

Confederate Gazette

20th Anniversary Dinner Set for October

The Major Robert M. White Camp #1250 will hold a special 20th Anniversary dinner meeting on October 18, 2008 at the Mayborn Convention and Civic Center in Temple.

Camp member Steve Wooley was able to secure a special guest speaker for the event. Bertram Hayes-Davis will speak to the Camp. He is the great-great grandson of Confederate President Jefferson Davis.



Photo of Bertram Hayes-Davis, the great-great grandson of Confederate President Jefferson Davis.

Not only will Davis honor the Camp on its 20th anniversary, but he comes during the bicentennial year of the birth of his great-great grandfather.

Further details will be forthcoming but Camp members and friends are urged to mark their calendars for this very special event. A large crowd, from across the state, is expected for the event.

National Reunion Held

The SCV's National Reunion was held in Concord, NC on July 16th through July 19th. At the meeting Chuck McMichael from Louisiana was elected Commander-in-Chief and Michael Givens from South Carolina was elected Lt. Commander-in-Chief.

Todd Owens from Louisiana was elected the Army of the Trans Mississippi (ATM) Commander and Paul Grambling also from Louisiana



New Commander-in-Chief Chuck McMichael with his son, prior to the election, when he visited the Texas Division Reunion in June.

was elected ATM Councilman.

Only one of the proposed constitutional amendments, #2, language required by the IRS, passed.

Ron Casteel from Missouri received the Jefferson Davis Chalice and R.E. Lee Awards were won by Les Tucker (OK), R. Burl McCoy (KY), and Richard V. Forte Jr. (MS).

The 2011 Reunion was awarded to Montgomery, Alabama.



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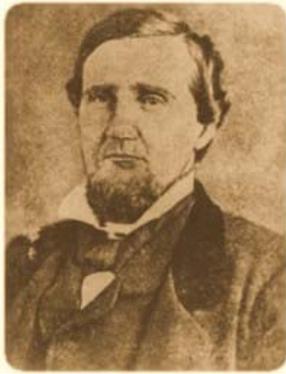
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White Camp #1250

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CONFEDERATE PROFILE

Texas' Terry



Benjamin Franklin Terry

Terry Shot Down the US Flag at Bull Run

His name is forever etched in Texas and Confederate history, but this Texan, who many think could have been one of the great soldiers of the war, was struck down in his very first cavalry charge.

Benjamin Franklin Terry was born on February 18, 1821, in Russellville, Kentucky. He was the son of Joseph R. and Sarah D. (Smith) Terry. As a child Terry moved with his family to Mississippi. His father decided to build a gambling hall near Jackson, but his mother, a staunch Baptist, separated from his dad over the new "immoral" venture.

Terry found his way to Texas in about 1833 with his mother. His mother died when Terry was 16 and his uncle became Terry's and his four brother's guardian. His uncle died in 1841 and Terry assumed responsibility for managing the family's 2,000 acre plantation in Brazoria County.

He married Mary Bingham in 1841 and they would eventually have seven children. In 1844 Terry had two of his slaves revolted and he was attacked with knives and axes. With what the Houston paper called "admirable courage," Terry was able to subdue both men.

By 1851 Terry was in the railroad business. He was a partner in a company who built the first railroad in Texas. The Buffalo Bayou, Brazos and Colorado Railway ran from Harrisburg to the Brazos River. In 1852 he purchased a sugar plantation in Fort Bend County and he became a very successful sugar planter and helped start another railroad.

By the time of the War Between the States Terry was one of the richest men in the state. In 1861 he was elected as a delegate from Fort Bend County to the Texas Secession Convention in Austin. Terry and two other delegates, Thomas S. Lubbock

and John A. Wharton, decided to form a cavalry regiment when Texas left the Union. Before that happened Terry was involved in the campaign to disarm the Federal troops at Brazos Santiago in south Texas on February 21, 1861.

In June of 1861 Terry, Lubbock, and Wharton along with about fifty other Texans left Galveston and sailed for New Orleans. There they traveled by rail to Richmond, Virginia to offer their services to the Confederate Army. Both Terry and Lubbock were appointed as aides to General James Longstreet. Both men participated in the first major battle of the War at Manassas Junction (Bull Run). In *Battles and Leaders of the Civil War*, P.G.T. Beauregard wrote of Terry's exploits during the battle, "As to immediate results and trophies, we captured a great

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Terry's Texas Rangers

They were one of the most honored regiments on either side of the War Between the States. Terry's Texas Rangers, officially known as the 8th Texas Cavalry fought in over 275 engagements in seven states and gained the reputation as being one of the most effec-

tive mounted units.

Formed in Texas in 1861, under the command of Benjamin F. Terry, they served in the Confederacy's Army of Tennessee.

