

Confederate Gazette

Cemetery Rededication

On a bright and sunny Saturday morning nearly 100 people gathered in the South Belton Cemetery in Belton on April 16th for the cemetery's rededication.

Camp member John C. Perry served as the master of ceremony. Len Patterson, ATM Chaplain, gave the invocation and benediction. Norma Holley, TSOGR Director, Joan Lawrence, Texas Division UDC Registrar, Texas Division SCV Commander Ray James, the Mayor of the City

of Belton, Jim Covington, Dorothy Button, Bell County Historical Society, all spoke at the ceremony.



Belton Mayor Jim Covington speaks at the rededication ceremony for the South Belton Cemetery.

Three Georgia granite markers were dedicated, one with the history of the South Belton Cemetery, one in honor

of the veterans of the various Wars for Texas Independence, former Texas Rangers, early settlers of Bell County, one Union soldier interred in this cemetery, and one marker to honor the over 90 Confederate soldiers interred there as well.

Three 60 foot flag poles were also dedicated. As the flags of the United States and Texas were raised a 21 gun salute was given to each

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New Online Civil War Texas Site

In honor of the sesquicentennial of the War Between the States, the Handbook of Texas Online has launched a new web site and data base, The Handbook of Civil War Texas. The new site, like the Handbook of Texas Online is a project of the Texas State Historical Association.

The goal of the site is to, "tell the story of the roles of Texans in the war and the conflict's extraordinary im-

pact on their lives," according to a News Release announcing the web site.

There are more than 800



entries, including some 325 brand new articles, not included in the Handbook of Texas Online, about Texas people, places, and events in the Civil War.

Images from the Lawrence T.

Jones III Texas Photographs collection and from the Civil War: Photographs, Manuscripts, and Imprints collections from SMU's DeGolyer Library enhance many of the entries and offer poignant glimpses into the lives changed by the events of 150 years ago.

The new web site is located at:

www.tshaonline.org/handbook/civil-war



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CONFEDERATE PROFILE

Stonewall of the West



Patrick R. Cleburne

A Ringgold Gap outnumbered 4 to 1 Cleburne stopped Union forces

(Editor's Note: This is Part II of a two-part series on the life of Patrick R. Cleburne)

Cleburne was promoted to major general in December of 1862. He did well in division command at Murfreesboro, during the Tullahoma Campaign, and at Chickamauga. It was in night time fighting at Ringgold Gap in north Georgia that he won acclaim when he and his men stopped "Fighting" Joe Hooker's Federal forces from overtaking Bragg's army as it withdrew. Although outnumbered perhaps as much as 4 to 1, Cleburne stopped the Federals at the center, and then he moved men quickly to the flanks to make the Federals think there were many more Confederates and held off the Union Army. The Confederate Congress passed a joint resolution praising Cleburne and his men for their heroics at Ringgold Gap.

Cleburne's strategic use of terrain, his ability to hold ground where others failed, and his talent in foiling the movements of the enemy earned him fame, and gained him the nickname, "Stonewall of the West." In January of 1864 Cleburne realized that the war was not going well and it was time for some dramatic new thinking. He presented to the leadership of the Army of Tennessee a proposal to arm slaves to help stop Federal advances, granting them freedom when the war was over. Cleburne offered no qualms about leading black troops in training and in combat. His suggestion however fell on deaf ears.

Cleburne continued to perform well during the defense of Atlanta, and came up with the idea of forming a unit of sharpshooters to harass Union positions. After Atlanta fell the Army of Tennessee moved north hoping to draw the Union

Army away from Georgia. The army found itself in Tennessee and the main Federal army headed south towards Savannah.

On November 30, 1864 Cleburne was leading his men in an ill-advised assault on Federal positions in Franklin, Tennessee. He was last reported advancing on foot, since his horse was shot out from under him, towards the Union lines. He was hit either in the abdomen or in the heart and some reports said he was found inside the Union lines. His body was later recovered but everything of value had been stolen. Cleburne was one of six Confederate generals killed at Franklin and laid out on the back porch, at Carnton Plantation.

Cleburne was initially buried at St. John's Church, near Mount Pleasant, Tennessee. In 1870, he was re-buried in Helena in Maple Hill Cemetery.

