on February 27, 1865. It was then signed into law by President Jefferson Davis on March 4, 1865.

Museum of the Confederacy Changes

The Museum of the Confederacy, located in Richmond, Virginia is contemplating making some major changes. The museum hosts the world's largest collection of civilian and military artifacts relating to the Confederate States of America, as well as the post-war period.

The museum is currently located in downtown Richmond in a building built in 1976, next to the White House of the Confederacy, the official residence of Confederate President Jefferson

Davis during the War. The museum dates to Feb. 22, 1896.



when The Confederate Museum opened in the White House of the Confederacy.

Last Fall the museum began to consider its options. It is landlocked, completely surrounded by the Virginia Commonwealth University's sprawling medical school. Parking is a major problem with spaces near the museum at a premium price. The museum's attendance, is steadily falling from 92,000 a year in the early 1990s to 51,500 last year.

"If we stay, we die," said Waite

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Best Newsletter - 2006 - Texas Division

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CONFEDERATE PROFILE

Legion Commander



**Thomas
Neville Waul**

**Waul helped
frame the
Confederate
Constitution**

He was an avid secessionist who helped frame the Confederate Constitution. He went to war to defend it.

Thomas Neville Waul was born to Thomas and Annie Waul near Statesburg, South Carolina, on January 5, 1813. Waul spent three years at South Carolina College. He then moved to Florence, Alabama where he taught school. Later he moved to Vicksburg, Mississippi where he studied law. Waul was admitted to the bar in 1835 and began practicing law. Waul married America Simmons in 1837.

By 1850 Waul was in Texas in Gonzales County, where he practiced law and built a plantation on the Guadalupe River raising cotton. He dabbled in politics, running unsuccessfully for Congress. He was appointed by the Texas Succession Convention as a delegate to the Provisional Congress of

the Confederate States of America in 1861. The Provisional Congress wrote both the Confederacy's Provisional Constitution and the final Constitution. While he served he introduced legislation designed to strengthen the frontier defenses of Texas.

He ran for a seat in the Confederate Senate in November 1861 but was unsuccessful. In the spring of 1862, Waul was in Brenham and formed Waul's Legion. A legion contained both a cavalry battalion and an infantry regiment, although during the war the cavalry and infantry units of Waul's Legion did not always serve together. The Legion also had a six-gun battery of field artillery with a total complement of about 2,000 men. Waul was commissioned as a colonel in command of his Legion on May 17th.

Waul and the infantry regiment, which contained twelve companies, served in the Department

of Mississippi and East Louisiana. It fought in the Vicksburg Campaign and Waul and his men were captured on July 4, 1863, when Vicksburg surrendered. The unit reported 47 killed, 190 wounded, and 8 missing of the 381 engaged during the siege at Vicksburg.

Waul was soon exchanged and was promoted to brigadier general on September 18, 1863. He was given brigade command in Maj. Gen. John G. Walker's Texas Division, which he led during the Red River campaign of 1864.

After the battles of Mansfield and Pleasant Hill in April of 1864, Waul and his brigade were transferred to Arkansas. At the Battle of Jenkins' Ferry on April 30, 1864, they helped to repulse federal Major General Frederick Steele's attempted invasion of Texas. Waul was wounded in the action.

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Fort Waul

The Confederates constructed a fort located on Waldrip Hill just north of the city of Gonzales. Begun in late 1863, the fort was to be built to defend inland Texas from possible Federal advances up the Guadalupe River from the Gulf of Mexico, as well as to provide protec-

tion for military supply trains. Col. Albert Miller Lea, chief engineer, and Capt. H. Wickeland, topographical engineer, were responsible for the construction of the fort. The fort was designed to have outside walls eight feet high, four to six

feet thick at the top, and twelve feet thick at the bottom. The fort also had a defensive entrenchment, eight feet wide by four feet deep, surrounding it.

Colonel Lea was instructed to use slave labor from the sur-

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Museum of the Confederacy

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Rawls, the museum's president and CEO.



