

Confederate Gazette

Special Events on Oct. 13th

Saturday, October 13, 2012, will be a busy day for Camp #1250. At 3:00 PM the Camp will celebrate the completion of the South Belton Cemetery with a special event. The event will honor all who help refurbish the cemetery, either by monetary donations or with "sweat equity."

That evening the Camp will hold its' quarterly dinner meeting at the Cotton Patch Café in Temple with a special guest speaker. Texas Division Commander Granvel



One of several markers placed at South Belton Cemetery. (photo by J. Perry)

Block will be the featured speaker at the dinner meeting.

The late Larry Jack Maxey, Camp Charter member, will be recognized at the cemetery event. The brick plaza has been named in his honor, Kathy Maxey, Larry Jack's spouse, and her family will be in attendance.

The South Belton Cemetery project was begun by the Major Robert M. White Camp #1250 and the City of Belton. Many groups and individuals have helped with the effort.



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

www.scvtemple.com

Jimmy D. Dossey
Camp Commander
115 Lakewood Dr.
Gatesville, TX 76528

John C. Perry
Newsletter Editor
P.O. Box 794
Salado, TX 76571

© 2012, Major Robert M. White
Camp #1250

Inside this issue:

Profile on: Henry Thomas Harrison 2

Harrison's Secret Message 2

Grant Presidential Library in Miss. 3

Camp Calendar of Events 3

NPS Sells the Sesquicentennial 4

Davis Named Executive Director

Bertram Hayes-Davis, the great-great grandson of Confederate President Jefferson Davis was recently named the Executive Director of Beauvoir. Beauvoir is the former home of Jefferson Davis located on the coast of the Gulf of Mexico in Biloxi, Mississippi.

Bertram Davis formerly resided in the Dallas area,

where he worked for JP Morgan. Davis was the fea-



Bertram Hayes-Davis and wife Carol at the Camp's Lee-Jackson Dinner in 2009.

(Photo by J. Perry)

tured speaker for Camp #1250's Lee-Jackson Dinner on January 10, 2009.

Bertram Hayes-Davis is the first member of the Davis family to live or work at Beauvoir since President Davis.

Beauvoir was built in 1848 and served as President Davis' retirement home from 1876 to 1889. The home was badly damaged by Hurricane Katrina in 2005, but has now been

(Continued on page 4)

CONFEDERATE PROFILE

Longstreet's Spy



**Henry Thomas
Harrison**

**Harrison was one of
the most successful
spies of the war**

He was an elusive figure whose true identity was only confirmed in the 1980s. Until then he was only known as Longstreet's spy. Longstreet never identified him while he was alive other than to refer to him as "Harrison." He was made famous in the novel *Killer Angels* and in the movie *Gettysburg*.

Henry Thomas Harrison was apparently born near Nashville, Tennessee on April 23, 1832. He was the son of Henry Hargrove Harrison and Rebecca Pearson Harrison, but very little is known about his early life. Some claim that he was an actor early on, but such has not been confirmed. Likely his only acting was as a Confederate spy.

When the War Between the States broke out Harrison was in Mississippi. In May of 1861 he volunteered for Confederate service joining as a private in Company B of the 12th Missis-

sippi Infantry. The 12th Mississippi found its way to Virginia and eventually into the Army of Northern Virginia.

Around November of 1861, Harrison was discharged from the 12th Mississippi and somehow found his way to become a spy for Confederate Secretary of War James Seddon. Details about his activity until 1863 are very sketchy, but he was apparently assigned to General James Longstreet as a spy in 1863. Apparently the information Harrison brought Longstreet was very reliable, and Harrison was often rewarded with cash payments or gold. Longstreet would later say of Harrison that he provided him, "with information more accurate than a force of cavalry could have secured."

In March of 1863 he was assigned by Longstreet to spy for General D. H. Hill in Goldsboro, North Carolina. Close to New Berne, North Carolina Harrison was arrested by Federal sol-

diers for spying. He was held for about a month when he was able to convince his captors that he was simply an innocent civilian avoiding conscription. Sometime around April he reports back to Longstreet in Virginia.

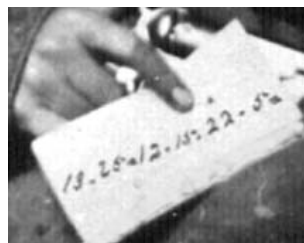
As Robert E. Lee ordered his Army of Northern Virginia north into Union territory in June of 1863, Harrison was sent by Longstreet to Washington, D.C. to see if he could find out about Union troop movements. On the night of June 28, 1863 Harrison returned to Confederate lines, now in Pennsylvania, with crucial information for Longstreet. Two key bits of information were provided. First, Harrison told Longstreet that Abraham Lincoln had replaced the Union commander, Joseph Hooker with George Meade. Second and of grave concern to Longstreet, Harrison reported that

(Continued on page 3)

Harrison's Secret Message

The photo (see above and close up to the right) of master Confederate spy Henry Thomas Harrison is an interesting one. Not only does it show Harrison in uniform with a weapon it shows a paper with a message on it. If one looks close at it the message is simply a series of

numbers, 13-25-12-15-22-5. Is



this a secret Confederate code,

part of Harrison's spying system?