Cleburne Proposal to Arm Slaves

As the fortunes of the Confederacy began to wane in 1864, Patrick Cleburne proposed a radical approach to dealing with dwindling Southern manpower. Cleburne proposed that the Confederate Army allow slaves to enter and fight in return for complete freedom

once the war was over.

He felt it was the ideal solution to a multitude of problems for the Confederacy. It would help resolve the slavery issue, help to eliminate the manpower shortage, and perhaps even help get the Confederacy improved relations with European

countries.

His proposal was neither well received nor acted upon. It cost him favor with Confederate brass in Washington. Some historians think his proposal cost him a promotion to Lieutenant General.

2011 Division Reunion

The Texas Division will hold it's annual Reunion in Bryan, Texas on June 3rd-5th at the Best Western Atrea.

The Reunion registration begins on Friday June 3rd at 2:00 PM in the hotel lobby. The Division Memorial Service will be



Camp members from last year's Reunion in Waco

at 5:00 PM at Bryan City Cemetery. On Friday evening there will be a Reception beginning at 7:00 PM in the Bryan Room.

The Opening Reunion Ceremonies kick off at 8:30 AM on Saturday June 4th at the hotel. Business Session I follows the opening ceremonies.

The Awards Luncheon will follow at Noon and Business Session II that afternoon. The Southern Ball will wrap up the reunion that evening at 7:00 PM at the hotel.

South Belton Cemetery Rededication

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flag. Unfortunately the Confederate flag could not be raised as vandals sometime between Friday and Saturday morning cut



Above: Three flag poles with missing Confederate flag; Left: Firing squad; Below: Texas flag is raised; Bottom: OCR Black Rose ceremony



the flag lanyard and stole the Confederate flag, a First National.

Perry talked about Larry Jack Maxey whom the plaza will be named for, a do-



nation was made in his honor by his family.

Additional work will be done at the cemetery, including a brick area and a sign.

Confederate Flag was stolen from cemetery

Camp Schedule

May 10, 2011

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

June 3-5, 2011

Texas Division Annual Reunion, Best Western Atrea, Bryan, Texas. Go to: www.texas-scv.org/convention.php for addi-

tional information.

June 14, 2011

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

July 9, 2011

Quarterly Camp Dinner meeting at Cotton Patch Café, Tem-



ple Mall. 7:00 PM. Speaker: TBD.

July 13-16, 2011

SCV National Reunion, Montgomery, Alabama

**Next Meeting:
May 10th
Cotton Patch Café
Temple Mall
7:00 PM**

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P.O. Box 794

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Next Meeting:
May 10th
Cotton Patch Cafe
Temple Mall
6:00 PM Social
7:00 PM Meeting

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Survey Looks at War & Other Perceptions

Nearly half of Americans (48%) say that the primary cause of the War Between the States was mainly about States' Rights while only 38% said it was mainly about slavery. Another 9% volunteer that it was about both equally, according to the latest national survey by the Pew Research Center for the People and the Press, conducted March 30-April 3 among 1,507 adults.

According to the survey, more than half of Americans (56%) say the Civil War is still relevant. Conversely, nearly four-in-ten (39%) say the Civil War is im-

portant historically but has little current relevance.

They also looked at if people consider themselves as Southerners. For those living in the South 64% said they consider themselves Southerners while 35% said they didn't. Nationally 25% considered themselves Southerners.

The survey also asked what type of reaction do people have to the Confederate Battle Flag. Nationally the majority, 58% had neither a positive or negative reaction to the flag. Nine percent had a positive perception and 30% had a negative perception.



Lee & Davis Statues Vandalized in Richmond

Richmond's Monument Avenue is home to a number of statues that memorialize native sons of Virginia, including Robert E. Lee and three other Confederate officers, Stonewall Jackson, JEB Stuart, and Matthew Maury, plus tennis star Arthur Ashe, and one non-Virginian, Confederate President Jefferson Davis.

In April the monuments to both Lee and Davis were vandalized when someone spray painted the words, "No Hero" on each monument.

It is the first time one of the Confederate monuments have been attacked since 2004 when someone spray painted "Happy Birthday MLK" and "Death to Nazis" on the Lee statue.

The Lee statue was dedicated in 1890 in front of 100,000 people and is the focal point of Monument Avenue. The Davis monument was unveiled in 1907.

Police have indicated that they have no suspects in the case.



Lee Statue above and spray painted vandalism below.

