

Confederate Gazette

Camp Holds Lee-Jackson Dinner

The Major Robert M. White Camp #1250 held its 22nd Annual Lee-Jackson Dinner on Saturday night, January 16, 2010 at the Sammons Community Center. A crowd of about 60 people attended the event, which featured Arthur Wyllie, author or editor of over 26 books on American history, who spoke on the life of Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson. New Camp officers were sworn in by Texas Division First Lieutenant Com-

mander Granvel Block. Installed were Camp Commander John Larson, Jr.

A number of awards were presented, a complete list will be included in the March issue of the *Gazette*.



New 2010 Camp Officers, from left Dossey, Berry, Larson & White are sworn in.

from Troy, elected 1st Lieutenant Commander Robert Berry, elected 2nd Lieutenant Commander Jimmy Dossey from Gatesville, and Adjutant Joe White from Temple.

The winner of the George Ballentine Award and the Albert Sidney Johnston Award was John C.

Perry of Salado. Winner of the Southern Belle Award was Joyce Jones of Belton. Also honored was Nancy Kelsey of Belton, for her tireless work at the South Belton Cemetery.

S. D. Lee Institute This Month

The 2010 Stephen Dill Lee Institute will be held at the Music City Sheraton Hotel in Nashville, Tennessee on February 26-27th.

This years topic will be The American System of Liberty: Nullification, Secession and States Rights and will include a number of well regarded speakers.

The event will kick off with a Friday evening lecture on

February 26th on the Battle of Franklin presented by Thomas Cartwright, famed historian and former Director of the Carter House Historic Site.

On Saturday the all-star speaker line up will include Dr. Thomas DiLorenzo as the Host and Moderator. Dr. Brion McClanahan - "The Politically-Incorrect Guide to the Founding Fathers," Dr. Marshall DeRosa - "The

South Shall Rise Again- The New State Sovereignty Movement," Dr. W. Kirk Wood - "The Truth About States Rights," Dr. Thomas DiLorenzo - "The South was Right (Again): The Implosion of the Yankee Empire," Dr. Don Livingston - "The Case for Secession" Kent Masterson Brown - "Indissoluble Union: The Ultimate Nonsequitur"

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CONFEDERATE PROFILE

"Mr. Fort Worth"



Khleber Van Zandt

**Van Zandt
organized
Company D of
the 7th Texas
Infantry**

He is known today as "Mr. Fort Worth," as he helped make Fort Worth the city that it is today. But before he was in Fort Worth he was an East Texas Confederate soldier.

Khleber Miller Van Zandt was born just outside of Salem, Tennessee, the son of Isaac Van Zandt and Frances Cooke on November 7, 1836. He was named after a young man who was clerking in his father's store. In 1838 Van Zandt's family relocated to Texas, settling in Panola County. In 1839 his family moved to the present site of Marshall, where his father founded the town, naming it after Chief Justice John Marshall.

When Van Zandt was seven years old the family moved to Washington, D.C. where Van Zandt's father served as the Republic of Texas' chargé d'affaires to the United States, helping to negotiate the annexation of Texas.

Back in Texas by 1845, Van

Zandt attended school in East Texas, eventually attending Marshall University in Marshall. He later attended and graduated from Franklin College in Tennessee. After graduating, Van Zandt returned to Marshall where he worked in a dry goods store. He worked for a railroad before being admitted to the bar exam in 1858. He practiced law in Marshall until the outbreak of the War Between the States.

Van Zandt helped raise a company of men, which would later become Company D, "Bass' Grays," of the 7th Texas Infantry, in Marshall. Van Zandt, serving as a captain, was at Fort Donelson on February 16, 1862 when the fort was surrendered to Union forces. For the next seven months Van Zandt was a prisoner of war at Johnson's Island POW camp in Ohio. He was exchanged in September of 1862.

Van Zandt was promoted to major in 1863 in and saw action at Chickamauga and at Mission-

ary Ridge. At Missionary Ridge, he saved the heavy guns of his unit by pushing them by hand when horses wavered under fire. Van Zandt was chronically sick during the war, stating in a letter that he had contracted an illness early on in the war which became much worse while in prison at Johnson's Island. On May 24, 1864 a senior surgeon certified that Van Zandt was unfit for duty and he was granted disability and went off active duty June 11, 1864.

