

Confederate Gazette

South Belton Event Oct. 13th

A special ceremony will be held at the South Belton Cemetery at 10:00 AM on October 13, 2012. The event will celebrate the completion of the cemetery restoration.

The project was begun by the Major Robert M. White Camp #1250 and the City of Belton.

Many other groups, such as the Bell County Historical

Commission, and individuals have helped with the project.

who have made a contribution to the effort.



South Belton Cemetery Entrance (Photo by Tom Hughes)

The project included repairing or replacing the fence surrounding the cemetery, a gateway arch, three new markers, three new flag poles, a guide and interpretative marker, some grave stone work, and new paved parking on South Penelope St.

The ceremony will honor all

ing on South Penelope St.

VA Denies Confederate Markers

The Civil War News reported in its September 2012 issue that the Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) is no longer honoring requests for Confederate grave markers unless the Next of Kin (NOK) authorizes it. This makes the process difficult for groups to try to get markers since the NOK are often very difficult to find.

The process is further complicated because the VA also will no longer replace an illegible or broken Confederate soldier's grave marker unless it was originally pro-

vided by the federal government. Most of the original Confederate grave markers were not provided by the federal government but typically by state governments or other groups.

This doesn't apply to most Union soldier's graves. A Union soldier's grave, with a government headstone, is eligible for replacement if damaged or illegible because it was originally provided by the federal government.

As *The Civil War News* pointed out since virtually all grave markers in Confeder-

ate cemeteries were provided by non-U.S. government sources, this excludes broken or illegible ones being replaced by the VA for Confederate veterans.

The Civil War News further points out the new VA position certainly confuses the matter and brings into question the longstanding federal commitment, since 1906, to treat Union and Confederate veterans equally.

A VA spokesman simply said if you don't like it lobby Congress or get private funding.



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CONFEDERATE PROFILE

Commanded Texas



**Paul Octave
Hébert**

**Hébert served as
Louisiana's Governor
from 1853 to 1856**

At one time this former governor commanded all of the Confederate troops in Texas. He butted heads with the Texas governor and other Texans and soon he was on his way back to his native Louisiana.

Paul Octave Hébert was born on Acadia Plantation in Iberville Parish on December 12, 1818. He was the son of Paul Gaston Hébert and Mary Eugenis Hamilton Hébert. An excellent student, Hébert graduated from Jefferson College in St. James Parish as the top graduate in 1836. He received an appointment to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and graduated as the top student in 1840. He was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Engineering Corp, but in 1842 Hébert returned to West Point as an instructor.

He resigned from the U.S. Army on March 31, 1845, when he was appointed by the Louisiana governor to become the Civil

Engineer for the State of Louisiana. While back in Louisiana he married Marie Coralie Vaughn and they would have five children.

When war broke out between the United States and Mexico Hébert returned to the U.S. Army, accepting a commission as lieutenant colonel of the 3rd U.S. Infantry. He would later serve in the 14th U.S. Infantry and serve in most of the major battles of the war. At Molino del Rey he was honored by General Winfield Scott and was brevetted a colonel. Hébert was also cited for gallantry at Chapultepec and Mexico City. He was discharged from the U.S. Army in 1848.

He returned to his home parish of Iberville post war and there he was a successful sugar farmer, but began to dabble in politics. First he ran an unsuccessful campaign for the Louisiana Senate in 1849, but lost by only nine votes. He served on Louisiana's constitutional

convention as an elected delegate. In 1853 Hébert ran for governor of Louisiana as a Democrat and won with 52% of the votes. At age 34 he at that time was the youngest governor in the state's history.

As governor he is remembered for his educational initiatives, including the formation of what would become Louisiana State University. Hébert also supported railroad construction, encouraged improved navigable streams, he promoted land reclamation, and reorganized the state militia.

After his term was over in 1856 Hébert returned to his sugar plantation and raised race horses. His time at home was short lived when the current governor appointed Hébert to a military board to prepare Louisiana's defenses after Abraham Lincoln was elected as the next President in 1860. After Louisiana left the Union, Hébert

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Louisiana State University

The university now known as Louisiana State in Baton Rouge, LA was one of the accomplishments of Louisiana Governor Paul Octave Hébert.

The school was authorized during Hébert's term as governor and Hébert was a major supporter of the college.

The school was initially known as the Seminary of Learning of the State of Louisiana located in Pineville.

By 1859 a new building was constructed and the first superintendent was hired, Colonel William T. Sherman.

Apparently Hébert had a major

hand in recruiting Sherman to Louisiana. Both men graduated from West Point in 1840, Hébert #1 and Sherman #4.

Classes began in 1860 with 19 students. Sherman was not against slavery, but he was opposed to secession and he

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Arkansas Proud!