Above: Entrance to the Museum of the Confederacy in Richmond. *Right:* The White House of the Confederacy located next to the museum.

museum's collection of artifacts, manuscripts and photographs. Confederate Generals Robert E. Lee and Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson are buried there, and the city is home to Washington and Lee University as well as the Virginia Military

title. Apparently the museum would consider a name change if the right deal could be reached. Rawls told the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, "One of our challenges is a gap between the public's perception of who we are and the role we play, and the reality of who we are and the role we play."

The possibility of a name change has enraged many who

Museum of the Confederacy To Move?

The historic White House of the Confederacy would not move, only the museum's collection. It is Rawls' hope that the museum will be in its new home by 2011. If officials can't find a new site in Richmond, they will consider moving outside the area, Rawls said.



In January, Rawls let it be known that the museum is considering relocating to Lexington, Virginia. About 140 miles west of downtown Richmond, Lexington is considered by some to be a good fit for the

Institute. One major stumbling block has arisen over the museum's name. Some on the Lexington City Council have objected to the use of the name "Confederacy" in the museum's

see it as bowing to political correctness. In a recent *Richmond Time-Dispatch* poll on the possible name change, over 96% were opposed to changing the name.

Camp Schedule

March 4, 2007
Confederate Flag Day ceremonies at Bell Co. Courthouse, 1:00 PM, followed by Dutch treat lunch at the Village Inn in Temple.

March 13, 2007
Regular Camp meeting at Cotton Patch Café, Temple Mall. Come as early as 6:00 PM to

eat. Camp meeting will start at 7:00 PM. Speaker: Joe Walker, "Confederate Camp Music."

March 13, 2007
General Granbury Birthday Parade meet up 9:30 a.m in Granbury.

March 31, 2007
Confederate History Sympo-



sium, Hill College, Hillsboro, 9:00 AM

April 7, 2007
Quarterly Camp Dinner meeting TBA

Next Camp Meeting:
March 13th
7:00 PM
Cotton Patch Café
Temple Mall

Confederate Gazette

P.O. Box 794

Salado, Texas 76571

Next Meeting:

March 13th

Cotton Patch Cafe

Temple

7:00 PM

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Legion Commander

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When the war was over Waul returned to his plantation. He was elected to the state Constitutional Convention of 1866. After that he moved to Galveston where he practiced law.

He retired to a farm near Greenville in 1893. He died there on July 28, 1903. He is buried in Oakwood Cemetery in Fort Worth.

Waul's name was given to Camp Waul, seven miles north of Brenham, where Waul's Legion trained from May 13, 1862, until it was ordered out of state on August 18, 1862. Also Fort Waul in Gonzales was named in his honor.



Flag of Waul's Legion

Fort Waul

(Continued from page 2)

rounding counties to assist in building the fort. A blockhouse was designed to be underground in the center of the fort.

The fort was not finished when it was abandoned in November of 1864 due to a diminished threat of a Union invasion.

In the 1870s the site was named Fort Waul in honor of Thomas Neville Waul, who at one time lived near the former fort. After the war the unfinished fort fell into decay, and the stones from the blockhouse were used to build a college dormitory.

The fort site is one of the few remaining Confederate earthwork fortifications in Texas. The outer walls of the fort and a portion of the defensive ditch are still visible today.

The site, which is owned by the city, is a State Historical Site nominated for the 2007 Texas Most Endangered Places List with Preservation Texas. The Texas Division of the SCV has expressed an interest in protecting and possibly restoring the fort. The city seems to be supportive in the effort.

Confederate History Symposium

The 34th annual Confederate History Symposium will be held at Hill College on Saturday, March 31st beginning at 9:00 AM.

This years event will focus on Hood's Texas Brigade. Scheduled to speak are Dr. James Pohl, Dr. Richard McCaslin, Dr. Susannah Bruce, and keynote speaker, Dr. Thomas Cutrer.

Joe Walker will perform Southern soldier songs and the Hill College Confederate Brass Band will also play.

Cost of the event is \$25 per person. Contact the Texas Heritage Museum at PO Box 619, Hillsboro, Texas 76645 or call them at 254-582-2555, extension #391.