

Confederate Gazette

Camp to Celebrate 20 Years

The Major Robert M. White Camp #1250 will honor and celebrate its 20th anniversary on Saturday night October 18th at the Stagecoach Inn in Salado, beginning at 7:30 PM. Featured speaker for the event is Dr. James Pohl from Texas State University in San Marcos. Dr. Pohl is the same speaker that spoke to the Camp at its' original Charter Dinner at the Stagecoach Inn on April 29, 1989.

agreed to speak to the Camp in 2009, and an effort is being made to have him speak at the



Dr. James Pohl speaks at the Camp's Charter Dinner meeting in 1989.

Originally the Camp had scheduled the great grandson of Jefferson Davis, Bertram Hayes-Davis, to speak, but he had to cancel due to a conflict in his schedule. He has

Camp's Lee-Jackson Dinner.

The cost of the event is \$20 per person and includes a four

course dinner, drink, and gratuity. You can select from Chicken Fried Steak, Chicken Breast, Honey Cured Ham, or Catfish. The Camp's Telephone Committee, led by Steve and Linda Wooley will be calling Camp members to make reservations. Camp members, their guests, and friends of the Camp are all invited to attend. Dress is business casual, uniform or period clothing, or your Sunday best.

The Camp held its Charter Dinner in April of 1989 after the Camp formed in 1988. The delay in holding the Charter Dinner was so that the Camp

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Camp History Book Being Published

A Camp history book has been written and is currently being printed.

It is a history of the SCV in Bell County that tells the 20 year history of the Major Robert M. White Camp #1250, as well as information about its predecessor SCV camps.

The nearly 13,000 word booklet is titled, *The Sons of Confederate Veterans in Bell*

County, with a subtitle of "A History of the Major Robert M. White Camp #1250." The booklet was written by Camp Member John C. Perry, and will include about 70 photos, some in color.

The booklet is 40 pages in length and contains an index, a biography of Major Robert M. White with a newly discovered firsthand account of his death, a year by year listing

of Camp Commanders and Adjutants, a year by year detail of each Lee-Jackson Dinner, and much more.

The book is being published in conjunction with the Camp's 20th anniversary celebration in 2008.

The book will be available at the Camp's 20th Anniversary Dinner in Salado on October 18th.



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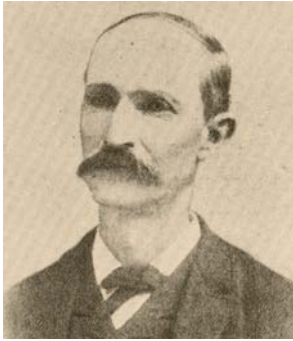
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White Camp #1250

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CONFEDERATE PROFILE

The Other Ross



Peter F. Ross

Ross was wounded at Corinth, Mississippi

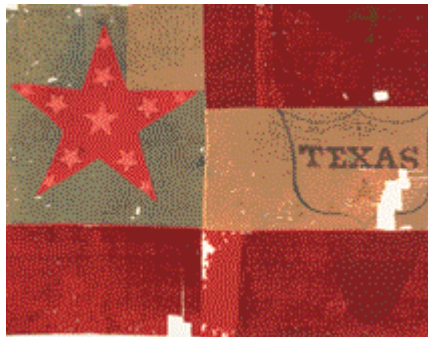
Although his older brother, Lawrence Sul Ross, was very well known as a Texas hero, this Ross also made a name for himself in Confederate history and was a resident of Central Texas.

Peter F. Ross was born on July 27, 1836, at Bentonsport, Missouri, the son of Catherine H. (Fulkerson) and Shapley Prince Ross. While he was a small child, his family moved to Texas settling in Milam County. As a teenager, Ross was sent to Mount Vernon Military Academy in New York from 1853 to 1855.

Following military school training Ross returned to Texas where his father was serving as an Indian agent. A period description of Ross called him, "tall, wiry, youth, physically and mentally well fitted" for Indian frontier duty. Ross was commissioned a captain in the Texas Rangers in 1858 and he raised and com-

manded a company that served for two years mainly against the Comanche Indians. He his brother Lawrence and his father made quite a name for themselves as successful Indian fighters.

When the War Between the States broke out, Ross formed a cavalry company in Waco.



Sixth Texas Cavalry Battalion/ Gould's Battalion/ Stars and Bars Variant, from probably around 1862. This homespun is a variant of the Confederate First National.

Ross was elected the unit's captain and his company would become Company G of the Sixth Texas Cavalry. His brother Sul began his Confederate career with his older brother, initially as a private, but quickly little

brother advanced in rank and as a colonel would lead the entire regiment. Sul would eventually become a brigadier general and command the Texas Cavalry Brigade.

Peter and his company served under General Ben McCulloch in Arkansas and Missouri until

McCulloch's was killed at the battle of Elk Horn Tavern in March of 1862.

Peter and his regiment were transferred to little brother's Ross's Brigade in 1862. Peter received two serious wounds during the battle of Corinth, Mississippi. He was promoted to lieutenant colonel and during the John Bell Hood's Tennessee campaign commanded a regiment.