Their final fight was at the Battle of Bentonville, where they made their last charge,

during which they lost three of their officers, against overwhelming numbers,

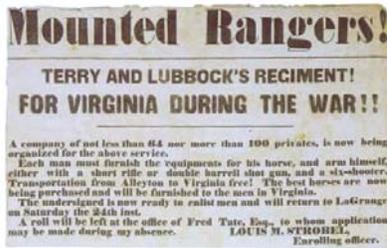
Some of them surrendered on April 26, 1865, with the rest of the Army of Tennessee, while others just slipped away rather than surrender to the Yankees.

Benjamin F. Terry

(Continued from page 2)

many stands of arms, batteries, equipments, standards, and flags, one of which was sent to me, through General Longstreet, as a personal compliment by the Texan 'crack shot,' Colonel B. F. Terry, who lowered it from its mast at Fairfax Court House, by cutting the hal-yards by means of his unerring rifle, as our troops next morning reoccupied that place."

Terry and Lubbock were informed, after the battle, that they had been authorized to form a cavalry regiment. Both men journeyed back to Texas. In August of 1861 in Houston a call was put out for volunteers for the new regiment. The call was answered by over 1,170 men. In September the first men were sworn into the Confederate Army and the unit was described in the *Galveston Weekly News* as,



"104 in number, each armed with a double-barrel shotgun, a six shooter, and a bowie knife, double-edged,



two feet long, and weighing three pounds. Every man is a perfect horseman and a splended (sp) shot." The newspaper also noted, "Col. Terry was determined that the Regiment should be the best of its kind in the Confederate army, and we have no doubt he has obtained his wish."

Early on the men began to call themselves the "Texas Rangers," a name that would stick forever. Serving with Terry in the Rangers were two of his brothers, David Smith Terry, who survived

the war, and Clinton Lucretius Terry, who was killed at Shiloh in April of 1862.

The Rangers was ordered to Virginia in September. Along the way their plans were changed, when General Albert Sidney Johnston made a direct call to Terry for men, Terry had known Johnston prior to the war and tempted Terry promising him the finest Kentucky mounts. Although Johnston had the authority to order Terry to his command he gave Terry the option.

After consulting with his officers, Terry and his Rangers headed for Nashville,

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Dues Are Due

It is that time of the year again, annual dues are due effective August 1st. This year the Texas Division mailed dues notices to each member using the address on file at national.

Camp dues are \$10, Divisions dues are \$5, and

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Camp Schedule

August 12, 2008

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

August 29-31, 2008

Central Texas State Fair, Belton. Camp Store to be set up. Need Volunteers! Contact Commander Ellis to help!

September 9, 2008

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

October 18, 2008

Camp's 20th Anniversary Dinner, Mayborn Convention & Civic Center. Speaker: Ber-



tram Hayes-Davis, Great-great Grandson of President Jefferson Davis.

Annual Camp
Dues Are Due
August 1st

Next Camp Meeting:
August 12th
Cotton Patch Café
Temple Mall
Social at 6:00 PM
Dinner at 7:00 PM

Confederate Gazette

P.O. Box 794

Salado, Texas 76571

Next Meeting:
August 12th
Cotton Patch Cafe
Temple Mall
7:00 PM

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Benjamin F. Terry

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Tennessee the first step in joining Johnston's command. From there Terry and the Rangers proceeded to Bowling Green, Kentucky in November. There the Rangers were organized into ten companies and Terry was formally elected regimental commander, now known as "Terry's Texas Rangers." The new regiment would eventually be officially designated as the 8th Texas Cavalry. The men didn't care for the number 8 designation, as they felt an earlier numerical designation was more accurate and reflective of their early response to a call to arms.

In December Terry and his Rangers were ordered to Louisville Pike to join a small force

of infantry under General Thomas C. Hindman. At Woodville on December 17, 1861 Terry with about 75 mounted men was ordered to serve as a decoy as the infantry moved against Federal troops. Terry at the head of his cavalry, against about 300 Union infantry, was hit in the initial charge, mortally wounded. General William J. Hardee, in his official report, says of this charge: "The con-

duct of the Rangers was marked by impetuous valor. In charging the enemy, Colonel Terry was killed in the moment of victory. His regiment deplores the loss of a beloved and brave commander, the army one of its ablest officers."

Terry's body was taken to Nashville where he lay in state at the Tennessee capitol. His body was then taken to Hous-

ton where he again lay in state. Texas Governor Francis Lubbock, brother of Thomas, lauded Terry, "no braver man ever live - no truer patriot ever died."

Apparently Terry was initially buried at his sugar plantation home, but was later reinterred in Houston at Glenwood Cemetery. Terry County in west Texas is named in honor of Terry.

Dues Are Due

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National dues are \$30, for a total of \$45.

Please remit your dues to the Camp Adjutant:

Gordon Mobley
315 North Wall Street
Belton, TX 76513



Capitol statue honoring Terry's Texas Rangers