He returned to Marshall and took a position as a tax collector for the Confederate government. In 1865 Van Zandt relocated to Fort Worth. The town then was just a small village of about 250 people.

Van Zandt had married Minerva Peete in 1857 and the couple had three children. Van Zandt sent for his family and they took up residency in Fort Worth and he opened a general store. The family acquired, in a complicated court case, a sizable

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Van Zandt on War and Slavery

Although he was a slave owner, in fact he was one of the largest slave owners in the 7th Texas, Khleber Miller Van Zandt felt that the institution of slavery was not the cause of the War Between the States.

Writing in his autobiography, *Force Without Fanfare*, pub-

lished in 1968 Van Zandt wrote, "I was never an advocate of slavery, and slavery was not the direct cause of the Civil War. War came because the North was getting too strong. The northern states imposed on the South in different matters. To show that it was not slavery that caused the War, in

my company of 100 young men that I carried into the army, not more than 25 per cent were interested in the question.

At least 75 per cent had no interest in the question and didn't own any slaves. It was the invasion by the North that fired the South."

Photos from Lee-Jackson Dinner



Above left: Lee-Jackson Dinner speaker Arthur Wylie and his wife; Above right: Rocky Sprott presents special award to Nancy Kelsey; Left: 1st Lt. Division Commander Granvel Block speaks; Right: Steve Wolley presents award to Joyce Jones
Below left: New Camp members are installed; Below right: Group shot at the banquet



22nd Annual Lee-Jackson was held on January 16th at Sammons Community Center, Temple

Camp Schedule

February 9, 2010

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

April 10, 2010

Camp Quarterly Dinner meeting Cotton Patch Café, Temple Mall. 7:00 PM. Speaker: TBD.

March 9, 2010

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

May 11, 2010

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



June 4-6 2010

Texas Division Annual Reunion at the Doubletree Inn (Highway 75 and Campbell) in Richardson, Texas

**Next Meeting:
Lee-Jackson Dinner
February 9th
Cotton Patch Café
Temple Mall
7:00 PM**

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P.O. Box 794

Salado, Texas 76571

Next Meeting: February 9th Cotton Patch Cafe 7:00 PM

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150th Gettysburg Ceremonies

Planning has already begun for the 150th Battle of Gettysburg Ceremonies according to the *Civil War News*. Several 150th anniversary special events are planned, including a grand review, a living history weekend and a four-day reenactment. The theme for the event is "Capture A Rare Reenactment Memory!"

A special Gettysburg Anniversary Committee (GAC) has been created. The GAC Operations Manager Randy Phiel said the reenactment will be held on July 4-7, 2013. He is hopeful that GAC, working with community officials, will be able to organize a 150th Grand Review through the streets of Gettysburg on July 3, 2013.

Phiel said GAC expects to organize

and host a 150th Gettysburg Anniversary Living History Weekend on June 29-30, 2013 the weekend before the national event. The weekend would include extensive living history, some potential field activities and possibly civilian interpretations.

Lee Institute

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Cost for the event is \$125 for SCV members for the Saturday seminar and \$25 for the lecture on Friday night.

A special room rate of \$119 is available at the Sheraton by calling 1-888-627-7060. Mention that you are attending the SCV S.D. Lee Institute in order to get the discount.

"Mr. Fort Worth" K.M. Van Zandt

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amount of acreage around Fort Worth, what is today the Fort Worth arts district, and built a home, which still stands today in its original location.

With his store a success, Van Zandt branched out into other interests, including starting the Tarrant County Construction Company, a new bank which became the forerunner of the Fort Worth National Bank, the K.M. Van Zandt Land Company, and the Fort Worth *Democrat*, the town's first newspaper, which later became the Fort Worth Star Telegram. He also founded the First Christian Church in the city.

Van Zandt was very active in the

growth of the city. He served on the Fort Worth school board for over 25 years, was a prominent player in getting three railroads to come to the town, and served as a state representative in 1873-74. By playing such an integral role in the past war growth of the city, Van Zandt is known as the Father of Fort Worth.

He was also active with the United Confederate Veterans (UCV). He served as the Texas Division Commander and the Trans Mississippi Commander before serving as the Commander-in-Chief of the UCV from 1918 to 1921.

Van Zandt died on March 19, 1930 in Fort Worth at the age of 93. He was buried at Oakwood Cemetery in Fort Worth.