Most likely it wasn't. The photo was likely taken for his wife Laura. Complex code, no, Harrison merely assigned each letter of the alphabet a number starting with 1 for an "A." It simply reads, "My Love."

U.S. Grant in Mississippi

In one of the oddest and perhaps ironic situations, the Presidential Library of Ulysses S. Grant, former Union general and U.S. President will be located at Mississippi State University in Starkville, Missis-

The Grant Presidential Collection consists of some 15,000 linear feet of correspondence, research notes, artifacts, photographs, scrapbooks, and memorabilia and includes information on Grant's child-



Entrance to the Ulysses S. Grant Presidential Library at Mississippi State University in Starkville, Mississippi (MSU Photograph)

sippi.

According to the PRNewswire, the move was announced earlier this year when Ulysses S. Grant Association President Frank J. Williams announced the decision of the organization's board of directors to designate the Ulysses S. Grant Collection at MSU's Mitchell Memorial Library as "The Ulysses S. Grant Presidential Library."

hood from his birth in 1822, his later military career, Civil War triumphs, tenure as commanding general after the war, presidency, and his post-White House years until his death in 1885. There are also 4,000 published monographs on various aspects of Grant's life and times.

The collection had previously been located at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, Illinois.

Longstreet's Spy

(Continued from page 2)

the Union Army was concentrating at Frederick, Maryland and was planning to move north towards the Army of Northern Virginia. Longstreet was so alarmed by this news that he sent Harrison to make a direct report of his intelligence to Lee.

Lee had his troops spread out across central Pennsylvania and a united threat by Federal forces greatly concerned him. Since Lee was not in contact with his cavalry, under J.E.B. Stuart, he acted solely on Harrison's intelligence and ordered his troops to concentrate near Cashtown, Pennsylvania. This directly led to the two great armies clashing at Gettysburg, eight miles from Cashtown.

Some claim that Harrison asked Longstreet for a gun and uniform to join in with Pickett's Charge at Gettysburg. Although it makes for a good tale, there is no evidence to support it or refute it.

By September of 1863 Harrison was back working directly

(Continued on page 4)

**Harrison's
information
helped lead
Battle of
Gettysburg**

Camp Schedule

October 13, 2012

South Belton Cemetery Ceremonies, at 3:00 PM 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 Cotton Patch Café, Temple Mall, 7:00 PM. Speaker: Ed Cottingham, "Battle of Galveston Bay 150 years later .



December 11, 2012

Regular Camp meeting at the Cotton Patch Café, Temple Mall, 7:00 PM. Speaker: To be determined

**Next Meeting:
October 13th
Cotton Patch Café
6:00 PM Social
7:00 PM Dinner**

Confederate Gazette

P.O. Box 794

Salado, Texas 76571

Next Meeting:
October 13th
Cotton Patch Cafe
6:00 PM Social
7:00 PM Meeting

▶ Page 4

NPS on 150th

The National Park Service is celebrating the Sesquicentennial of the Civil War with a variety of 150th anniversary books, patches, shirts, cups, etc.



Each NPS location, that has a gift shop, includes Sesquicentennial items. Items can also be bought online at the NPS' online outlet store, eparks.com.

Unfortunately political correctness has taken over much of the published materials. For instance one booklet is entitled, *Slavery: Cause and Catalyst of the Civil War*.



Longstreet's Spy



(Continued from page 3)

for Seddon. Also that month Harrison marries Laura Broders, in a most unlikely place, Washington, D.C. They then honeymoon in New York City. The marriage in the Yankee capital and the honeymoon in New York shows the skill and daring of Harrison. The couple would have two daughters one born in 1864 and the other in 1866. For the remainder of the war Harrison continues his spying efforts for the Confederacy in Washington and New York.

When the war ended Harrison and his wife fled to Mexico. Apparently Harrison feared his discovery as a spy when the Union Army captured Richmond and Confeder-

ate government records. His secret was safe however, as most of the Confederate secret service records were burned before they fell into enemy hands.

Harrison left Mexico in 1866 for the Montana gold rush. He apparently did not keep in touch with his family, as his wife would eventually return to the United States and, presuming Harrison dead, would remarry. Harrison's whereabouts from 1867 to 1892 are not known. He shows up again in 1893 as a resident of Cincinnati, Ohio.

In 1900 he made an effort to visit one of his daughters but was rebuked. He returned to Cincinnati

where from 1901 to 1911 Harrison was employed as a detective for the Municipal Reform League. He apparently moved to Covington, Kentucky in 1912 and he applied for a Confederate pension. Harrison died on October 28, 1923 at age 91. He is buried in Highland Cemetery, Fort Mitchell, Kentucky.



Davis at Beauvoir

(Continued from page 1)

fully restored. It recently suffered minor damage from Hurricane Isaac in September.