

Confederate Gazette

Lee-Jackson Set For Jan. 15th

The Major Robert M. White Camp #1250 will hold its 23rd Annual Lee-Jackson Dinner on Saturday night, January 15, 2011.

The event will be held at the Cultural Activities Center in Temple. The festivities will begin with a social hour at 6:00 PM followed by a dinner at 7:00 PM. The cost of the meal will be \$18 per person.

The featured speaker for the event will be Texas Division

Commander Dr. Ray James, Commander James will speak on "Sharpshooters of

The dress for the event is period, formal, cocktail, or "Sunday best" attire.



Attendees enjoying last year's Lee-Jackson dinner

the Confederacy." The Camp is welcoming back a special guest for the dinner, H.K. Edgerton, from Asheville, North Carolina.

"Stonewall" Jackson who both have January birthdays. The Camp has held a special January dinner, since the camp was founded in 1988.

For more information and reservations contact Steve Wooley at 254-986-2264 or via email at wool44@embarqmail.com.

This annual event honors Robert E. Lee and Thomas J.

Camp Holds Party and Elects Officers

Jingle bells rang and Christmas cheer was everywhere as the Major Robert M. White Camp #1250 held its eighth annual Christmas party at the Cotton Patch Café on December 11th. About 40 Camp members and friends attended the event.

Officers for the Camp in 2011 were elected. Elected as the Camp Commander was John Larson from Troy, elected 1st Lieutenant Commander was Jimmy Dossey from

Gatesville, elected 2nd Lieutenant Commander was Brandon McGregor of Salado, and elected Adjutant was



Joe White from Temple. The new officers will be installed at the annual Lee-Jackson

Dinner in January.

Approved as a new member of the Camp at the meeting was Bill Atterberry from Germany. Bill was visiting from Germany and was welcomed as the Camp's newest member.

A Silent Auction and raffle were held by the Wildflower Rose Chapter. The funds raised by the auction will benefit the South Belton Cemetery.



Major Robert M. White
Camp #1250
Sons of Confederate Veterans
Temple, Texas

www.scvtemple.com

John Larson, Jr.
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Inside this issue:

Profile on: William Flank Perry	2
The Taking of the Devil's Den	2
History of the Lee-Jackson Dinner	3
Confederate Code Is Broken	4

CONFEDERATE PROFILE

From Private to General



**William Flank
Perry**

**Had two horses
shot out from
under him at the
Wilderness**

He went from private to general in the Confederate Army and post war became a noted college educator.

William Flank Perry was born in Jackson County, Georgia, on March 12, 1823. He moved with his family to Chambers County, Alabama when he was about ten years old. In spite of receiving little in the way of a formal education, he went into education, apparently being self-taught.

He served as the principal of the high school in Talladega, Alabama from 1848 to 1853. He also studied law under a local judge and was able to be admitted to the Alabama bar in 1854, but there is no record of him actually practicing law.

In February of 1854 the Alabama General Assembly elected him as the state's Superintendent of Education. Perry was twice reelected and is credited with laying the groundwork for what would

become free public education in the state. He resigned from the state position in 1858 to become the President of East Alabama Female College at Tuskegee.

In 1862 he resigned his college presidency to enlist, as a private, in the 44th Alabama infantry. He certainly didn't remain a private for long, becoming a major in May of 1862. He saw action with the 44th at Second Manassas and at Sharpsburg (Antietam). At Sharpsburg the 44th's commander, Colonel Charles Derby was killed in action and Perry took charge of the regiment. Post battle Perry was promoted to colonel.

At the Battle of Gettysburg Perry led the 44th Alabama, but when a shell exploded near his head, on July 2, 1863 near the Devil's Den, he was unable to stand without help and had to retire to the rear and he saw limited action for the remainder of the fight.

Perry commanded the Alabama Brigade in the west in the fall and winter of 1863 and in the Overland Campaign of 1864. He was cited for gallantry and recommended for promotion by James Longstreet at the Battle of Chickamauga. At the Battle of the Wilderness, Perry had two horses shot out from under him and killed.

Evander M. Law returned to command the brigade at the Battle of Cold Harbor, but was wounded and again, Perry took command of the brigade remaining in that role until the end of the war, although Perry was wounded at Petersburg in August of 1864.

Perry was promoted to brigadier general in March of 1865 to rank from February 21, 1865. His brigade made up about 10% of Robert E. Lee's entire army when Lee surrendered on April 9, 1865.

(Continued on page 4)

The Taking of the Devil's Den

The 44th and 48th Alabama Infantry were ordered to take the area known as the Devil's Den during the Battle of Gettysburg on July 2, 1863.

William Flank Perry did not like what he saw as he and his men approached the Devil's Den. The Den was being held by men

from the 4th Maine Infantry. As Perry and his men approached, they fired a volley at the advancing Confederates.

Before the 4th Maine had time to reload, Perry ordered a charge with the simple words, "Forward!" Post war Perry would write, "The response was

a bound, a yell, and a rush, and in less than a minute the right wing of the regiment was pouring into the den."

