

Confederate Gazette

Camp to be in July 4th Parade

For the fifteenth straight year the Major Robert M. White Camp #1250 will participate in the annual Belton 4th of July Parade. About 14 Camp members and friends either marched or were on the float last year.

Last year the Camp's float was decked out with four large flags, the Battleflag, 1st National, 3rd National, and the flag of the Army of the Trans-Mississippi.

As of press time the pre



Last year's float in the Belton parade

parade meeting point had not been determined, likely it

will be on or near the Mary Hardin Baylor campus. Just look for the Confederate flags. There will be float work days on July 1st and 2nd at 5:30 PM at Gordon Mobley's home, 503 N. Wall Street in Belton.

All Camp members are invited to participate in uniform or not. Also all of the Camp's friends are invited to be in the parade with the Camp.

Texas Division Reunion Held

The Major Robert M. White Camp #1250 was well represented at the Texas Division Reunion in Richardson, June 4th - 6th. Representing the Camp were Camp Commander John Larson, "Cowboy" Larson, Greg Manning, Gordon Mobley, John Perry, Rocky Sprott, and cadet member Adam Agee.

Division Adjutant William Wainner reported that the Texas Division was in strong financial shape with net assets of \$70,683, after having 2009-2010 income of \$55,556 and expenses of \$39,899. According to

Wainner membership is up nearly 5%. Currently the Texas Division membership



Texas Division Commander Dr. Ray James

is 2,493 members including 1 Real Son and 12 cadet members.

Division Commander Ray

James reported on the recent court ruling in favor of the SCV on the plaques case. He also reported that the Division's application for specialty license plates had been rejected by the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles. The Division had, under the Freedom of Information Act, found that the initial vote was for the SCV, but lobbying by the chair of the committee led to a revote and our application was defeated. A new committee will be constituted in June and the Division will wait and see

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CONFEDERATE PROFILE

Hispanic Confederate



Santos Benavides

Benavides saved Laredo from a Federal invasion

He literally risked his life for states rights a quarter of century before the War Between the States. It was back when Texas was under Mexican rule and Santos Benavides sided with the "Federalist" against the "Centralist" in the 1830's and 1840's. The Centralist wanted the power to originate in Mexico City while the Federalist wanted more local rule. Benavides, from Laredo, fought for the Federalists.

Santos Benavides was born in Laredo on November 1, 1823. His great-great-grandfather, Tomás Sánchez de la Barrera y Garza, was the founder of Laredo. He was well connected, in part due to his uncle, Basilio Benavides. His uncle was the former Mayor of Laredo and state representative.

Discouraged with the Mexican government, he joined with the forces of Mirabeau B. Lamar, who occupied Laredo during

the Mexican War. After the Mexican War, when Texas joined the Union, Benavides and his uncle opposed the annexation of south Texas by the United States. In spite of their opposition they did not take up arms against the United States. Benavides did however see some military action. He led several campaigns against the Lipan Apaches as well as other Indians tribes.

Santos Benavides married Augustina Villareal in 1842. The couple would eventually adopt four children. Benavides was involved in both ranching and in the mercantile business. In 1856 he was elected the mayor of Laredo and three years later became the Chief Justice of Webb County. When Texas left the Union, Benavides and his brothers quickly supported the Confederacy, and its' states'-rights principles.

Benavides offered his services to the Confederacy and became a captain in the 33rd Texas

Cavalry. He was initially assigned to the Rio Grande Military District. Benavides proved to be an exceptional fighter and was promoted to the rank of major. He drove the Mexican bandit Juan Cortina back into Mexico at the battle of Carrizo on May 22, 1861. By November of 1863 Benavides had been promoted to colonel. Benavides was allowed to raise his own regiment of "Partisan Rangers." Utilizing the remnants of the 33rd Texas Cavalry he formed the regiment.

As a full colonel Benavides was the highest-ranking Mexican-American to serve on either side during The War Between the States.

Benavides also aided the Confederacy by helping to safely arrange for Texas cotton along the Rio Grande to Matamoros during the Union occupation of Brownsville in 1864. This certainly helped with the South being able to continue to trade

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The Battle of Laredo

In March of 1864, Colonel Santos Benavides was ill in Laredo, however he had a greater problem, Federal cavalry was advancing on Laredo.

The Confederates were greatly outnumbered, some accounts have them with only 24 men others as many as 72 men. The

Federal force numbered over 200. The Federals, the 1st Texas Cavalry U.S., were under the command of Colonel Edmund J. Davis. Interestingly, it was Davis who had earlier offered Benavides a Union generalship.

The first attack occurred in mid afternoon on March 19,

1864. Three Union assaults failed and finally darkness ended the Yankee attack.

During the night the Confederates were reinforced and by the dawn of the next day the Federals were no where to be found.

Texas Division Reunion in Richardson



Camp well represented at the Division Reunion



Top Left: "Cowboy" Larson, John Larson, Adam Agee, and Rocky Spratt at the Division Reunion; Above: Representative from the Texas Historical Commission speaks to the Reunion delegates.

Above: Division colors at the Reunion; Right: Major Robert M. White Cadet Camp Member Adam Agee with the SCV's Commander-in-Chief, Chuck McMichael



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what they might do. Other states have initially rejected SCV applications for specialty plates, only to have court action force the states to allow the SCV plates.

Camp Schedule

July 10, 2010

Quarterly Camp Dinner meeting at Cotton Patch Café, Temple Mall. 6:00 PM Social Hour with meeting starting at 7:00 PM. Speaker: TBD.

July 22-24, 2010

National Reunion in Anderson, SC. For information visit:

www.mansejollycamp6.com

August 10, 2010

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

September 14, 2010

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



October 12, 2010

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

**Next Meeting:
July 10th
Cotton Patch Café
Temple Mall
6:00 PM Social
7:00 PM Meeting**

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P.O. Box 794 Salado, Texas 76571

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Georgia Battleflag Donated

The Southern Museum of Civil War & Locomotive History in Kennesaw, GA recently accepted a donation of a rare regimental flag issued to the 65th Georgia Infantry.

The flag, tattered with 41 different bullet holes and still bloodstained,

is in relatively good condition considering it saw much action during the Civil War, including the entire Atlanta campaign.

Technically, the flag has been in the vicinity of our Museum before," said Mike Bearrow, curator at the Museum. "From here, the flag ended up being issued to the 65th Georgia Infantry Regiment up



65th Georgia Regimental Flag

in Dalton, where it then went through the Atlanta campaign and up into Tennessee." The flag was carried into the heat of several battles, including the Battles of Resaca, New Hope Church/Dallas/Pickett's Mill, Kennesaw Mountain, Peachtree Creek and Atlanta. It's the only known surviving example of an Army of Tennessee flag that has both the unit and state designations sewn onto both sides.

The flag was donated by descendants of Private John Davis, the final color bearer of the regiment. Davis took the flag home after the war was over.

Hispanic Confederate

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with the rest of the world. In 1864 the Texas Legislature formally thanked him for his efforts to protect Texas. At war's end Benavides was in command of the Western Division of the Western Sub-District of Texas.

After the war was over Benavides remained in Laredo. He resumed his ranching duties and continued being a merchant. He also continued his interest in politics, both on a local and a state basis. He served two

terms on the Laredo city council and three terms as a representative in the Texas Legislature. He remained a Democrat and was instrumental in helping the Democrats regain dominance in south Texas. Benavides was sent to the 1884 World Cotton Exposition as the delegate from Texas.

Santos Benavides died in Laredo on November 9, 1891.

He is buried in Calvary Catholic Cemetery in Laredo.



Benavides' grave marker