

# Confederate Gazette

## Davis Inaugurated in Alabama

On February 19<sup>th</sup>, 150 years and 1 day to the date from the actual event the Sons of Confederate Veterans held a reenactment of the swearing in of President Jefferson Davis as President of the Confederate States of America.

The event drew about 2,000 spectators at the Alabama State Capitol in Montgomery. "It was a glorious event; we had a good turnout," said Charles Rand, Adjutant-in-Chief of the SCV. "We tried



*Above: Volley fired in honor of the reenactment of the Davis Inauguration in Alabama; Below: "President" Jefferson Davis (Tyron Crowley) takes the oath of office.*



to recreate it as close as we could. We wanted to give people a glimpse into history."

Tyron Crowley, playing the part of Davis, delivered Davis' inaugural address exactly as given 150 years ago.

Following the swearing in the first raising of the 1st National Flag of the Confederacy was held. Musket and Cannon salutes, were given following both the inauguration and the flag raising events.



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## Alamo Surrenders to Texas Troops

Texas celebrated the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the surrender of Federal forces in the state with a reenactment of the event in front of the Alamo in San Antonio.

Many reenactors from across the state journeyed to San Antonio to participate in the

event.

The event commemorated the surrender of US Army



Arsenal in San Antonio, when

U.S. Army General David Twiggs surrendered to Texas forces supporting the Confederacy,

Twiggs agreed to leave the Federal Arsenal intact in return that his soldiers would be allowed to depart with

their own weapons,

# CONFEDERATE PROFILE

## *Educator Turned General*



**Alexander P. Stewart**

**Stewart was just 16 when he entered West Point**

Two of his West Point classmates would be advisors during the War Between the States and one would become one of his superiors in the Confederate Army, as the Class of 1842 furnished many Union and Confederate officers.

Alexander P. Stewart was born in Rogersville, Tennessee on October 2, 1821, the fourth child born to William and Elizabeth Decherd Stewart. The young Stewart attended school in Rogersville in a one room school house until his family relocated to Winchester, Tennessee in Franklin County in 1831. He entered Garrick Academy in Winchester where his education was at least partially paid for by his mother's brothers. Stewart's father owned a general store in Winchester where he eventually became the Postmaster and was the County Treasurer for 30 years. When Stewart was just 16 he was recommended for an ap-

pointment to the US Military Academy at West Point. In March of 1838 he was formally accepted to West Point. His classmates were William S. Rosecrans and John Pope both who would later become generals in the US Army during the War Between the States and James Longstreet, later a Confederate general. Stewart graduated from West Point in 1842, twelfth in his class.

Stewart was commissioned a second lieutenant in July of 1842 and was assigned to the 3<sup>rd</sup> US Artillery, serving with future War Between the States generals, Braxton Bragg and William T. Sherman. A year later, Stewart was assigned to West Point as a mathematics instructor. Apparently the educational world appealed to Stewart and in 1845 he resigned from the US Army and accepted a position as a mathematics instructor at Cumberland College in Lebanon, Tennessee.

Also in 1845 he married Harriett Chase from Warren, Ohio. Together they would have four sons all born in Lebanon. When the college got behind in paying Stewart's salary he resigned in 1849 taking a similar post at the University of Nashville. Cumberland would lure Stewart back, but he left again for the University of Nashville in 1854 and also served a stint as the Nashville city surveyor. In 1856 he returned back to Cumberland College.

As winds of war were blowing in 1861 Stewart hoped that the sectional conflicts could be resolved, however after Abraham Lincoln called for 75,000 troops after the firing upon Fort Sumter, it was more than enough to tip Stewart's position to support the secession of Tennessee. Stewart offered his services to the Tennessee governor and he helped organize state troops. On August 15, 1861 Stewart and his Tennessee

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## The First National Battlefield

Former Confederate General and University of Mississippi Chancellor Alexander P Stewart played a key role in helping with the park's initial formation and serving as the first Park Commissioner of what is now known as the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Park.

Post war an effort was made to preserve the battle fields in Chattanooga and at Chickamauga. A number of former Union and Confederate notables help persuade members of Congress to allocate funds for the creation of the national battlefield.

A bill was passed by Congress and was signed by President Benjamin Harrison on August 18, 1890. The bill created the first national battlefield, pre-dating the battlefield at Gettysburg.

Today the park encompasses nearly 6,000 acres.

## 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of CSA Flag

On March 4, 1861 the Confederacy adopted the "Stars & Bars" as the first national flag of the newly formed country. Exactly 150 years later to the day the flag will be raised on the Confederate flagpole at the Bell County Courthouse. On Satur-



*First National Flag the "Stars & Bars" of the Confederacy*

day March 5<sup>th</sup> the Camp will have a special ceremony at 9:00 AM at the courthouse in Belton in honor of Confederate Flag Day. Camp member Steve Wolley will speak at the event.