Major George Cary planted the 44th's flag among the boulders. "A few minutes later," In the

(Continued on page 4)

History of the Lee-Jackson Dinner

The first Lee-Jackson Dinner was held jointly with the SCV Camp in Hillsboro in 1989, but at that time was known only as the Robert E. Lee Dinner. January was selected as the month to hold the dinner as it coincided with Lee's birth

month. For three years the dinner alternated between the Hillsboro Camp and Camp #1250.

In 1998 the dinner was re-named, the Lee-Jackson Dinner, to also honor Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson, who also

had a January birthdate.

The 2011 edition of the Lee-Jackson Dinner, on January 15th will be the Camp's 23rd consecutive celebration. This year's speaker is Texas Division Commander Dr. Ray James from College Station.

**Dr. Ray James
to speak at
23rd Annual
Lee-Jackson**

Year	Location	Speaker	Topic
2011	Temple	Dr. Ray James	"Sharpshooters of the Confederacy"
2010	Temple	Arthur Wyllie	"Life of Stonewall Jackson"
2009	Temple	Bertram Hayes-Davis	"Bicentennial Year of Jefferson Davis"
2008	Temple	John J. Dwyer	"Standing Like A Stonewall"
2007	Temple	John C. Perry	"Robert E. Lee: 200 Years Later"
2006	Temple	Brad Johnson	"Lee After the War"
2005	Temple	Scott Bowden	"Great Captains of Like Minds: Lee & Jackson"
2004	Temple	Steve von Roeder	"Honoring Our Confederate Heroes"
2003	Temple	John C. Perry	"American Slavery: The Truth"
2002	Temple	John C. Perry	"The Wisdom of Lee"
2001	Temple	John C. and Sandra Perry	"John and Fanny Gordon" (1 st Person Accounts)
2000	Temple	Denne Sweeney	"Jefferson Davis, From West Point to the Presidency"
1999	Temple	Dr. Gary Desalvo	"The Spiritual Life of Lee and Jackson"
1998	Temple	Dan M. Laney	"Bobby Lee and Stonewall"
1997	Temple	John C. Perry	"Lee Revisited"
1996	Temple	John C. Perry	"Lee and Jackson"
1995	Temple	Dr. David Yielding	"Lee After Gettysburg"
1994	Temple	John C. Perry	"Lee: The Texas Connection"
1993	Temple	John C. Perry	"Lessons Learned From Lee"
1992	Temple	John C. Perry	"Robert E. Lee: The Man"
1991	Hillsboro	Arch McNamara	"The Lee Family"
1990	Belton	Dr. David Yielding	"Post-war Years of Robert E. Lee"
1989	Hillsboro	Steve Brown	"The Life of Lee"

Camp Schedule

January 15, 2011

23rd Annual Major Robert M. White Camp #1250 Lee-Jackson Dinner, Cultural Activities Center in Temple, 6:00 PM

February 8, 2011

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

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.



May 10, 2011

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

**Next Meeting:
January 15th
Cultural Activities
Center
Temple**

Confederate Gazette

P.O. Box 794

Salado, Texas 76571

Next Meeting:
Jan. 15th
Cultural Activities Center
Temple
6:00 PM Social
7:00 PM Dinner

▶ Page 4

Confederate Code Broken

It had been sitting in the basement of the Museum of the Confederacy for many years. It was a sealed glass vial that had never been opened since it arrived at the museum in 1896. The two inch vial had a .38 caliber bullet in it and some paper tightly wrapped with thread.

The museum decided to open the vial and found it contained a message in code. The message was dated July 2, 1863 to Confederate Commander John C. Pemberton in Vicksburg. The message was written in a code called "Vigenere cipher," a common Rebel code.



The message was likely from Major Gen. John G. Walker, who was telling Pemberton that he had no reinforcements to come to his aid. Pemberton likely had already surrendered the city prior to the message being delivered. A veteran gave the vial unopened and intact to the Museum.

The Taking of Devil's Den

(Continued from page 2)
hands of the Confederates, Devil's Den soon became a sniper's nest for Confederate sharpshooters who practiced their deadly craft by peppering Union targets on Little Round Top.

Private to General

(Continued from page 2)

After the war Perry returned to Alabama where he was a planter.

His love of education lured him back into the profession in 1867 when he relocated to Glendale, Kentucky to head up Lynnland Female Institute. Perry would later convert the school to a military school, Lynnland Military Institution, but it closed in 1879.

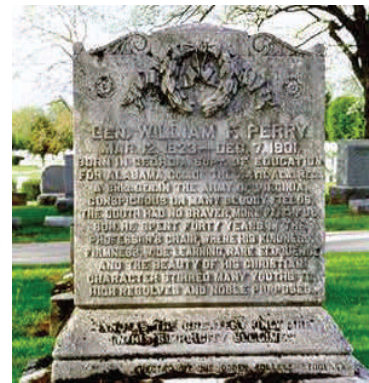
After the military school closed, Perry moved to Bowling Green,

Kentucky where he became a professor of English and Philosophy at Ogden College, which is now a part of Western Kentucky State University.

Perry married Ellen Douglas Brown and they had one son and six daughters.

Perry died in Bowling Green on December 18, 1901 of pneumonia. He was buried in Fairview Cemetery in Bowling Green. At his

grave site Ogden College students placed an inscribed marker saluting both his service to the Confederacy and his time as an educator.



Grave marker erected by Perry's students at Ogden College