Post war Ross returned to Texas. He entered the cattle business and led several cattle drives bringing cattle to New Orleans from Texas. He married a Waco girl, the daughter of Gen. James E. Harrison in

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Sixth Texas Cavalry

The 6th Texas Cavalry Regiment was formally organized in Dallas with 1,150 in September of 1861. The men were primarily from Dallas, McKinney, Waco, Austin, Lancaster and Bell County.

The unit skirmished in the Indian Territory before fighting

at Elkhorn Tavern (Pea Ridge) in Arkansas. The unit moved east and by the spring of 1862 was down to 803 men.

They fought dismounted at battles in Corinth and Hatchie Bridge in October of 1862. It was assigned to Sul Ross' Brigade serving with the Army of

Tennessee during the Atlanta Campaign and into Tennessee following the fall of Atlanta. It ended the war in Mississippi.

Major Robert M. White of Belton served with the Sixth Texas Cavalry in Company H. White was killed in action in Tennessee in April, 1863.

20th Anniversary Dinner

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Dr. James Pohl

could get as many Charter Members as possible. The Camp began with fifteen Charter Members. The dinner was attended by 44 people, including all but one of the Camp's Charter Members.

Also attending the original dinner was the late Pete Orlebeke, who at that time was serving as the Texas Division Commander. He presented the Camp Charter to the initial

Camp Commander, John C. Perry.

Dr. Pohl spoke on "Military Strategy During the War Between the States" at the Charter Dinner. Pohl holds a Ph.D. from the University of Texas, and is a graduate of the U.S. Naval Intelligence School. He was visiting Senior Professor at the School of Advanced Military Studies at the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College.

He is a fellow at the Moshier Institute for Defense Studies at Texas A&M University and a fellow of the Texas State His-

torical Association, of which he has also served as president. He has made presentations at the United State Military Academy at West Point and is the recipient of two gubernatorial commendations for distinguished service to the state of Texas.

Dr. Pohl served in the U.S. Marine Corps, his highest position being that of company commander. In 2007 Texas State University presented him with their Presidential Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Dr. Pohl's publications include three books and over 50 articles.

Dr. Pohl is a graduate of the US Naval Intelligence School

Camp Works On South Belton Cemetery

A work day was held on Saturday September 27th at South Belton Cemetery. A small crowd turned out to do work at the cemetery.

One goal was to fix broken tombstones. Rocky Sprott built 2' x 4' forms where broken tombstone pieces are assembled and then new concrete is poured into the form. This

creates a revitalized tombstone made whole again.

Other work included power washing stones, digging out buried markers, and hauling away trash and debris.

The work got excellent local coverage, including a four column article in the September 26th issue of the *Temple Daily Telegram* and a full color

photograph of Rocky working on one of the forms in the September 28th edition of the *Telegram*.

The effort to improve the South Belton Cemetery, where at least 97 Confederate veterans are buried, is a joint project between the Camp and the City of Belton, who owns the cemetery.

Camp Schedule

October 18, 2008

Camp's 20th Anniversary Dinner, Stagecoach Inn in Salado, 7:30 PM. Speaker: Dr. James Pohl of Texas State University.

November 11, 2008

Regular Camp meeting at Cotton Patch Café, Temple Mall.

at 7:00 PM. Speaker: Steve Wooley and John C. Perry.

December 13, 2008

Annual Southern Christmas Party at Bliss Hall in Little River beginning at 6:00 PM. Barbeque dinner will be served.



January 17, 2009

Annual Lee-Jackson Dinner (Tentative date and location., Hilton Hotel, Temple. Speaker: TBD

**Next Camp Meeting:
October 18th
Stagecoach Inn
Salado
Social at 7:30 PM
Dinner at 8:00 PM
Speaker: James Pohl**

Confederate Gazette

P.O. Box 794 Salado, Texas 76571

**Next Meeting:
October 18th
Stagecoach Inn
Salado, Texas
7:30 PM**

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New Gettysburg Visitors Center Opens

The new \$103 million Visitors Center at the Gettysburg National Military Park was formally dedicated the weekend of September 27-28. The center actually opened to the public in April.

Just opened to the public is a restored version of the Battle of

Gettysburg Cyclorama, which was painted in 1884. Five years and \$15 million was spent on the restoration of the giant 377' x 42' canvas.

The new Visitors Center has not been without some controversy. There are over 38,000 artifacts

that the Park owns, but a very small percentage are on display. Some claim that the Park Service is more interested in telling the story of slavery than the battle.

Below, is a view of the new Visitors Center. The old Visitors Center will be torn down.

The Other Ross

(Continued from page 2)

1866, they had two children. He moved to Los Angeles in 1870 where he was a farmer.

After about four years in California he returned to Texas and served as deputy sheriff of McLennan County under brother Sul until Peter was elected sheriff in 1875. He served as sheriff for two terms until he left office, buying a farm in 1880 off the Brazos River.

As his little brother, Sul, went on to gain fame as a state senator, two-term Texas' governor, and then president of Texas A&M, Peter lived the simple life of a farmer, until he died on March 26, 1909. He is buried in Waco.