*An Editorial By
John C. Perry*

Sandra and I finally took a week off in late August. We rented a cabin on the side of a mountain overlooking Lake Catherine just outside of Hot Springs, Arkansas.

We had a great time, but I came away from the trip with a most pleasant surprise. I am proud to report that the Confederate Battle Flag is alive and well in the Hot Springs area!

First to find our cabin was not an easy task, but the directions to turn on our mountain road was really nice, "Turn right on the narrow road once you pass the Confederate Battle Flag flying on the left." Yes, indeed someone was flying a large Confederate Battle

Flag just across the street from where we needed to turn off the highway.

That was very nice, but an even more pleasant surprise was what we found in downtown Hot Springs. There on the main street in town, Cen-

tral Avenue, one will find Confederate Memorial Park.

Although relatively small, the prominently located park has a statue of a Confederate soldier and four flag poles. On the poles are the U.S. flag, the Arkansas flag and two Confederate flags, the First National and the Battle Flag, each on opposite ends. They certainly aren't ashamed of the Battle

Flag in Hot Springs. The other thing I noticed was the abundant number of items that could be found in the downtown shops and stores that had Confederate Battle Flag images on them. From t-shirts to beach towels, to hats, glasses, plates and all types of tourist knick-knacks, many were adorn with Battle Flags on them.

The only time I

have seem more items with a Confederate motif has been at our own Camp store. By the way, my favorite t-shirt had a great saying on it, it said, "North is just a direction. The South is a Place!" It also had a Battle Flag on it.

A wonderful week in Hot Springs was made all the more

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Confederate Memorial Park in downtown Hot Springs AR (Photo by John C. Perry)

**Hot Springs has
Confederate
Memorial Park
downtown**

Camp Schedule

September 11, 2012

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

October 13, 2012

South Belton Cemetery Ceremonies, at 10:00 AM at the Cemetery.

October 13, 2012

Quarterly Camp Dinner meeting at Cotton Patch Café, Temple Mall, 7:00 PM. Speaker: Granvel Block, topic to be determined.

November 13, 2012

Regular Camp meeting at Cot-



ton Patch Café, Temple Mall, 7:00 PM. Speaker: Ed Cottingham, "Battle of Galveston Bay 150 years later

**Next Meeting:
September 11th
Cotton Patch Café
6:00 PM Social
7:00 PM Dinner**

Confederate Gazette

P.O. Box 794

Salado, Texas 76571

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The Gen'l Lee

Rumors to the contrary, the General Lee car from the TV series Dukes of Hazzard which ran 1979 to 1985 will continue to have the Confederate Battle Flag on the roof.

Warner Brothers confirmed that toy versions would still have the flag. Internet rumors indicated that the flag was being removed.

>>> LSU <<<

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resigned in 1861 when Louisiana left the Union.

The school closed in 1863. It reopened post war in October 1865 and then moved to Baton Rouge when fire destroyed the buildings in Pineville in 1869. The next year it assumed its' current name of LSU.



Commanded Texas



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was appointed a brigadier general in the Louisiana militia and later the same position was given to him in the Confederate Army.

After Hébert's first wife passed away, he would remarry. In 1861, he married Penelope Lynch Adams Andrews. Together they would have six children.

In 1861 he was in command of all Confederate troops in Louisiana and in September of 1861 Hébert was given command of all Confederate troops in Texas, replacing Earl Van Dorn. Hébert set up his Texas headquarters in Galveston. He was not happy with the coastal defenses in Texas and wrote, "I regret to say that I find this coast in almost a defenseless state, and

in the almost total want of proper works and armaments; the task of defending successfully any point against an attack of any magnitude amounts to a military impossibility." He called on each Texas male to, "clean his old musket, shot-gun, or rifle, run his bullets, fill his powder-horn, sharpen his knife, and see that his revolver is ready to his hand."

Hébert was not popular in Texas, he was considered somewhat aloof, and he also clashed with Texas Governor Francis Lubbock. He was replaced in 1862 and returned to Louisiana where he was in charge of a sub-district in northern Louisiana. He did see action at the Union victory at the Battle of Milliken's Bend, Louisiana, on June 7, 1863. At wars end

Hébert was back in Texas in command of the East Texas sub-district.

After the war, Hébert returned to his sugar plantation in Iberville Parish. He received a pardon from then President Andrew Johnson. He again was involved in politics and served on the state's engineering board. Hébert died, apparently of cancer, on August 29, 1880, and was initially buried in the Catholic Cemetery in Bayou Goula. Due to potential flooding issues Hébert was reinterred in St. Raphael Cemetery in Point Pleasant, La.

Arkansas Proud!

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enjoyable by seeing a community that seems to be very proud of its Confederate Heritage!