Also, Camp members are reminded to mark Saturday April 16<sup>th</sup> on their calendars. That will be the day when the South Belton Cemetery is rededicated. The Camp and the City of Belton have worked to refurbish the cemetery, where many Confederate Veterans are buried.

## Educator Turned General

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militia forces were mustered into the Confederate Army.

After commanding heavy artillery batteries at Belmont, Missouri, Stewart was appointed a brigadier general on November 8, 1861. He was assigned to command a brigade of Tennessee troops, under General Leonidas Polk. At Shiloh he led his men in repeated desperate assaults on Union forces at the "Hornet's Nest," and was successfully engaged on the field of Perryville, Kentucky, and in the rout of the Federal right wing at Murfreesboro, Tennessee, probably one of his best command efforts.

Stewart was promoted to the rank of major general in June of 1863 and was given command of a division under William J. Hardee. By this time Stewart had earned the nickname of "Old Straight," from his reputation as one who would always tell his men the truth.

Stewart fought in the failed Tullahoma Campaign in middle Tennessee. In 1864 his forces joined with other Confederates in southern Tennessee near

Chattanooga. He performed well at the Confederate victory at Chickamauga. At Chickamauga his division went in with 4,040 men and lost 1,733 killed and wounded.

He then found himself in the middle of a campaign among Braxton Bragg's generals for Bragg's removal. Stewart did not sign the petition to President Jefferson Davis but likely supported it. At Missionary Ridge in December 1863 Stewart's four brigades lost nearly one third of their men.

In July of 1864 while he was helping to defend Atlanta, Stewart was promoted to lieutenant general inheriting the command of Leonidas Polk's Army of Mississippi, with approximately 14,000 men, made up of nine brigades organized into three divisions.

After the fall of Atlanta, Stewart participated in John Bell Hood's disastrous Tennessee Campaign. At the end the war Stewart had joined forces with Joseph E. Johnston and commanded one of Johnston's corps. He was with Johnston when he surrendered to Feder-

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**Stewart was promoted to Lt. General in 1864**

## Camp Schedule

### March 5, 2011

Flag Ceremony at 9:00 AM at Bell County Courthouse in Belton.

### March 8, 2011

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

### April 9, 2011

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

### April 16, 2011

Rededication Ceremonies at South Belton Cemetery.



### May 10, 2011

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

**Next Meeting:  
March 8<sup>th</sup>  
Cotton Patch Café  
Temple Mall  
7:00 PM**

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**Next Meeting:**  
**March 8th**  
**Cotton Patch Cafe**  
**Temple Mall**  
**7:00 PM Dinner**

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## Live Artillery Shell Found in Virginia

The Petersburg (Va.) Progress-Index newspaper reported that National Park Service Rangers with assistance from the Virginia State Police and Petersburg Police raided a home in Petersburg and confiscated a live, Civil War-era, unexploded artillery shell.

The streets surrounding the house were blocked and men from the Virginia State Police Bureau of Criminal Investigation, Richmond Field Office Bomb Unit, were called in to handle the explosive shell.

A police spokesman later said that the shell taken from the home was identified as a Schenk shell. The shell is a hollow piece of metal that gunpowder would have been packed into. During the war it would have exploded by a percussion cap which was located on the tip of the shell.

The shell itself was found as part of the search warrant that was executed as part of a criminal investigation into illegal Civil War relic hunting.



*Union Schenk Artillery Shell*

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al forces on April 26, 1865.

During the war Stewart was wounded at least twice, at Resaca he had three horses shot from under him, at Chickamauga he was slightly wounded, and at Ezra Church, near Atlanta, he received a v-shaped flesh wound in the forehead.

After he returned home to Tennessee, he resumed teaching at Cumberland. He engaged in the life insurance business in St. Louis from 1870 to 1874. He left his \$6,000 a year job in St. Louis to return to the education field

when he took on the \$2,500 per year job as the chancellor of the University of Mississippi. During his tenure as chancellor the university's first Ph.D. was granted, the school became coeducational, and the first woman faculty member was appointed.

After leaving Mississippi, he became the head of what would become the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Parks. Stewart led efforts to acquire

land and develop the fledgling park. He retired from that position in 1898. Stewart remained active in Confederate Veterans' activities until his death on August 30, 1908. He is buried at Bellefontaine Cemetery in St. Louis, Missouri.



*Grave of Alexander P. Stewart*